### STORMWATER MANAGEMENT UTILITY FEE IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE

DAVID PRIBULKA, TOWNSHIP MANAGER

DAVID MODRICKER, P.E., DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

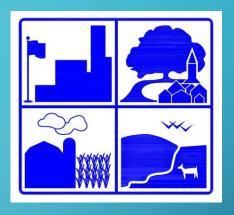


#### BACKGROUND



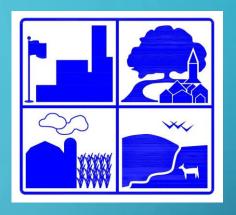
- The Ferguson Township Stormwater Management Utility Fee was adopted by Ordinance #1066 on February 16, 2021.
- The fee is assessed equally to all residential parcels in the Township, assigning one "Equivalent Residential Unit", or ERU, to each single-family residential dwelling unit.
- Properties located within the Regional Growth Boundary/Sewer Service Area are proposed to be assessed \$119 per ERU in 2022, and properties outside the Regional Growth Boundary/Sewer Service Area are proposed to be assessed \$75 per ERU in 2022.

#### BACKGROUND



- Income from the stormwater management utility fee is to be used to fund capital and operational expenditures associated with the Township's significant annual liabilities associated with maintaining its infrastructure, compliance with state and federal mandates, and staffing and equipment.
- In 2021, the Township established a Special Revenue Fund (Fund 20 –Stormwater) to appropriately segregate this cost center and account for revenue generated from the fee. Any liabilities not funded by income from the fee are supplemented by interfund transfers from the General Fund and, in 2022, the Transportation Improvement Fund.

#### **BACKGROUND**



- By resolution, the Board of Supervisors adopted several accompanying policies to stabilize Fund 20 and apply appropriate reductions to certain qualified property owners. These include:
  - Resolution 2021-05, Stormwater Fee Credit Policy Manual
  - Resolution 2021-06, Stormwater Fee Agricultural Exemption Policy
  - Resolution 2021-07, Stormwater Fee Economic Hardship Exemption Policy
  - Resolution 2021-08, Stormwater Fee Fund Balance Policy
  - Resolution 2021-14, Stormwater Fee Non-Profit Exemption Policy

#### KEY MILESTONES

- Mailer sent to residents with estimated 2022 fee: July 25, 2021
- Workshop on credits and exemptions: August 17, 2021
- Due date for credits and exemptions: September 30, 2021
- Appeal forms due for exemptions: November 30, 2021
- Master billing file updated with new impervious, credits, and exemptions: December 10, 2021
- Appeal reviews for exemptions due: December 31, 2021
- Bills issued: March 2022 (assessments issued with tax bills)
- Appeal forms for credits and fee calculation due: April 1 April 30, 2022
- Appeal review for credits due: Reviewed as received.



# STORMWATER FEE CREDIT AND EXEMPTION UPDATE



- Credits by the numbers:
  - Structural Best Management Practice Credits applied for: 37
  - Non-Structural Best Management Practice Credits applied for: 662
- Exemptions by the numbers:
  - Agricultural Partial Exemptions applied for: 115
  - Non-Profit Hardship Exemptions applied for: 12
  - Economic Hardship Exemptions applied for: 38

## STORMWATER FEE CREDIT AND EXEMPTION UPDATE

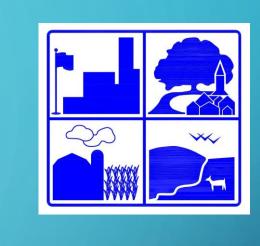


- Credits by the amounts:
  - Total fee for properties who applied for credits: \$80,391
  - Total after the approved credits were applied: \$53,275.47
  - Total amount of credits approved: \$27,115.53
- Exemptions by the amounts:
  - Total fee for properties who applied for exemptions: \$71,419
  - Total after the approved exemptions were applied: \$16,628.50
  - Total amount of exemptions approved: \$54,790.50

#### WHAT'S NEXT?



- Penn State University Stormwater Management Utility Fee Agreement
  - Aggregates all properties into one unified bill
  - Discounts fee for properties within urbanized area from MS4 component of the fee
  - All exemptions and credits as provided for in the approved policies
- Fee amount established formally by resolution on December 13<sup>th</sup>
- Final numbers due to RBA for processing and preparation on...
- Invoices issued in March 2022 and appeal period opens for credits



### QUESTIONS?