



City of Sunset Valley
3205 Jones Road
Sunset Valley, TX 78745
P: 512-892-1383
F: 512-892-6108

Fact Sheet
City of Sunset Valley Drainage Utility

The City of Sunset Valley is considering the implementation of a Municipal Drainage Utility System in order to provide improved services for stormwater drainage management. The monthly Utility fee will provide a dedicated funding source for enhanced maintenance of the storm drainage system, and for planning, engineering and construction of drainage improvements. The revenue collected through the Utility fee will be managed in a dedicated account and **ONLY** be used for drainage purposes.

How will the fee be determined?

The monthly fee will be based on the amount of impervious surface area on each developed land parcel in the City. Impervious surfaces such as rooftops, driveways and parking areas impede natural infiltration, and increase the rate and volume of stormwater runoff that must be collected and carried by the City's drainage system. The City's drainage system includes but is not limited to creeks and roadside drainage ditches as well as gutters, storm drains and storm sewers. City records of impervious area on each property parcel were used for the utility customer billing rate analysis.

What is the fee structure?

Based on evaluation of the impervious area information, a three-tiered rate structure is proposed for single-family properties. Commercial category properties (all non single-family properties) are proposed to be assigned fees based on the number of Equivalent Residential Units of impervious area on the property parcel. For Sunset Valley, the Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU) value is 3,350 square feet impervious area; this is the billing unit standard for commercial properties.

Single-Family:

Tier 1 "Small"	0.55 ERU	up to 3,253 ft ²
Tier 2 "Average"	1.0 ERU	3,253-6,980 ft ²
Tier 3 "Large"	1.7 ERU	more than 6,980 ft ²

Commercial:

Total ERU's = Property Parcel Impervious Area/3,350 ft²
Minimum 1.0 ERU

How much is the fee?

The initial monthly billing rate per ERU is projected to be \$4.00. The City Council will review the revenue needs for the City's drainage management program on an annual basis and consider

appropriate fee adjustments required to meet the drainage management service goals of the City.

How will the fee be collected?

The fee will be included on the City's monthly utility billing statement.

How can I request a review of my drainage fee?

If you believe that your fee is in error, the City has established an appeal process whereby the customer can bring forward information on impervious area, land use, or justification for exemption for City consideration for fee adjustment.

What will customers receive for their monthly fee?

This new fee will enable the City to fund drainage management construction projects and operation and maintenance expenses, which will help alleviate present flooding situations and correct problems that cause a negative impact on the water quality in streams and aquifer recharge.

Will the Utility solve all of the drainage problems in Sunset Valley?

The City plans to systematically address existing drainage and water quality problems. However, the City cannot afford to immediately fund solutions for all the known problems. Priorities will be established by the City Council, and the timing for the start of individual projects will be based on revenues collected and other financial factors that must be considered.

When will the fee go into effect?

If approved by the City Council, the fee will be effective with the October 2010 City utility billing statements.

How can I get additional information?

The City will conduct public meetings on September 1st and public hearings on September 7th and September 21st to adopt the ordinances required by State law following the second public hearing on September 21st. At the public meetings, information on monthly billing rate will be available for each property.