

CITY OF ALTOONA

STORM WATER UTILITY CREDIT POLICY

Background

On the 23rd of August, 2007 the City Council approved the code of ordinances creating a storm water utility to finance the City's storm water management program. In addition, the utility will be utilized to finance compliance with the City's Wisconsin Pollution Discharge Elimination System permit and the requirements associated with it.

The utility ordinance provides for credits for properties that contribute less than a traditionally developed property. Credits must be applied for, and the Public Works Director will determine whether the credit will be granted. A property owner may appeal to the Director of Public Works regarding a determination of credit once per calendar year.

A. Best Management Practice Credit for Commercial, Industrial, Institutional, and Commercial-Multi-Family Properties

A credit may be granted to a commercial, industrial, institutional, and commercial multi-family properties that can demonstrate a reduction of 25% of the amount of storm water leaving the parcel via the use of storm water best management practice (BMP). Properties that can demonstrate such a 25% or more reduction will receive a 50 % reduction from their monthly storm water utility fee. Documentation must be provided to the City for evaluation of the claim for credit, and it is strongly suggested that the documentation be prepared by a licensed professional engineer and that necessary drawings and calculations be produced to support the claim.

Examples of BMPs

1. Storm water retention and infiltration systems, grass swales, rain gardens, bio-filtration areas, and drainage from parking lots into sufficiently sized grassed areas.
2. Roof structures discharging to grass areas if the grass area is of sufficient size to handle the volume, is not steeply graded (<10%), has appropriate soils, and is on the owners' property. Gutter systems discharging to impervious surfaces are NOT eligible for this credit.

B. Vacant Land Credit (exemption)

Vacant properties meeting the following criteria may receive a 100% credit:

1. The property must be land in an undisturbed, undeveloped, natural state.

C. Green Space Credit

Green space properties meeting the following criteria can receive up to a 50% reduction from the area used to calculate the monthly charge.

1. Green spaces shall be contiguous pervious vegetated areas incorporated into the developed parcel.
2. The space shall not have more than 25% impacted, compacted soils.
3. Green space must be 20 feet or more away from the nearest impervious surface or structure.
4. The green space must be a minimum of one acre in size and not less than 25% of the total parcel.
5. Grassed parking areas that are utilized more than 22 days per year are excluded from the green space credit, as these are impacted, compacted soils.

D. Industrial Storm Water Permit Credit

Individual industries having their own Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources industrial storm water permit for all or a portion of their property may be eligible for a 75% credit from the storm water utility charge if the following criterion is met.

1. The industry's storm water discharges directly into a water of the state and not through any portion of the city's storm water conveyance system.
2. The industry receives no direct benefit from the city's storm water conveyance system including curb and gutter.
3. The industry's discharge meets all the requirements of the WPDES permit and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources NR 216.
4. The city has no additional costs for storm water discharged from the industry.
5. The industry has the operation and maintenance responsibilities for all utilized BMPs.

Altoona Storm Water Utility

City of Altoona, 1303 Lynn Avenue, Altoona, Wisconsin 54720
715-839-6092

Best Management Practices Credit Form

For commercial, industrial and institutional properties only:

Property Owner: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Parcel I.D. #: _____

Contact Name: _____

Phone Number: _____ E-Mail Address: _____

How should we contact you? Phone or E-mail? _____

When can we contact you with questions? _____

Type of Credit you are requesting: (circle one or more) A B C D

Brief Description of the Credit Request: _____

Estimate reduction in storm water volume: _____%

PLEASE ATTACH ANY DOCUMENTATION SUPPORTING THIS CLAIM. REQUEST CANNOT BE PROCESSED IF REQUIRED INFORMATION SUCH AS MAPS, SITE PLANS OR SQUARE FOOTAGE OF GREEN SPACE IS NOT ATTACHED.

IT IS THE APPLICANT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO PROVE THE CLAIM.

For Office Use Only:

Date Received Credit Request: _____

Approved by: _____ Date: _____

Denied/Incomplete: _____ Date: _____