

Updating the City of Toledo's Stormwater Credit Manual



Stormwater Utility

- The City of Toledo's Stormwater Utility was established in 1999 – T.M.C. 943 (Ord. 586-99)
- Created to provide reliable and consistent funding to address stormwater management and water quality requirements associated with the NPDES-Phase I permit
- User fee based on the contribution of runoff that a particular uses generates
- Funds generated directly for the repair, replacement, planning, improvement, operation, regulation and maintenance of the existing and future City of Toledo stormwater system

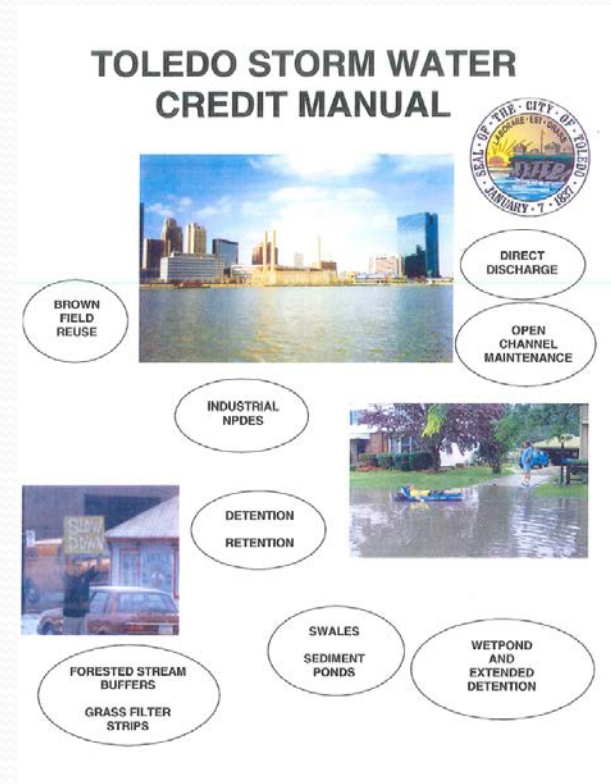


Stormwater Utility – Cont.

- All properties having impervious area will be assigned an Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU)
 - Residential Customers are charged 1 ERU
 - Non-Residential Customers are charged based on the amount of impervious area
- 1 ERU = 2500 Sq. Ft.
- Current stormwater rate = \$3.80 per ERU
- The Stormwater Utility collects approximately \$9 million annually

Developing the Stormwater Credit Program

- Developed by a Credits Advisory Committee consisting of a variety of businesses, community leaders, government officials, etc.
- Offered as a compromise to gain support of the Stormwater Utility from developers and commercial property owners
- Created as incentive for developers and property owners to implement better site design practices to help reduce the impacts of stormwater generated from a site.



Goals of Creating the Program

“Better drainage and cleaner water through a quality stormwater management program”

- Will not harm the financial integrity of the Stormwater Utility
- Will provide incentive to Toledo businesses
- Will have a regulatory and technical basis
- Will be easy to administer and maintain
- Will receive public support and involvement
- Will have a proven track record from other parts of the country
- Will minimize legal exposure
- Will ensure long term maintenance of stormwater practices

Current Stormwater Credit Program Highlights

- Available to non-residential customers only
- Application with a \$100 process fee
- Credit available if a property owner performs specific actions that reduce the impact of stormwater generated from their property
- 9 possible credits available, a 10th Credit added in 2007
- Total Maximum Credit is 50%
- Manual was available as of January 2001

Current Credits Available

- Brownfield Reuse
 - Max. Credit 10%, 5 year limit
- Detention/Retention
 - Max. Credit 30%
- Direct Discharge
 - Max. Credit 10%
- Forested(Stream)/Buffer/
Grass Filter Strip
 - Max Credit -30%
- Industrial NPDES
 - Max Credit – 10%
- Open-Channel Maintenance
 - Max. Credit -30%
- Sediment Pond
 - Max. Credit -30%, 1 year limit
- Swales
 - Max. Credit -30%
- Wet pond & Extended
Detention
 - Max. Credit -30%
- Education Credit
 - Max. Credit- 50%

Current Participation

- Approximately 90 properties with Credits
- The majority of the credits are for detention/retention
- 14 of the 90 properties receive 50% credit
- Savings vary per business
 - Smallest credit - \$3.42 per month
 - Largest Credit - \$8,293.50 per month



Decision to Update the Credit Manual

- 2014 possibility of a rate increase for the Stormwater Utility
- Update available credit types to encourage the utilization of green infrastructure practices
- Correct deficiencies in the current program
- Update the manual
- Update billing procedures

Credit Manual Update Team

- City of Toledo Environmental Services
- City of Toledo Engineering Services
- University of Michigan Students from the Urban Planning program



University of Michigan – Fall 2014

Capstone Project

- The first task for this capstone project will be to work with local officials and community members to understand Toledo's water issues and flooding concerns, identify the existing program's strengths and weaknesses and then suggest revisions to the existing Stormwater Credit Manual.
- A secondary task for this capstone project will focus on scenario planning at the neighborhood level to determine how specific green infrastructure strategies, in a low-lying area within the city, would reduce run-off and increase water quality.

This capstone project combines issues of environmental planning, land-use planning, and neighborhood planning with gray and green infrastructure in one of the Midwest's legacy cities

Identify the existing program's strengths and weaknesses and suggest revisions to the existing Stormwater Credit Manual

Updating the Credit Manual

- Encourage the utilization of Green Infrastructure practices by developers



For More Information...

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