

Introduced 3/7/16
Public Hearing 3/21/16
Council Action 4/4/16
Executive Action 4/14/16
Effective Date 6/14/16

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.

Introduced and read first time March 7, 2016. Ordered posted and hearing scheduled.

By order

Jessica Feldmark
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 March 21, 2016.

By order

Jessica Feldmark
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

This Bill was read the third time on April 4, 2016 and Passed Passed with amendments , Failed

By order

Jessica Feldmark
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Executive for approval this 7th day of April, 2016 at 11 a.m. ~~p.m.~~

By order

Jessica Feldmark
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

Approved by the County Executive April 14, 2016.

Allan H. Kittleman
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.

3

4

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.***

Amendment 1 to Council Bill No. 20-2016

BY: The Chairperson
at the request of the County Executive

Legislative Day No. 4
Date: April 4, 2016

Amendment No. 1

(This amendment removes certain information required on the property tax bill because a similar requirement is now contained in State Law.)

1 On page 1, in line 5, before "Title" insert "1."

2

3 On page 1, in line 9, insert:

4 "2. By amending:

5 Title 20. Taxes, Charges and Fees.

6 Subsection (a) of Section 20.1107. Billing; method of collection; interest and penalties."

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8 On page 1, in line 26, insert:

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

10 (a) Billing Procedure. The Department of Finance may include the Watershed Protection and
11 Restoration Fee as a separate item on the real property tax bill for each property subject to the
12 fee. [[The real property tax bill shall include a footnote on each bill that indicates that the
13 imposition of a stormwater remediation fee is mandated by state law.]] Contact information for
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ADOPTED 4/4/16
FAILED
SIGNATURE Jessica Edmond

Introduced _____
Public Hearing _____
Council Action _____
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Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

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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

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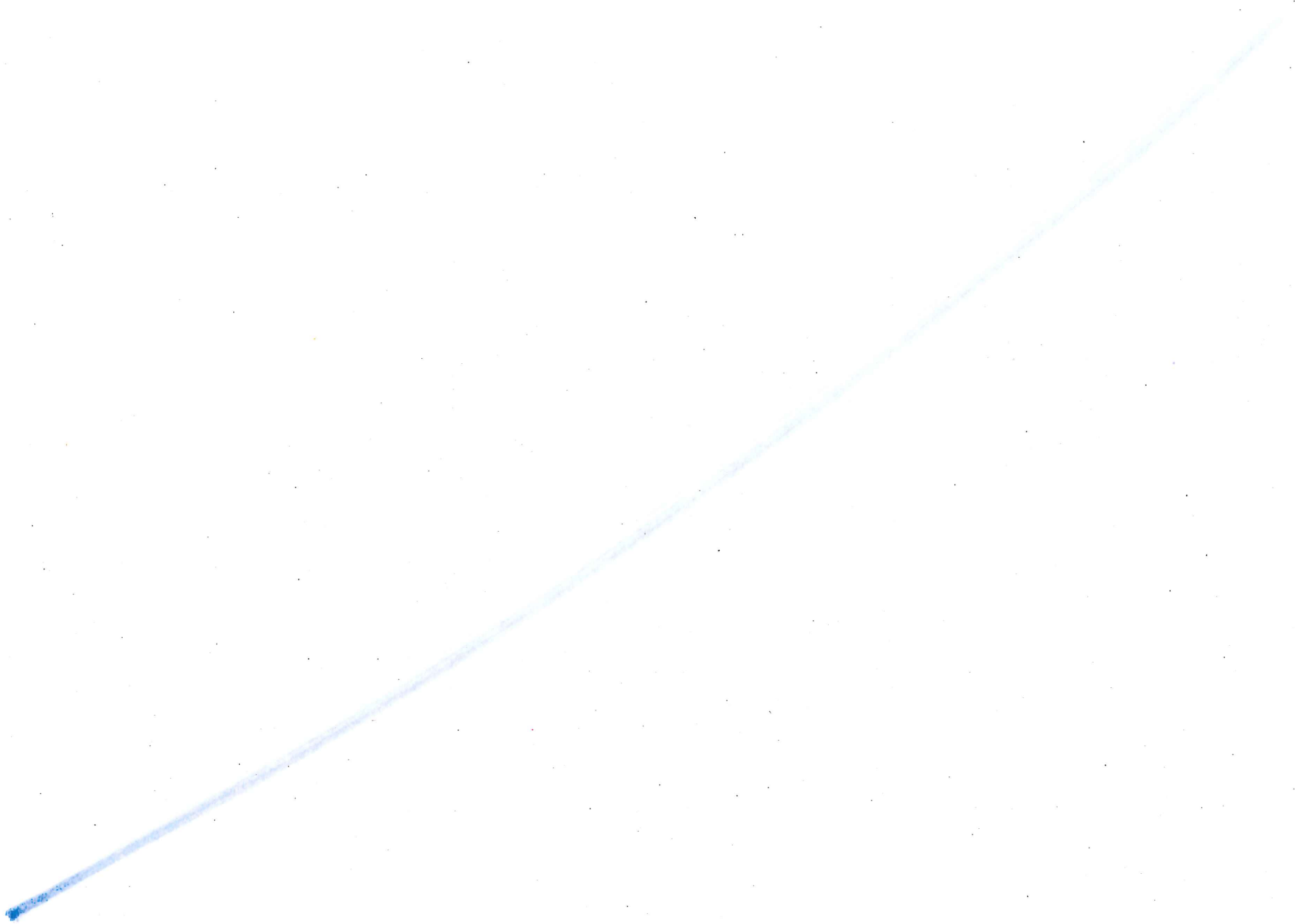
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25 preceding calendar year.

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29 *Maryland, that this Act shall become effective 61 days after its enactment.*



BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having been approved by the Executive and returned to the Council, stands enacted on April 14, 2016.



Jessica Feldmark, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having been passed by the yeas and nays of two-thirds of the members of the Council notwithstanding the objections of the Executive, stands enacted on _____, 2016.

Jessica Feldmark, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having received neither the approval nor the disapproval of the Executive within ten days of its presentation, stands enacted on _____, 2016.

Jessica Feldmark, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, not having been considered on final reading within the time required by Charter, stands failed for want of consideration on _____, 2016.

Jessica Feldmark, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having been disapproved by the Executive and having failed on passage upon consideration by the Council stands failed on _____, 2016.

Jessica Feldmark, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, the withdrawal of which received a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Council, is withdrawn from further consideration on _____, 2016.

Jessica Feldmark, Administrator to the County Council

Amendment 1 to Council Bill No. 20-2016

BY: The Chairperson
at the request of the County Executive

Legislative Day No. 4
Date: April 4, 2016

Amendment No. 1

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Memo

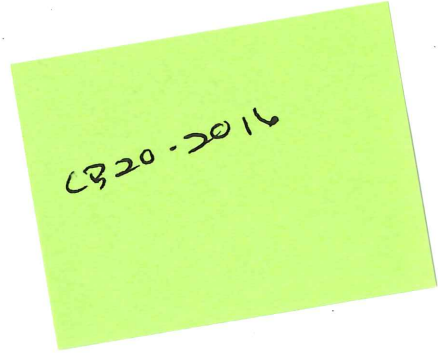
Subject: Watershed Fund Report

Date: March 23, 2016

To: Allan H. Kittleman
County Executive

Calvin Ball, Chairperson
Howard County Council

From: Lonnie R. Robbins 
Chief Administrative Officer



In keeping with Howard County Code Subtitle 11, Watershed Protection and Restoration, Section 20.1111, attached is the annual report that provides information pertaining to the disposition of the watershed protection fee, and provides data associated with credits, reimbursements and adjustments.

If you have any questions after reviewing the report, feel free to contact Jim Caldwell on ext. 6551 and he will be happy to provide clarification or further detail, as needed.

Attachment

HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL
RECEIVED

2016 MAR 30 AM 11: 57

Howard County, Maryland
Watershed Protection and Restoration Fund
Annual Report to the County Council
March 1, 2016



Office of Community Sustainability
Department of Public Works
Department of Finance

www.cleanwaterhoward.com

FY 14 Watershed Protection and Restoration Fund Report

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1. Background

Efforts to clean up the Chesapeake Bay watershed have been underway for the better part of the last 35 years. For most of that time the activities were undertaken on a voluntary basis; however, over the last 15 years the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) stepped up the effort by mandating clean up goals in the form of Municipal Separate Stormwater Sewer System (MS4) permits and more recently with the adoption of Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL's) and corresponding Watershed Implementation Plans (WIP). Each jurisdiction has been charged with implementing programs that, based on science and modeling projections, will meet clean-up goals by 2025. These new MS4 mandates could not be met with historic program expenditures and therefore a significant infusion of new funds was necessary to reach the goals in the required timeframe.

Before these latest mandates, Howard County, like most jurisdictions in Maryland, had a respectable stormwater management program underway. However, the level of effort fell short of the activity necessary to meet the new permit requirements. Recognizing the need for increased funding, the County considered implementing a stormwater fee as part of the FY 12 budget. However, after reviewing the complexity of the effort and the limited timeframe in which to do it, the County Executive instead chose to jump-start the program with an increase of capital program funding from \$3 million to \$10 million while also setting aside funding to hire a consultant to assist in the development of a comprehensive stormwater service fee.

In the late summer of 2011, AMEC, Inc was hired to assist the County in the creation of a stormwater fee. Soon after, a new position of Stormwater Manager was added to the Office of Environmental Sustainability (OES, now Office of Community Sustainability, OCS) to guide policies and practices associated with an expanded stormwater program. Research, data collection and stormwater program assessment began in earnest in Fall 2011 and continued through the winter with the expectation that a stormwater fee proposal would be presented to the County Executive for consideration in the FY 14 budget.

Midway through the County's fee program effort, the Maryland Legislature passed HB 987, which required the ten Phase 1 MS4 Stormwater Permit jurisdictions to adopt a funding mechanism no later than July 1, 2013. Fortunately Howard County was well along the way in the development of a fee and despite some necessary changes in direction due to the requirements of HB 987, county staff, with the assistance of a resident-based Stormwater Advisory Committee, evaluated all the program needs, calculated anticipated costs, and developed a utility fee structure to meet our financial obligations in a manner that was believed to be fair and equitable to all community sectors.

In January 2013, legislation was introduced that defined the mechanisms to charge a watershed protection fee to all property owners in Howard County. After considerable discussion, in March 2013, the Watershed Protection and Restoration Fund (WPRF) was adopted by the County Council. However, based on a subsequent concern about the impact on the residential sector, in May 2013, at the request of the County Executive, amendments were introduced to modify the charge to the residential parcels. In July 2013, amendments to the fee were adopted by the County Council that reduced the charges from the residential sector. The first billing was included on the December 2013 property tax bill to both residential and non-residential property owners. The fee amounts remained consistent, however, billing moved to July 1 in 2014 and 2015 for accounting ease.

In May 2015, SB 863 Watershed Protection and Restoration Programs – Revisions repealed the mandate that local jurisdictions collect a watershed protection and restoration fee. SB 863 authorizes jurisdictions to implement a fee should they choose this method to pay for the required stormwater remediation. SB 863 requires that a county or jurisdiction submit a financial assurance plan demonstrating funding capacity every 2 years to the Department of the Environment beginning July 2016.



Watershed Protection and Restoration Fee Program Fundamentals

Fee Calculation

Residential Fee

Condo and Townhome -\$15 per unit
Single Family Home .25 acres or less - \$45
Single Family Home greater than .25 acre - \$90
Apartment Complex - \$15 per unit

Residential Hardship

60% credit if household income is less than 2.5 times the poverty level

Commercial Fee

Calculated based on impervious surface area in units of 500 square feet

Fee = Number of Units x \$15

Commercial Cap

If fee is greater than 20% of total tax bill then pay 20% of tax bill

If after 20% adjustment the fee is greater than \$1,000 and owner proves financial hardship then fee maximum is \$1,000

For FY14 only – if the fee is greater than \$10,000, property owners pay either 50% of the fee or \$10,000, whichever is greater (after 20% cap is applied)

Non-Profit

If an organization enters into partnership Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the County agreeing to allow the County assessment of treatment options to the maximum extent practicable (MEP), and agrees to implement the identified practices, then 100% of fee is waived

Need-based grants are available to assist with, or fully cover, the cost of implementing practices

If an organization does not agree to MOU or later opts out of the partnership, then the fee is calculated at regular commercial rate

Agricultural Assessments

Residential rate at \$90 if property has a Howard County Soil Conservation District (HCSCD) Conservation Plan or owner has signed MOU agreeing to pursue Conservation Plan

Without Conservation Plan, property is billed at the \$15/500 ft² rate

Credits

Residential Credits

A flat 20% credit is awarded provided minimum impervious area is treated as follows:

\$15 fee – 250 ft²

\$45 fee – 500 ft²

\$90 fee – 1,000 ft²

Commercial

If Site Development Plan (SDP) is dated after January 2003 and certifies that all stormwater management systems are in place and functional, property owners receive a 50% credit toward the base fee – no further credit is possible

For other properties, additional impervious area treatment under MDE design manual standards is credited by square feet treated x .5

Non profit

For nonprofit properties that do not participate in the MOU program, the percentage credit is awarded equivalent to the stormwater treated on-site

Reimbursements

One-time reimbursements for costs incurred for the construction or implementation of additional stormwater practices are available for all properties. The practices accepted, the minimum criteria required, and the reimbursement rates will vary and are defined by County Council Resolution.

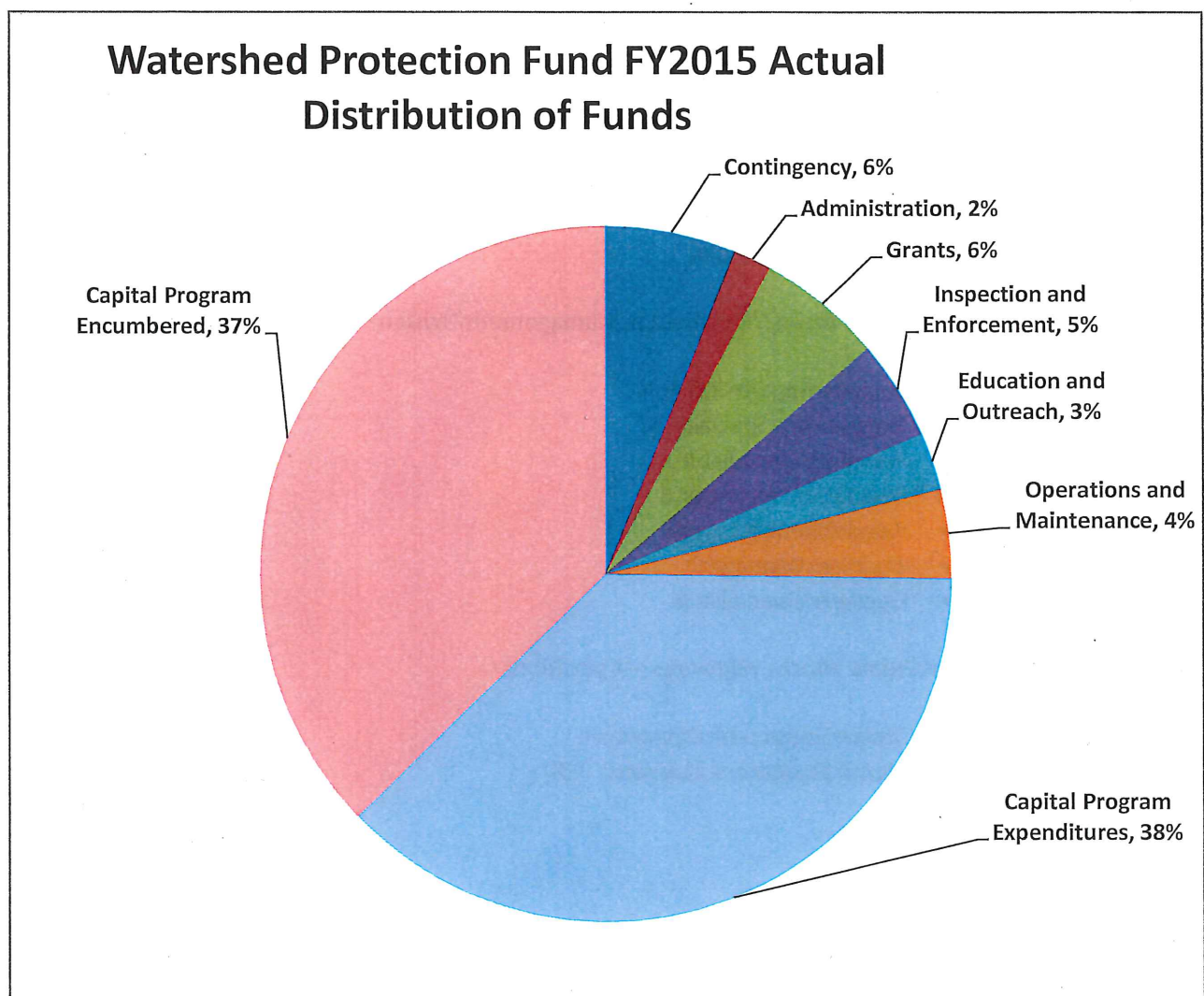


2. Watershed Protection and Restoration Fund Report as required by Environment Article of the Maryland Code, subsection 4-202.1 (i)

The information provided below is the actual distribution of funds of the Howard County WPRF required under the Maryland Environmental Article of the Maryland Annotated Code.

The fiscal reporting year ended on June 30, 2016. For Fiscal Year 2015, 93,163 properties were subject to WPRF. The amount deposited to the fund was \$11,129,860.55.

In comparing FY 15 to FY 14, note that FY 14 was only the budgeted distribution of funds given the timing for the new fund. FY 15 represents the actual distribution of expenditures and encumbrances.



3. Financial Data

Fee Collection – provided by Howard County’s Department of Finance

\$11,129,860.55 - Imposed overall fee (net of all credits) for FY 2015

\$51,477.20 - Amount of FY 2015 billing delinquent as of 6/30/2015

\$19,267.04 - Amount still due for the FY 15 billings as of 1/31/16

Personnel Complement Funded by the Watershed Protection and Restoration Fund FY15

Office of Environmental Sustainability – 3 positions

- Stormwater Management Coordinator
- Planning Specialist II
- Administrative Aide

Department of Public Works, Stormwater Management Division – 7 positions

- Engineering Specialist III
- Engineering Specialist II
- Planning Specialist II
- Regulation Inspector II
- Regulation Inspector I
- Engineer Manager I
- Engineer Specialist III

Department of Public Works, Highways – 4 positions

- Motor Equipment Operator II
- Motor Equipment Operator I (3)

Comprehensive Annual Financial Report Fiscal Year 2015

Howard County, Maryland Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position Non-Major Enterprise Funds June 30, 2015

	Broadband	Watershed Protection and Restoration	Special Recreation Facility	Total
Operating revenues:				
User charges	\$ 1,101,330	1,105,687	-	2,207,017
Grass and/or tree fees	-	-	1,315,595	1,315,595
Range fees	-	-	108,818	108,818
Merchandise	-	-	114,733	114,733
Food and beverage	-	-	307,343	307,343
Miscellaneous sales and services	-	29,006	2,6824	55,820
Total operating revenues	1,101,330	1,134,693	1,893,311	4,129,334
Operating expenses:				
Salaries and employer benefits	371,433	1,158,067	-	1,529,499
Contracted services	554,567	651,763	1,459,050	2,665,379
Supplies and materials	684	955	-	1,639
Business travel	734	718	-	1,452
Share of county administrative expenses	-	710,075	-	710,075
Other administrative	-	78,490	-	78,490
Depreciation expense	720,961	25,763	3,9829	789,552
Total operating expenses	1,648,378	2,624,833	1,493,079	5,766,290
Operating income (loss)	(547,048)	(1,490,140)	394,232	(1,642,956)
Nonoperating revenues (expenses):				
Interest on investments	(94)	7,872	(296)	7,482
Interest expense	-	-	(108,363)	(108,363)
Gain (loss) on sale of capital assets	23,318	-	-	23,318
Other, net	-	-	(94,883)	(94,883)
Total nonoperating revenues (expenses)	23,224	7,872	(103,540)	(72,444)
Net income (loss) before contributions and transfers	(523,824)	(1,482,268)	190,692	(1,815,400)
Capital contributions	13,340,837	-	-	13,340,837
Transfers in	51,940	-	120,168	172,108
Transfers out	-	(3,369,951)	-	(3,369,951)
Change in net position	12,868,953	(1,482,268)	311,060	11,697,745
Net position - beginning	-	1,695,582	5,693,608	7,389,190
Net position - ending	\$ 12,868,953	\$ 2,177,814	\$ 6,087,268	\$ 21,133,035

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

SWM Division Projects Charged to Watershed Protection and Restoration Fund				
As of January 12, 2016				
<i>Purchase Order Date</i>	<i>Project</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>2015 **</i>	
			<i>WPR Fund Total</i>	<i>% Spent</i>
12/12/2012	2-D Flood Study	Perform 2-D floodplain modeling for downtown Ellicott City	\$ 210,526.80	100%
2/6/2013	Savage Library WQ Concept Phase	Concept design for water quality site improvements	\$ 63,754.95	100%
6/5/2013	Bill Lilly Construction	Repair/replace existing pond riser/barrel - construction	\$ 215,374.58	100%
6/5/2013	Shadow Lane Dredging Construction	Repair/replace existing pond plus dredge sediment built up in the pond	\$ 718,740.23	100%
6/18/2013	Ellicott City Parking Lot B WQ Design	Ellicott City parking lot B water quality design	\$ 17,751.36	100%
8/8/2013	Savage Library WQ Final Design	Final design for water quality site improvements	\$ 140,000.00	100%
9/9/2013	D&F Construction	Parking Lot B construction (porous pavement)	\$ 107,986.71	100%
9/13/2013	Stone Trail Ct Stream - Construction	Stream restoration construction	\$ 851,781.09	100%
10/9/2013	Pinehurst Court Design	Stream restoration design	\$ 167,555.49	100%
10/15/2013	Parking Lot E Final Design	Ellicott City parking lot E final design	\$ 130,000.00	96%
10/23/2013	Rockburn Branch Park LID Retrofit Study and Design	Design for new bioretention to treat existing parking lot	\$ 69,315.05	90%
11/15/2013	Parking Lot D Concept Design	Ellicott City Parking Lot D concept design	\$ 45,600.00	47%
11/18/2013	Dayton Shop Design	Repair/replace existing pond riser/barrel - design	\$ 38,494.24	87%
11/20/2013	Whiterock Ct Stream - Construction	Stream restoration construction	\$ 330,958.68	99%
11/25/2013	Tiller Drive 2 Construction	Stream restoration construction	\$ 206,852.32	100%
1/15/2014	Red Hill & Meadowbrook Monitoring 2014	Field monitoring and reporting to support Chesapeake Bay Trust Fund grant projects	\$ 134,885.00	67%
1/22/2014	Savage Library WQ Construction	Construct water quality improvements at the site	\$ 725,000.00	100%

2/6/2014	Wetherburn Construction	Repair/replace existing pond riser/barrel - construction	\$ 222,893.69	100%
2/26/2014	CDCI Lot E Caisson Construction/Rock Removal	Ellicott City parking lot E - caisson construction and rock removal	\$ 373,858.46	100%
3/4/2014	Lot F Concept Design	Ellicott City Parking Lot F concept design	\$ 28,800.00	98%
3/12/2014	Lot E Site Prep Work	Initial grading to prep Ellicott City Lot E for the caisson construction	\$ 134,277.98	100%
3/13/2014	Wimbledon Construction	Repair/replace existing pond riser/barrel - construction	\$ 253,526.54	100%
3/27/2014	Quaker Mill Pond Concept	Concept for water quality retrofit of existing pond	\$ 8,704.96	100%
4/7/2014	Angelas Valley Construction	Repair/replace existing pond riser/barrel - construction	\$ 244,299.77	100%
4/25/2014	Rhode Valley Construction	Repair/replace existing pond riser/barrel - construction	\$ 238,465.96	100%
4/29/2014	NPDES Geodatabase Development Phase 2	Development work for geodatabase needed to support NPDES permit	\$ 270,356.00	99%
4/29/2014	Lot E - Caisson Construction Management	Ellicott City parking lot E - caisson construction and rock removal - construction management	\$ 45,461.68	100%
5/20/2014	Lot E - Bagha Plat Revision	Prepare plat needed to acquire property needed for Ellicott City parking lot E project	\$ 6,918.80	99%
5/28/2014	Woodlot Road Stream Design	Stream restoration design	\$ 141,201.96	65%
6/6/2014	Emily Fox Ct Pipe Replacement Construction	Repair/replace existing pond riser/barrel - construction	\$ 251,688.74	100%
7/14/2014	BGE - Pole Relocation	BGE - pole relocation for Ellicott City parking lot E project	\$ 47,487.00	100%
7/17/2014	Wilde Lake HS Retrofit Construction	Construct water quality improvements at existing site	\$ 725,000.00	100%
7/17/2014	BGE - Guywire Relocation	BGE - guywire relocation for Ellicott City parking lot E project	\$ 4,125.00	50%
7/21/2014	Old Mill Construction	Repair/replace existing pond riser/barrel - construction	\$ 305,071.53	100%
9/4/2014	Towering Oaks Construction	Repair/replace existing pond riser/barrel - construction	\$ 223,495.09	100%

9/19/2014	Ellicott Mills Bumpout Concept	Concept for one bioretention bump-out on Ellicott Mills Road	\$ 37,341.93	94%
9/25/2014	Lot E Phase 2 Construction	Ellicott City Lot E site construction	\$ 766,837.47	93%
9/26/2014	Lot E - Phase 2 Construction Management	Ellicott City final site work construction management	\$ 69,700.50	85%
9/30/2014	Southview Road Construction	Stream restoration construction	\$ 99,821.45	95%
9/30/2014	Red Cravat Construction	Repair/replace existing pond riser/barrel - construction plus dredge sediment built up in the pond	\$ 1,146,174.17	100%
10/3/2014	Glenshire Construction	Repair/replace existing pond riser/barrel – construction	\$ 465,740.77	93%
10/7/2014	Northgate Woods Construction	Repair/replace existing pond riser/barrel – construction	\$ 226,530.41	88%
10/10/2014	Bonnie Branch Stream Feasibility Study	Concept design for stream restoration project	\$ 18,711.92	100%
10/23/2014	Southview Road Construction Management	Stream restoration construction management	\$ 135,773.95	56%
12/22/2014	Pinehurst Court Stream Restoration Construction Services	Stream restoration construction	\$ 284,425.93	98%
1/8/2015	Pinehurst Court Stream Restoration Construction Management Services	Stream restoration construction management	\$ 89,544.26	89%
2/11/2015	Dorsey Hall VC Stream and RSC Construction	Stream restoration and regenerative storm conveyance construction	\$ 113,004.75	94%
2/11/2015	Dorsey Hall VC Stream and RSC Construction Management	Stream restoration and regenerative storm conveyance construction management	\$ 58,520.00	96%
10/19/2015	Davis Branch Design	Stream restoration design	\$ 185,944.86	10%
11/6/2015	Large Woody Debris Removal from Stream	Removal of woody debris blockages from local streams	\$ 54,044.50	0%
12/17/2015	Bonnie Branch Stream Construction	Stream restoration construction	\$ 140,761.70	0%
12/28/2015	Longmeadow Pond 1 - Construction	Repair/replace existing pond riser/barrel – construction	\$ 594,188.45	0%
12/28/2015	Longmeadow Pond 1 - Construction Management	Repair/replace existing pond riser/barrel – construction management	\$ 58,282.68	0%

	TOTAL	\$ 12,245,559.36
	Total 2012	\$ 210,526.80
	Total 2013	\$ 3,104,164.70
	Total 2014*	\$ 7,636,576.66
	Total 2015**	\$ 1,294,291.20
	Total as of 1/12/2016	\$ 12,245,559.36

NOTES:

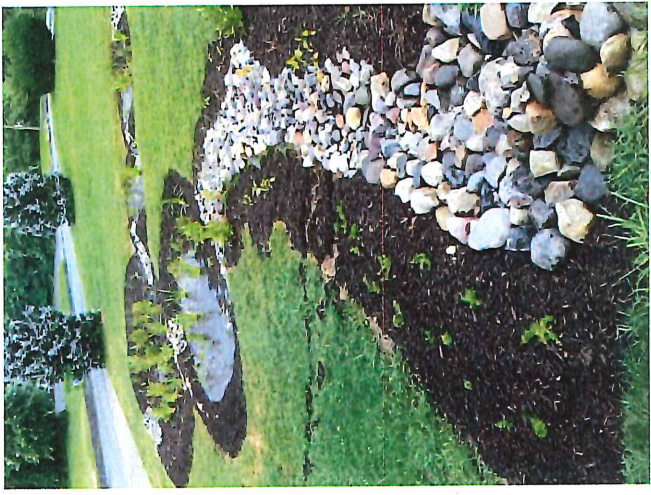
This table represents WPRF expenditures to-date and breaks out the values by calendar years based on purchase order issuance date.

Some purchase orders also have money allocated from the General Fund. This table is solely for the WPRF.

This table only covers items for which a purchase order was issued. It does not cover items like the READY grant.

* 2014 WPR Fund Total is based on an SAP Encumbrance Report generated on January 7, 2015.

** 2015 WPR Fund Total is based on an SAP Encumbrance Report generated on January 12, 2016.



4. Incentive Reimbursements and Credits

If stormwater best management practices (BMP) are constructed on a property and meet the design criteria outlined by MDE, a reimbursement for costs up to 50% of the total (with a maximum amount) is given to the owner. An owner must fill out an application and the site is inspected for validation of design. There is a reimbursement program for both residential and non-residential property owners.

In addition, any property owner that has installed a BMP is eligible for a credit against the fee. For residential parcels this amounts to a flat 20% credit. For non-residential parcels the credit is calculated based on the amount of impervious area treated x 0.5 up to 50% of the total fee. For non-residential parcels with a SDP post-2003 the credit is an automatic 50% given they have met the strictest MDE design standards.

2015 Residential Reimbursements / Total To Date (TTD)

- 78 reimbursement applications received / 158 TTD
- 69 reimbursements were granted (88.46%) / 133 TTD
- \$40,431 total issued to property owners / \$72,405
- 1.47 impervious acres treated / 2.33 TTD

2015 Residential Credits

- 32 Credit Applications received / 80 TTD
- 27 Credits granted (60%) / 61 TTD
- \$372 in credit issued / \$1,434 TTD
- No unique impervious treated / 0.12 TTD
(credit applicants also received reimbursement)

2015 Non-residential Reimbursements

- No applications were received / 0 TTD

2015 Non-residential Credits

Pre-2003 SDP

- 0 Applied / 22 TTD
- 0 Approved / 14 TTD

Post-2003 SDP

- 4 applied / 56 TTD
- 3 Approved / 51 TTD
- \$14,318 in credit issued / not previously calculated

For agriculturally assessed properties a credit is awarded for any parcel that is managed by a Water Quality and Conservation Plan, prepared by the HCSCD; or a Forest Conservation Plan approved by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

- 965 Agricultural Properties are credited with Conservation Plans

Non-profit parcel owners are offered the opportunity to join in partnership with the County allowing the County to assess the potential for on-site impervious area treatment. If a property owner joins the partnership his/her fee is reduced to \$0 from that date forward – unless he/she at some point in the future opts out of the partnership at which point they will be charged the non-residential rate, currently \$15/500 ft² of impervious area.

- 140 non-profit partners are currently in the partnership, totaling over 200 parcels.
- 13 parcels require no further action as they are post-2003 SDP
- READY crews built rain gardens on 6 additional nonprofit properties in FY 15 treating 0.74 impervious acres and hold a fee for service agreement to perform maintenance at 7 of the nonprofit properties with rain gardens
- The Center for Watershed Protection through a DNR grant is finishing construction of BMP's on 3 parcels
- \$2 million in contracts to be awarded to two firms in early 2016 to design and build BMP's on non-profit partner properties



5. Adjustments

As defined by the County Code, all parcel owners are entitled to submit a request for adjustment to the WPRF for one or more of the following reasons:

- Identification of the owner invoiced is in error
- Error regarding the impervious surface measurement for non-residential parcels
- Mathematical error in calculating residential lot size
- Mathematical error in calculating the fee on non-residential properties

There was a total of 1 request for adjustment in 2015. An adjustment committee comprised of staff from the Department of Finance, GIS, the Office of Law, OES and HCSCD reviewed the request.

- 0 requests granted
- 1 request denied (applicant did not supply further information as requested)
- 0 appealed to the Board of Appeals

As expected, the number of adjustment requests dropped significantly since the previous year as community education increased and billing data errors were addressed as shown below.

Adjustment Requests

	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>Total</u>
Received	101	28	1	130
Approved	52	17	0	69
Denied	49	11	1	61
Board of Appeals Cases	0	0	0	0

6. Fee Assistance and Hardship

The Department of Finance administers a fee assistance program to aid residential property owners. Currently there are 449 Hardship Credits totaling \$16,344.00

Hardship Credits criteria for non-residential property owners are defined under Section 20.1109 9(c).

7. Recommendations

- Consider an increase in residential credit above existing 20% to create greater incentives to construct on-site runoff controls
- Consider a greater incentive program for commercial properties