



**Everything  
you need to  
know about  
the new**



City of Salisbury  
Department of Public Works  
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**NEW!**  
**Salisbury  
Stormwater  
Utility**

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Utility**



# Storm-what?

**Stormwater is rainwater runoff from surfaces like roofs, lawns, driveways, streets and parking lots. Along the way, it picks up speed and can become polluted with harmful chemicals, fertilizers, motor oil, trash and dirt.**

**Unchecked polluted runoff leads to:**

- **Flooding**
- **Erosion and property damage**
- **Swimming closures and warnings against water contact**
- **Limits on how much seafood we can catch or eat**
- **Trash and debris**



Did you know that parts of the City's storm drain system are more than 100 years old?

Did you know that most of this system wasn't designed to filter out pollution?

The City's storm drain network needs repair and upgrades to keep our community clean and dry. But, like many towns, Salisbury has been struggling to keep up.

On November 24, 2014, the City Council approved a better way to take care of the City's storm drain system. Known as a stormwater utility, the new approach:

- Streamlines maintenance and upgrades
- Provides a reliable source of funding for overdue projects
- Was recommended by a task force of local residents and experienced consultants

The City will need to assess fees to ensure a dedicated and reliable source of funding for the utility. When everyone contributes a little, a lot can be done. Revenue collected will stay in Salisbury, accelerating on-the-ground projects that are carefully selected to provide the biggest benefits in return.

Residents and businesses can expect:

- Repairs, maintenance and upgrades to the storm drain system
- Flood relief
- Dam repairs
- Pollution controls, tree plantings and community greening

Most residential properties will be assessed a uniform flat rate. Commercial, industrial and institutional properties will be charged based on the amount of hardened surfaces on the premises.

**Salisbury is now one of more than 1,400 communities nationwide to benefit from a stormwater utility:**

**Less flooding, less property damage, less trash.**



**Cleaner water in our river, creeks and ponds.**