

Proposed Revisions to Stormwater Regulations

Draft Revision	Technical	Required by Law	Stormwater Advisory Committee Recommendation	Explanation
Page 1 – “Account” added to definitions	X			Added for consistency with City regulations.
Throughout – Change wording from quarterly to monthly		X		Consistent with change to monthly billing approved by the Board of Estimates.
Page 3 – “Lot Consolidation” Page 3 – added “must”	X			Added to clarify that properties which are consolidated as provided by applicable law will be treated as one (1) property for purposes of billing. Clarifies that elements listed are requirements.
Page 4 – Clarifies that organizations enrolled in an alternative compliance plan are already exempt from paying the fee, so the maximum fee provision is inapplicable.	X			Ensures consistency with the hardship exemption for qualified, non-profit entities.
Page 7 – Adds tax-exempt veterans’ organizations to the list of organizations exempt per State law.		X		Required by State law.

Pages 7-8 – Hardship exemption for charitable, non-profit organizations exempt from taxation under 501(c)(3) or (d) of the Internal Revenue Code that suffer substantial, financial hardship as a result of paying the fee and implement an approved alternative compliance plan.		X	X	Required by State law.
Page 8 – Removed the table of gross income criteria from the Maryland Department of Human Resources to qualify for home energy assistance.	X			The gross income criteria are incorporated by reference, ensuring consistency with the home energy assistance program without the need to update the table annually.
Page 9 – Clarifies what “MS4” and “City Code” refer to.	X			Uses the full term for “MS4” and “City Code” to increase public understanding and transparency.
Page 9 – Exempts roads in cemeteries from the fee.	X			The law already exempts streets that are privately maintained and open to the public in residential communities. This provision will assist cemeteries, many of which are struggling financially.
Page 12 – Decreases the eligibility threshold from 24 hours to 12 hours in order to obtain the Participation			X	Encourages residents to participate in community events that reduce pollution and support local

Credit.				communities.
Page 12 – Increases the tree planting credit from \$3/year to \$5/year.			X	If the tree remains healthy, the homeowner can re-apply for the credit every three (3) years. Minimum of two (2) trees needed for the credit.
Pages 12, 17 – Rain Barrel Credit: deletes the \$24/year for Rainwater Harvesting System and replaces with a one-time credit of \$25/barrel up to a \$100 one-time credit for approved rain barrels that are 50 gallons or larger and installed/operated properly.			X	Consistent with rain barrel credits provided by other Maryland counties.
Pages 13, 21 – Re-names the “Vacant Lot Credit” the “Green Space Credit.”			X	Reflects the purpose of the credit.
Page 15 – Decreases the time to register Participation Events in advance from 30 days to 14 days	X			Makes it easier to register Participation Events.
Pages 15-16 – Decreases the number of hours necessary to qualify for a credit to four (4) hours minimum for a \$10 credit, eight (8)			X	Loosens requirements to allow shorter events to qualify and encourages participation.

hours for a \$20 credit, and 12 hours maximum for a \$30 credit.				
Page 16 – Clarifies that Participation Credits may be donated to organizations.	X			Clarifies existing practices surrounding donation of Participation Credits.
Pages 17-18 – Clarifies that best management practices (BMPs) for stormwater must be approved by MDE and the City.	X	X		Clarifies existing rules to ensure conformity with State and local law.
Page 20 – Clarifies that the City may also accept inspections performed by Professional Engineers who are licensed and in good standing.	X			Clarifies existing language.