

Introduced \_\_\_\_\_  
Public Hearing \_\_\_\_\_  
Council Action \_\_\_\_\_  
Executive Action \_\_\_\_\_  
Effective Date \_\_\_\_\_

**County Council of Howard County, Maryland**

2016 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. 3

**Bill No. 20 -2016**

Introduced by: Jon Weinstein

AN ACT authorizing additional credits against Watershed Protection and Restoration Fees under specified circumstances; requiring additional information in the annual report; and generally relating to the Watershed Protection and Restoration Fee.

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Introduced and read first time \_\_\_\_\_, 2016. Ordered posted and hearing scheduled.

By order \_\_\_\_\_  
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

Having been posted and notice of time & place of hearing & title of Bill having been published according to Charter, the Bill was read for a second time at a public hearing on \_\_\_\_\_, 2016.

By order \_\_\_\_\_  
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

This Bill was read the third time on \_\_\_\_\_, 2016 and Passed \_\_\_\_, Passed with amendments \_\_\_\_\_, Failed \_\_\_\_\_.

By order \_\_\_\_\_  
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Executive for approval this \_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2016 at \_\_\_ a.m./p.m.

By order \_\_\_\_\_  
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

Approved by the County Executive \_\_\_\_\_, 2016.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Allan H. Kittleman, County Executive

NOTE: [[text in brackets]] indicates deletions from existing law; TEXT IN SMALL CAPITALS indicates additions to existing law; Strike-out indicates material deleted by amendment; Underlining indicates material added by amendment.

1 **Section 1. Be It Enacted** by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland, that the  
2 Howard County Code is amended to read as follows:

3  
4 By amending

5 1. Title 20. Taxes, Charges, and Fees.

6 *Subtitle 11. - Watershed protection and restoration.*

7 *Sec. 20.1105(e). - Credits.*

8 *Sec. 20.1111. - Report.*

9 2. Title 20. Taxes, Charges and Fees.

10 Subsection (a) of Section 20.1107. Billing; method of collection; interest  
11 and penalties.

12  
13 **Title 20. Taxes, Charges, and Fees.**

14 **Subtitle 11. - Watershed protection and restoration.**

15  
16 **Sec. 20.1105. - Credits.**

17 (e) Amount of Credit.

18 (1) Upon a determination of eligibility, the County shall provide a credit  
19 as set forth in a rate schedule adopted by Resolution of the County Council and the  
20 application fee shall either be applied towards the Applicant's tax account or  
21 refunded.

22 (2) IF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE DETERMINES THAT THE BALANCE IN THE  
23 COUNTY'S WATERSHED PROTECTION AND RESTORATION FUND IS SUFFICIENT TO  
24 COVER THE COSTS THAT ARE REASONABLY EXPECTED DURING THE CURRENT AND  
25 FOLLOWING FISCAL YEAR, THE COUNTY COUNCIL MAY AUTHORIZE, AT THE  
26 REQUEST OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE, AN ADDITIONAL CREDIT OF UP TO 100% OF  
27 THE WATERSHED PROTECTION AND RESTORATION FEE FOR EACH PROPERTY THAT  
28 IS SUBJECT TO THE FEE.

29 **Section 20.1107. Billing; method of collection; interest and penalties.**

30 (a) Billing Procedure. The Department of Finance may include the  
31 Watershed Protection and Restoration Fee as a separate item on the real property

1 tax bill for each property subject to the fee. [[The real property tax bill shall include  
2 a footnote on each bill that indicates that the imposition of a stormwater  
3 remediation fee is mandated by state law.]] Contact information for questions and  
4 appeals shall be included with the bill's mailing.

5 **Sec. 20.1111. - Report.**

6 (a) With the cooperation of the Director of the Department of Public Works and the  
7 Director of the Department of Finance, the Administrator of the Office shall submit a  
8 report to the County Council that includes:

9 (1) Any information required by subsection 4-202.1(i) of the Environment  
10 Article of the Maryland Code;

11 (2) Financial data regarding:

12 (i) The imposition, collection, and disposition of the watershed  
13 protection and restoration fee;

14 (ii) The watershed protection and restoration fund, including balances,  
15 deposits, and disbursements;

16 (iii) Program costs;

17 (3) Information about reimbursements and grants;

18 (4) The number of appeals and whether the kinds of appeals suggests that  
19 changes to law or procedures are indicated;

20 (5) Information about applications for credits and credit awards;

21 (6) Year over year tax delinquency data as well as the number of properties, if  
22 any, in tax delinquency where the amount delinquent may be related to the stormwater  
23 fee;

24 (7) Information about applications for the fee assistance program and  
25 recommendations for program improvements, with a focus in the first year on the  
26 feasibility of establishing a fee assistance program for non-residential property owners;  
27 [[and]]

28 (8) PROJECTIONS FOR THE NEXT TWO YEARS TO SHOW EXPENSES, PROJECTED  
29 FEE REVENUE, OTHER ANTICIPATED SOURCES OF REVENUE, AND ANY ADJUSTMENTS TO THE  
30 FEE; AND

31 (9) Any program recommendations.

1 (b) The Administrator shall submit the report annually on or before March 1 for the  
2 preceding calendar year.

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5 ***Section 2. And Be It Further Enacted by the County Council of Howard County,***  
6 ***Maryland, that this Act shall become effective 61 days after its enactment.***