



TOWN OF WELLESLEY
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
Stormwater Enterprise Fund
Article 14



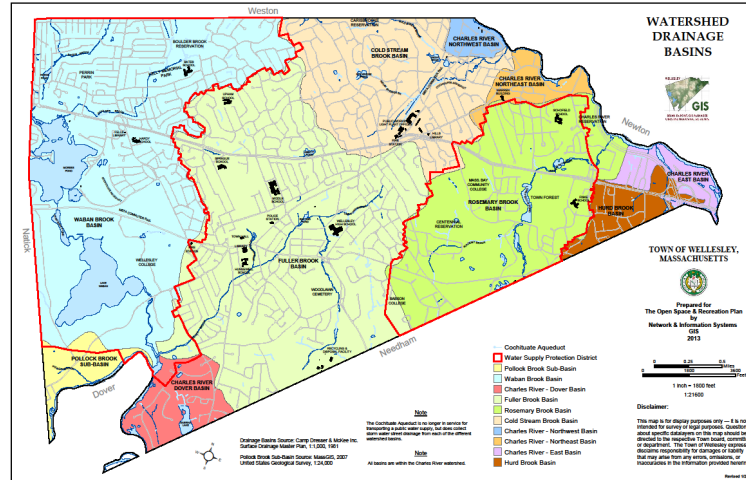
Stormwater Enterprise Fund

- New Stormwater Enterprise Fund adopted at ATM 2023.
- Fees collected starting in FY25
- Funding is received from fees charged, not through tax appropriations.
- Stormwater revenues are based on impervious area using each property's Equivalent Residential Unit (One ERU = 3,100 square feet of impervious area).
- The Board of Public Works reviews and sets rates annually based on projected revenues and expenditures.



Wellesley's Stormwater System

- 10 Primary Watersheds
- 121 miles of drainpipes
- 15 miles of brooks and streams
- 4,000+ catch basins
- 100 headwalls
- 75 miles of culverts
- Vehicles and Equipment for maintaining and pollution control of the drainage infrastructure



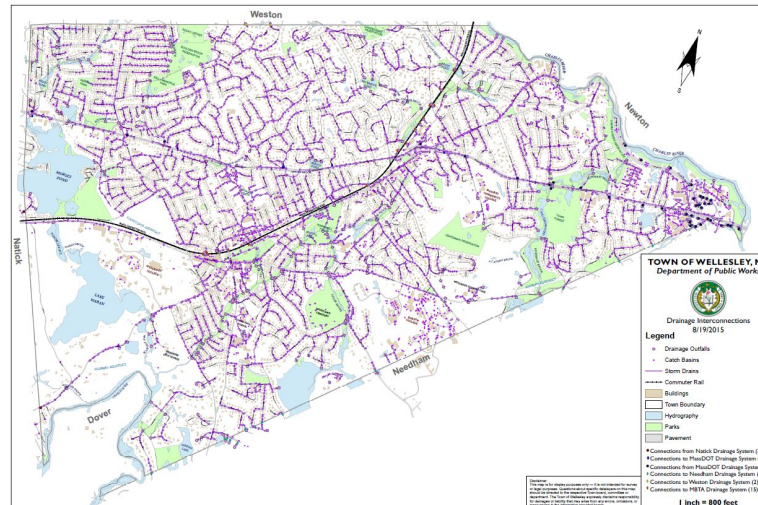
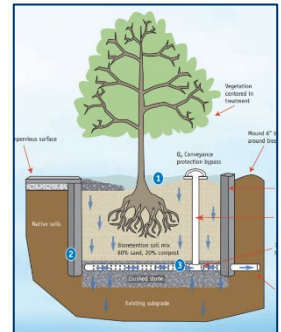
Outfalls & Pipes



Catch Basins & Manholes



Stormwater BMPs



Program Requirements

EPA Permit Compliance for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4)

- Public Education and Outreach
- Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE)
- Management of Construction Site Runoff
- Management of Post Construction Site Runoff
- **Phosphorous Control Plan**
- Good Housekeeping and Municipal Operations
 - ✓ Storm drain maintenance
 - ✓ Street sweeping
 - ✓ Catch basin cleaning
 - ✓ Capital infrastructure improvements
 - ✓ Capital equipment replacement



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Stormwater FY26 Budget

	FY25	FY26	\$ Change	%Change
Personal Services (DPW Salaries)	\$865,562	\$884,042	\$18,480	2.1%
Indirect Costs (IT Salaries)	70,555	19,837	(50,718)	(71.9%)
Expenses				
Street Cleaning & Drains, Brooks, Basins	170,000	226,000	56,000	31.1%
All Other Operating Expenses	447,897	447,897	0	0%
Subtotal – Expenses	617,897	673,897	56,000	9.1%
Subtotal – PS & Expenses	1,554,014	1,577,776	23,762	1.5%
Capital Outlay	875,000	730,000	(145,000)	(16.6%)
Enterprise Fund Contingency	200,000	200,000	0	0%
Total Authorized Use of Funds	2,629,014	2,507,776	(\$121,238)	(4.6%)

Expecting **0%** increase in stormwater rates for FY26



Rate Structure & Fees

Single Family Residential

- 1 ERU: Median Impervious Area (IA)
 - 3,100 sq ft IA
 - Fee \$225/ERU
- Tiers 1 - 3 with Flat Fee
- Tier 4 Proportional to Number of ERUs

Non-Single Family Residential and Multi-Family Residential

- Fee Proportional to Number of ERUs

Description	Impervious Area (ERUs)	Monthly Cost	Annual Total
Single Family Residential			
Tier 1 ($\leq 2,450 \text{ ft}^2$ IA)	0.7 ERUs	\$13.13	\$157.50
Tier 2 ($2,450 \text{ ft}^2 < \text{IA} < 4,150 \text{ ft}^2$)	1 ERUs	\$18.75	\$225.00
Tier 3 ($4,150 \text{ ft}^2 < \text{IA} \leq 9,300 \text{ ft}^2$)	1.7 ERUs	\$31.88	\$382.50
Tier 4 ($> 9,300 \text{ ft}^2$ IA) – Proportional Fee	Varies	\$18.75/ERU	\$225/ERU
Non-Residential and Multi-Family Residential			
Proportional Fee	Varies	\$18.75/ERU	\$225/ERU



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Benchmarking

Town	Year Adopted	ERU (ft²)	Single Family Residential Fee	Other Residential	Large Residential, Commercial, Industrial, Tax Exempt	Charles River Phosphorous TMDL?
Wellesley	2023	3,105	\$157.50 - \$382.50+/year 4 tiers	\$225 / ERU	\$225 / ERU	Yes
Bellingham	2020	3,025	\$96 / year Flat Fee for SFR & Condos	\$192/year Flat fee 2-3 family	\$96 / ERU	Yes
Dedham	2023	2,627	\$188-\$1,286 /year 3 Tiers (Includes two and three family dwellings)	\$289 /ERU or 12 Tiers Flat Rates (\$303 to \$118,687)	\$289 / ERU or 12 Tiers Flat Rates (\$303 to \$118,687)	Yes
Millis	2018	N/A	\$0 - \$400+ / year	\$0 - \$400+ / year	\$0 - \$400+ / year	Yes
Milton	2016	N/A	\$44-\$572/year 6 Tiers	\$2.49 per 100 ft² IA	\$2.49 per 100 ft² IA	No
Newton**	2006	N/A	\$114 / year	\$100/year Flat fee for 2-4 Unit Res	\$0.047 per ft² IA Minimum \$150/year	Yes
Needham**	2025	N/A	\$38.20 - \$1,500 / year 10 Tiers	same	same	Yes
Westford**	2019	3,500	\$37.50 - \$150 / year 5 Tiers	\$75/ERU	\$75/ERU	No

** Portion of stormwater program funded through General Fund



Comparison of Wellesley's Annual Water, Sewer, and Stormwater Charges With Neighboring Communities

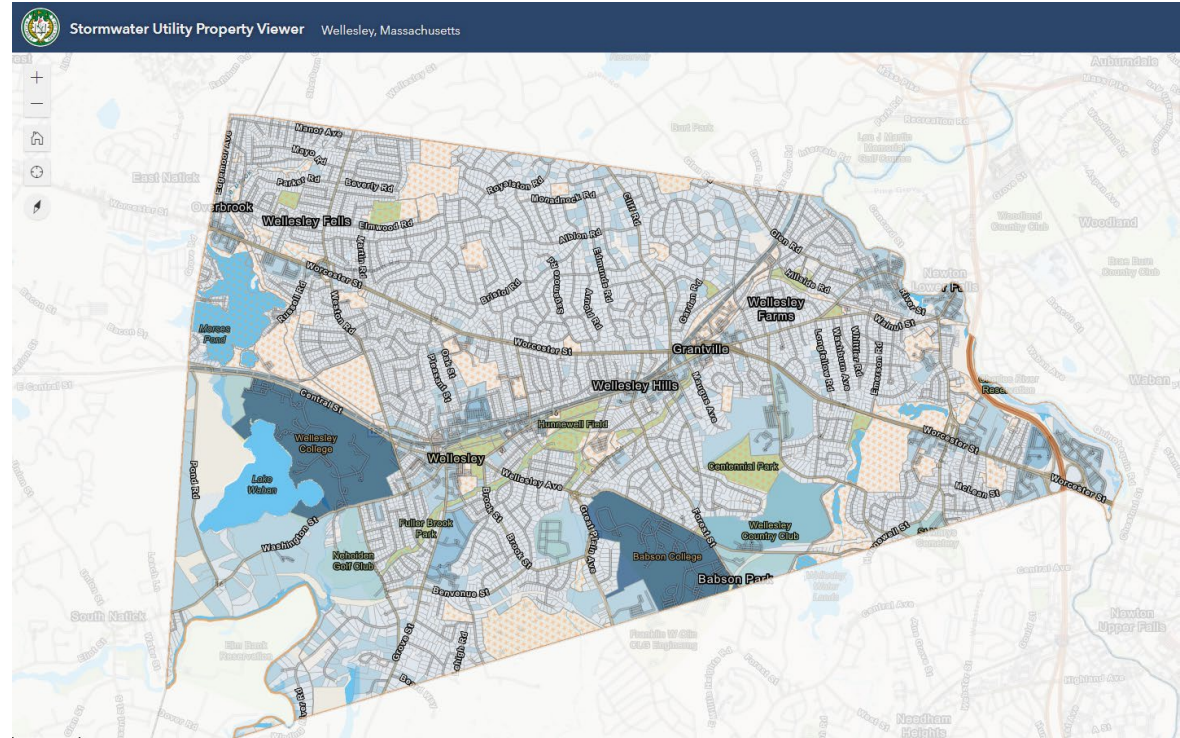
Average Residential Indoor User

Based on July 1, 2024 Rates, 120 ccf/year & 3,100 ft² property

<u>Community</u>	<u>Water</u>	<u>Sewer</u>	<u>Stormwater</u>	<u>Total</u>
Wellesley	\$673	\$1,328	\$225	\$2,226
<i>Wellesley (FY26)</i>	<i>\$699</i>	<i>\$1,405</i>	<i>\$225</i>	<i>\$2,329</i>
Needham*	\$502	\$1,428	\$38	\$1,968
Natick**	\$583	\$1,829	\$0	\$2,412
Newton	\$1,062	\$1,642	\$140	\$2,844



Stormwater Property Viewer



<https://www.wellesleyma.gov/2223>

Abatements & Credits

Abatements

- Landowners may apply if fee is thought to be incorrect – apply online.

Active Credits Include:

- **Stormwater BMP / Water Quality Improvement Credits:** Credits for larger properties to construct and maintain BMPs that reduce downstream impacts to the drainage system and water quality. Up to 50% credit depending level of treatment.
- **NPDES MS4 Credit:** E.g., Mass Bay College is a Non-Traditional MS4 under the General Permit of the town. If in compliance, offer 10% credit. Can be combined with other credits.
- **Education Credit:** With a goal of increasing community awareness of stormwater, implementation of curriculum or a public service program that provides the public with an opportunity to understand and participate in stormwater management and watershed stewardship. Not to exceed 15% credit that can be combined with other credits.
- **Non-Structural Stormwater BMP Credit:** E.g., sweeping private roads and parking areas for properties with >1 acre of impervious area that impact water quality.
- Credits typically good for 1-5 years and need to re-apply.

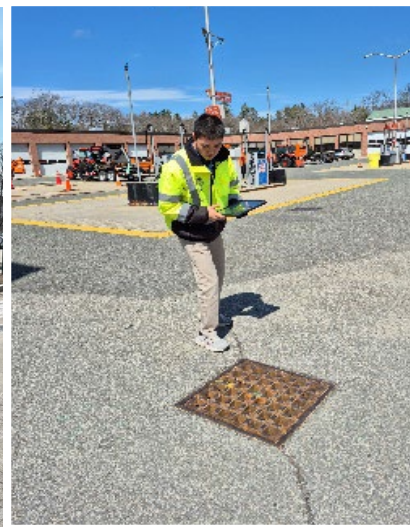
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FY25 Update

- Utility Billing
- Online Credits & Abatements processing
- Infrastructure Improvements
- ARPA-funded Street Sweeper
- Continued Stormwater Monitoring
- Public Outreach & Education

Stormwater Public Outreach Video



For More Information

<https://www.wellesleyma.gov/2223>

- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
- Proposed Fee Schedule
- Property Viewer
- Presentations & Outreach
- Additional Examples in New England

Contact Us anytime: dpw@wellesleyma.gov and follow us on social media:



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