

Neighborhood Roundtable



Stormwater Spotlight

September 15, 2025



Public Works

Maria Price, PE - Assistant City Engineer / Stormwater Division Director

Ken Martin - Code Enforcement Inspector / Floodplain Coordinator

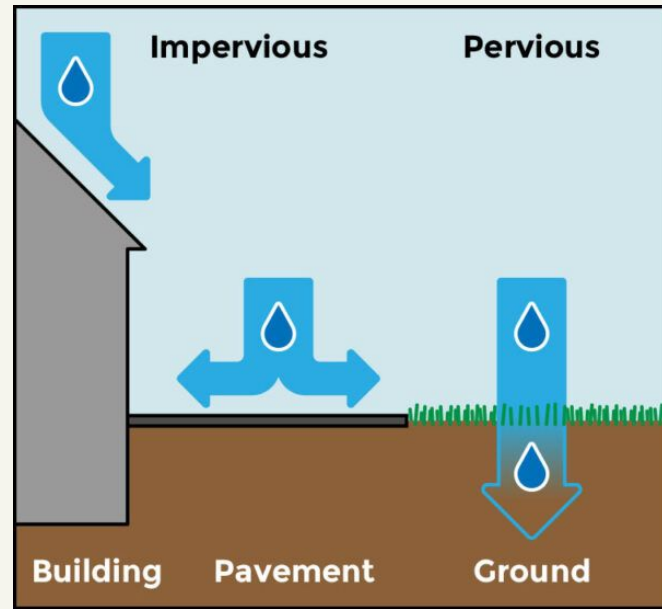
Agenda

- What is Stormwater?
- Stormwater Fees
- Program Offerings
 - RainSmart
- Drainage Policy / 311
- Floodplain Management



What is Stormwater?

- Precipitation (rain and snow) that doesn't soak into the ground but instead runs off land and impervious surfaces, picking up pollutants like trash, oil, and fertilizers before flowing into storm drains, rivers, and other waterways. This runoff can cause flooding and water pollution, which impacts human health and aquatic ecosystems, making stormwater management essential.
- Pervious vs Impervious Surfaces
- Types of water utilities
 - Drinking water (private)
 - Stormwater (City)
 - Wastewater (City)
 - Combined Sewer areas (City)



Stormwater

- Historic Flooding
- TVA / Roosevelt Administration
- WPA Ditches
- Brainerd Levee



Brainerd Levee

- Flood prevention - Storage
- Spans 125 acres
- Protects over 3,000 parcels
- Managed as Small Wildlife area (nationally recognized for birds)
- South Chick Greenway



Chattanooga Creek Litter Boom

Installed May 2023. Thru June 2025,
Over 3 tons of trash and debris (tires/tanks)
kept out of the TN River!



Stormwater Fees

- Can appeal if parcel has no impervious area (eg. field).
- All residentials pay same amount unless HOA owned (then based on amount of imperv surface).
- RainSmart Yards discount program
- United Way Stormwater Fee Assistance Program
 - The City of Chattanooga has partnered with United Way of Greater Chattanooga to provide additional assistance to homeowners who qualify for Tax Relief, Tax Freeze, or both by paying the stormwater fee on their current City of Chattanooga property tax bill (up to \$183.54).



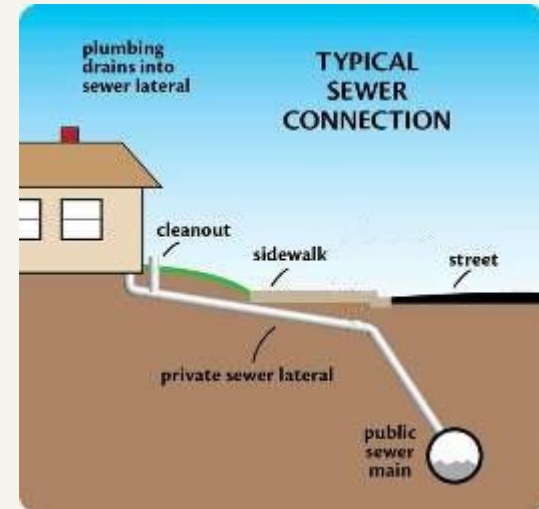
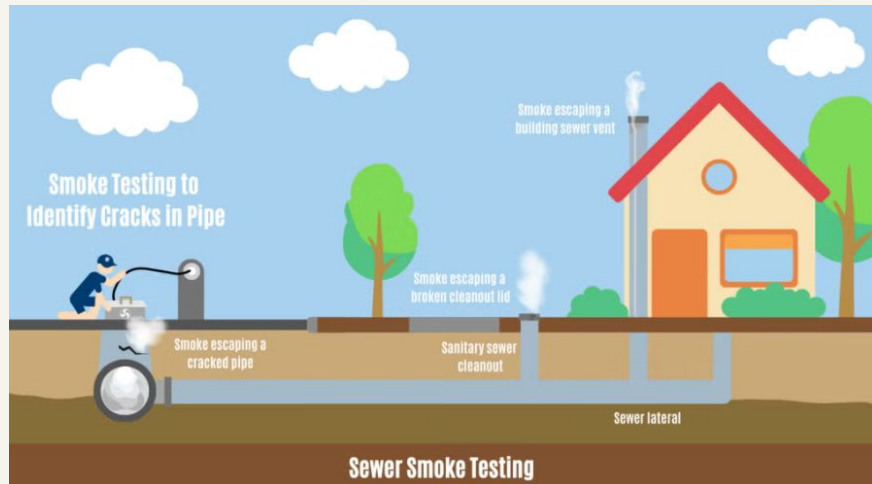
Single Family Residential (SFR) Pond Maintenance Program

- An initiative to improve the condition of privately owned detention & retention stormwater ponds.
- Help improve water quality and educate citizens about stormwater control measures (SCMs).
- Application on chattanooga.gov
- Ponds will be assessed and prioritized for an initial rehabilitation if needed, and/or possible retrofitting for water quality improvements.
- After this initial improvement, the City will take over functional maintenance.
- General maintenance will still be the responsibility of the property owner(s) or Homeowners Association.

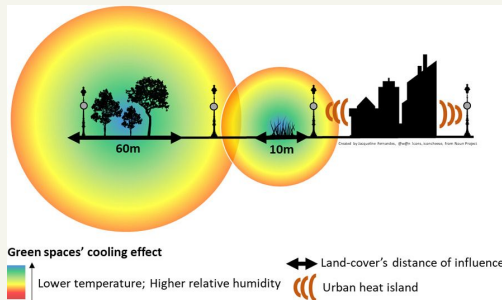


Sewer Lateral Assistance Program (SLAP)

- Provides financial assistance to low-income residents of Chattanooga for the repair or replacement of defective sewer laterals. A licensed plumber conducts repairs under contract with the city.
- Covers the full cost to repair or replace the sewer lateral from the exterior of the home to the connection with the sewer main for qualified homeowners.



Heat Island Reduction



Stormwater Management



Carbon Sequestration

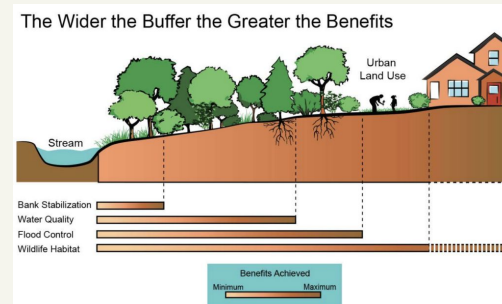


25%

of our carbon emissions have historically been captured by Earth's forests, farms and grasslands

Benefits of Native Plants

Improved Water Quality



Wildlife Habitat + Food Web Support



Benefits of Native Plants

Reduced Inputs & Pollutants



© The City of Chattanooga

