

**BOROUGH OF CONSHOHOCKEN  
AUTHORITY**

**Stormwater Management  
Program  
Credit and Appeals Manual**

**BOROUGH OF CONSHOHOCKEN  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY,  
PENNSYLVANIA**

Last Modified: December 2023

# CONTENTS

1.0 Introduction .....	3
2.0 Disclaimer.....	3
3.0 Definitions.....	3
4.0 Credits and Credit Policies .....	4
4.1 General Policies.....	4
4.2 Eligibility.....	4
4.3 Credit Details.....	5
5.0 Summary of Available Credits.....	6
5.1 Peak Rate Control / Volume Control Structural Best Management Practice .....	6
5.1.1 Maintenance Policies: .....	7
5.2 Rain barrel Rebate .....	7
5.3 education credit.....	8
5.4 Stormwater Partnership Credit.....	8
6.0 Applying for Credit.....	9
6.1 Pre-Application Meeting and Field Review.....	9
6.2 Design Standards .....	9
6.3 Credit Application .....	9
6.3.1 Peak Rate/Structural Best Management Practice Credit:.....	9
6.3.2 Rain Barrel Rebate .....	10
6.3.3 Education Credit.....	10
6.3.4 Stormwater Partnership Credit:.....	10
7.0 Appeals.....	11
7.1 Appeal Impervious Area Assessment.....	11
Attachment A – Credit Application .....	12
Attachment B – Maintenance Agreement.....	15
Attachment C – Pre-Application Meeting Request Form .....	17
Attachment D – Appeal Form .....	19

## Abbreviations

BMP	Best Management Practice
IA	Impervious Area
MS4	Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System
SMP	Stormwater Management Program

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

This Manual provides Borough of Conshohocken Authority's (Authority) Stormwater Management Program (SMP) customers with details on the credits available to reduce their quarterly SMP Fee. Credits are provided as a means for customers to reduce the amount of their fee by implementing a creditable Best Management Practice (BMP) to reduce the contribution of stormwater and pollutants to the Stormwater Management system and/or to aid in meeting Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit obligations.

Stormwater management is important to our community. It is necessary to manage stormwater runoff generated by impervious surfaces because it carries pollutants that can degrade the quality of natural waterways. In addition, impervious surfaces generate more runoff than pervious surfaces, which can increase the potential of flooding and associated property damage. The Authority is in the process of developing and implementing a comprehensive Program to provide enhanced stormwater management to property owners in the Borough.

The foundation of an effective SMP is the development of a fair and equitable SMP Fee to provide for a dedicated and reliable revenue stream. Revenues generated by the SMP Fees will support the SMP and its goals to: ensure MS4 Permit regulatory compliance including Pollutant Reduction BMP implementation, improve water quality, mitigate flooding where practicable, support strategic planning for capital improvements, support effective infrastructure operation and maintenance, and promote the education of the community on practices to improve the quality of water resources.

The *Authority Stormwater Management Rates, Rules, and Regulations* defines how properties within the Township will be assessed fees based upon Impervious Area (IA) coverage on the property. All property owners may reduce their fee if they apply and qualify for credits made available by the credit policy. This Manual will provide the user with the procedures to follow in order to apply for credits from the Authority.

## 2.0 DISCLAIMER

By submitting a Fee Credit Application pursuant to the Credit Policy (Section 6.0), the Property Owner acknowledges and agrees that they and their heirs, grantees, successors, and assigns shall be solely responsible and liable for the operation and maintenance of any and all BMPs constructed, installed, or employed by the Property Owner. The Authority shall not be responsible for or liable with respect to the operation and maintenance of any BMP, or any damages arising therefrom.

## 3.0 DEFINITIONS

Terms can be defined by the *Authority's Credit Regulations* currently in effect. For the purposes of this manual, Authority refers to the Borough of Conshohocken Authority, its agents, assigns, etc.

## 4.0 CREDITS AND CREDIT POLICIES

Detailed Information about applying for credit can be found in Section 6.0 Applying for Credit.

### 4.1 GENERAL POLICIES

1. It is the Property Owner's responsibility to apply for credits and supply all the required information (See Attachments hereto).
2. Specified credits are available to all Property Owners.
3. The maximum amount of credit received **shall not exceed 25% of the SMP Fee** per property, unless a property is granted a larger credit under the Stormwater Partnership Credit.
4. **Accounts must be current to receive credit(s).** Credits will be revoked if an account is overdue more than 30 days. Upon becoming current, Property Owner may reapply to reinstate the revoked credits (Section 6.0). Reinstated credits will not be reinstated retroactively.
5. Credits will be revoked where qualified BMPs are not maintained, in accordance with the Maintenance Agreement (See Attachment B hereto).
6. There is a non-refundable credit application fee as set forth by resolution by the Authorities Board of Directors and as updated from time to time, however the fee is waived until six (6) months after the first stormwater fee bill is distributed, which is anticipated to be in or around March of 2024. Property Owners may be required to establish an escrow account for specific credits such as new or retrofitted BMPs to cover professional services for review of the application. Any new or retrofitted BMPs will be required to follow all applicable Borough Ordinances and/or Authority Regulations; including all applicable fees. Application fees are subject to adjustment January 1 of each year. Refer to the Applying for Credit section of this document for additional detail.
7. Approved credits and appeals will be made effective on the following billing cycle if the determination is made 30 days prior to the next billing date. However, any credits for BMPs fully installed as of January 1, 2024 shall have the credit applied retroactively to that date if credit application for the BMP is submitted, in full, to the Authority no later than September 30, 2024. Similarly, any appeals submitted prior to September 30, 2024 will be retroactively applied to January 1, 2024.
8. The Credit Policy will be reevaluated at the discretion of the Authority as new regulations pertaining to stormwater management are made available or such other times as the Board of Directors deems appropriate. Adjustments to the value of credits may be made at that time and/or reapplication required.
9. The Authority has full discretion over the credit process.

### 4.2 ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for a credit, the property must have been assigned a SMP Fee and there must not be any outstanding and unpaid SMP Fees against the property. Property Owners must submit the appropriate Credit Application (Section 6.0) along with any documentation required by the Authority.

### 4.3 CREDIT DETAILS

Property owners may apply for one or more credits, and the credits will be cumulative up to a maximum credit of 25% of that property's SMP Fee. **Credit amount is proportional to the Impervious Area that drains to the BMP.**

The SMP Fee with approved credits will be calculated as follows:

$$\text{SMP Fee} = \text{Original Stormwater Management Program Fee} \times [1 - \text{Approved Credit(s)}]$$

Example 1: A property owner has 10,000 sf of IA. The owner connects half of the IA (5000 sf) to a BMP receiving 20% credit.

$$\text{Percentage of Impacted IA} = (5000 \text{ sf Impervious Area} / 10000 \text{ sf Total IA}) = 50\%$$

$$\text{Approved Credits} = 20\% \text{ credit applied to } 50\% \text{ of the Total IA} = 10\%$$

$$\text{New SMP Fee} = \text{Original SMP Fee} \times [1 - 0.10]$$

## 5.0 SUMMARY OF AVAILABLE CREDITS

The following section describes the available credits that have been adopted by the Authority.

Table 1. Summary of Available Credits

Credit	Max Credit
Peak Rate Control / Volume Control Structural Best Management Practice	25%
Rain Barrel Rebate	\$100 <sup>1</sup>
Education Credit	10%
Stormwater Partnership Credit	TBD

### 5.1 PEAK RATE CONTROL / VOLUME CONTROL STRUCTURAL BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICE

Structural BMPs that control the rate, volume, and water quality of stormwater generated on the property are eligible for credit. The maximum credit for peak rate and volume control is 25%.

Peak Rate Credits for the installation of an approved control system per the Borough Stormwater Management Ordinance will be eligible for up to 15% credit for the 100-year event. This is in addition to any volume control credit as noted below.

Any system designed for volume control in accordance with the Borough Stormwater Management Ordinance will be awarded up to a 10% credit. This is in addition to any peak rate control noted above. The system must provide for the required Water Quality Volume, which is the storage capacity needed to treat stormwater runoff equivalent to a minimum of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration precipitation frequency estimate for the 2-year, 24-hour storm at the time of application. Land developers shall maintain annual groundwater recharge consistent with pre-development conditions, by infiltrating an amount of runoff equal to the "Recharge Volume" (based on the average annual infiltration rate based on the prevailing hydrologic soil groups present at a site). The recharge volume may be part of the water quality volume. Approved volume system control systems may be but are not limited to infiltration basins, infiltration trenches, and rain gardens. See the Pennsylvania Stormwater Best Management Practice Manual section 6.4, as may be amended in the future, for more information on the listed systems as well as other options. BMP sediment reduction effectiveness will be considered in evaluating the actual credit percentage.

Existing BMPs can be retrofitted to provide new function and would be eligible for credits for the existing and new functions. The credits only apply to the IA controlled by the BMP. Peak rate, volume control, and water quality calculations shall be in compliance with the applicable Ordinance of the Borough. Previously installed control systems may also apply for this credit assuming they are in proper

---

<sup>1</sup> Rain Barrel rebates shall be a one-time per property owner/account available credit. In no event shall a credit be issued more than once in a two (2) year period per property, regardless of change in ownership.

working order and are approved by a Pennsylvania licensed professional engineer and the Authority. Credits will be prorated to the amount of IA managed relative to total IA on site.

A detailed inspection schedule and maintenance schedule shall be developed and included with the Maintenance Agreement described within Attachment B hereto. The maintenance schedule should include a detailed step by step procedure on how the control system shall be maintained in order to work in perpetuity. Include contact information of the person responsible for the Operation and Maintenance in accordance with the Borough Stormwater Management Ordinance and Authority regulations. Inspection and maintenance logs must be maintained. All control systems shall be contained within a minimum 20 foot wide Stormwater Management easement in a form acceptable to the Authority Stormwater Engineer and Solicitor. Access to the Stormwater Management easement shall be provided from the nearest public right-of-way.

### 5.1.1 Maintenance Policies:

All who receive credits will be required to sign an Operation and Maintenance Agreement, substantially in the form attached to this document, which references an Operations and Maintenance Plan outlining any and all maintenance that will be required to continually qualify. The basic minimum maintenance requirements that should be listed in an Operation and Maintenance Plan include, but are not limited to:

- Sediment shall be removed when approximately 30% of storage volume of the facility is filled.
- Any sinkholes shall be repaired.
- Trash shall be removed.
- No woody vegetation shall be allowed to grow on embankments unless called for in the facility's design.
- Debris shall be removed from the inlet, outlet, and any other structures that have the potential to clog. All systems should be checked at minimum 4 times per year and within 48 hours after any major rain events of >1".
- Documentation of inspections must be submitted by July 1st of each year.
- Provide previous year's maintenance log; must be submitted by July 1st of each year.
- Control structures shall remain unaltered, intact, and functioning as originally designed.
- See Pennsylvania Stormwater Best Management Practice Manual for system specific inspection details.

The Authority, or its designee, has the right to inspect all systems to ensure they are working properly. If a system is found to be operating inadequately, the Property Owner will be notified in writing of the deficiencies. If the Owner does not make the necessary corrections within 45 days, or such other time as directed by the Authority or its designee, any and all credits may be revoked. If Property Owner fails to submit annual reporting documentation by deadline listed above credits may be revoked.

### 5.2 RAIN BARREL REBATE

Installation of a rain barrel to capture stormwater from a downspout can qualify for a one-time rebate of \$100. This credit is eligible once per account. A new rain barrel credit shall be available to subsequent purchasers of property that previously received a rain barrel credit, provided that it has been at least two (2) years since the issuance of a rain barrel credit for the property. In no event shall a rain barrel credit be applied to a property that has received a rain barrel credit within the prior two (2) years.



### **5.3 EDUCATION CREDIT**

Available to all private and public-school account holders recognized by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania who provide their students through a regular and continuing program of education concentrating on stewardship of water resources. Educational programs may include participation in water resource-themed student poster session or science fair, take-home materials, classroom lessons, field trips, etc. The educational program/materials must be preapproved by the Authority.

An individual school may apply for the credit, or a school district may apply on behalf of all its schools. Eligible education institutions may be granted up to a 10% Credit.

Education Credits are valid for one (1) year but will be renewable each year an approved curriculum is taught.

### **5.4 STORMWATER PARTNERSHIP CREDIT**

Customers are encouraged to propose other means to improve their property and our community through the use of innovative stormwater technologies. If a stormwater customer has an idea for a project that could be worth stormwater credits, the Authority encourages the customer to submit the project idea under the Stormwater Partnership Credit. Credit will be based upon benefit analysis demonstrating actual cost reduction to be realized by the Authority.

## 6.0 APPLYING FOR CREDIT

The following section describes how to apply for credits that have been adopted by the Authority.

### 6.1 PRE-APPLICATION MEETING AND FIELD REVIEW

A number of proposed credits will benefit from a pre-application meeting and/or a field review with the Authority. All Property Owners interested in installing a new BMP or retrofitting an existing BMP may submit the Pre-Application Meeting Request form provided in Attachment C hereto to the Authority. The Authority will contact the Property Owner to schedule a mutually agreeable meeting date and time or provide notification if the specific installation does not necessitate a pre-application meeting.

### 6.2 DESIGN STANDARDS

All proposed BMPs shall comply with the applicable design standards set forth in the municipal ordinances for which the property is located and Pennsylvania Stormwater Best Management Practices Manual including, but not limited to, the use of appropriate professionals, such as Professional Engineers, Professional Geologists, Landscape Architects, Soil Scientists, etc. when required. When applicable, karst hazards, soil investigations, infiltration testing, or other pertinent site-assessment activities should be conducted.

### 6.3 CREDIT APPLICATION

In order to receive credit, all Property Owners must follow the subsequent application process. Materials can be mailed to the Authority at 400 Fayette St., Suite #200, Conshohocken, PA. 19428 Attn: Stormwater Management Credit Administrator or delivered to the Authority at the same address or electronically, as set forth on the Authority's website. Properly submitted applications will be reviewed by the Authority within 60 days of submission, unless extended by the Authority for good cause shown. The applicant will be notified in writing whether or not the credits applied for were approved. Unapproved applications will have 60 days to resubmit before their application is terminated. Approved applicants will receive a letter along with any applicable credit agreements that must be signed and returned to the Authority within 60 calendar days (failure to do so will terminate the credits).

The following documentation must be submitted for an application to be reviewed:

#### 6.3.1 Peak Rate/Structural Best Management Practice Credit:

1. Completed credit application form signed by the property owner.
  - a. Application forms are available in Attachment A hereto, online at the Authority website, and at the Authority office (located at the address listed above).
2. Photographs of the site showing layout, inlets, outlets, etc.
3. Owner's Operation and Maintenance Plan.
4. Record of maintenance undertaken. (Existing facilities only)
5. Application fee where pertinent.
6. For some applications, a an escrow in an amount determined by the Authority as set forth in the Authority's then in place fee schedule must be established to cover professional services related to review and processing of the application. If at any time funds are drawn below an amount reasonably determined by the Authority to be insufficient to complete the necessary review and processing of the Application, the account must be replenished for the application review to proceed. Larger escrow amounts may be required for larger applications with multiple BMPs for review.
7. The Authority has the right to require submission of design documentation, as-built or construction drawings, and an engineering analysis from a Pennsylvania licensed professional engineer. Notification of this requirement will be provided in response to the Pre-Application Meeting Request.

8. The Authority has the right to require documentation from a licensed engineer that the facility is in proper working order. (Existing facilities only).
9. Additional documentation may be required at the request of the Authority.

### 6.3.2 Rain Barrel Rebate

1. Completed credit application form signed by the property owner.
2. Proof of rain barrel purchase and installation.
3. Site visit from Authority staff to ensure proper installation.
4. Additional documentation may be required at the request of the Authority.

### 6.3.3 Education Credit

1. Completed credit application form signed by the property owner.
2. Supporting documentation of educational programs, handouts, flyers, etc.
3. Schedule of events/programs at which materials will be provided.
4. Additional documentation may be required at the request of the Authority.

### 6.3.4 Stormwater Partnership Credit:

1. Pre application meeting(s) must be conducted before credit application submission.
2. Completed credit application form signed by the property owner.
  - a. Application forms are available in Attachment A, online at the Authority website, and at the Authority office (located at the address listed above).
3. Application fee where pertinent.
4. Documents discussed during pre-application meeting(s).
5. Additional documentation may be required at the request of the Authority.

## **7.0 APPEALS**

The following section describes the appeal options that have been adopted by the Authority.

### **7.1 APPEAL IMPERVIOUS AREA ASSESSMENT**

If a Property Owner feels that their IA estimate is incorrect, they may appeal it. Similarly, any Property Owner who believes stormwater fees have been assessed for a parcel they do not own shall notify the Authority. Note that review of the IA may cause the assigned estimate to increase as a result of the appeal.

Appeal forms are available in Attachment D hereto, online at the Authority website, and at the Authority office. There is no processing fee for appeal applications. Materials can be mailed or personally delivered to the Authority office. Within 60 calendar days of being received, the Authority will contact the Property Owner with information about the status of the application as well as instructions about how to proceed. Questions about a given IA assessment can be made by contacting staff at the Authority office during regular business hours.

## **ATTACHMENT A – CREDIT APPLICATION**

---

### Stormwater Management Credit Application Instructions

1. This form is provided to Stormwater Management customers who believe they qualify for an approved Stormwater Management Credit. Customers should review the Credit Manual for eligibility requirements for credits.
2. Please fill out all sections on the first page of the form, except for the last section marked "For Authority Use Only". Please fill out all applicable sections on pages 1 and 2 related to the credits you are applying for.
3. You may attach supporting documentation to the form. Please note that any submitted documentation will not be returned to the customer. Please mail completed form to:

400 Fayette St., Suite #200  
Conshohocken, PA. 19428  
Attn: Stormwater Management Credit Administrator

Or submit electronically, as set forth on the Authority's website.

4. An Authority representative will review the Stormwater Management Credit Application Form within 60 days of receipt of the completed form.

---

### Attached Documents

Please refer to the "Credit Application" section of the Credit and Appeals Manual for specific information regarding required submission documents.

---

**\*Please review the Authority's Stormwater Management Program Credit Manual before applying\***

Select the credit(s) being applied for (check applicable boxes):

<input type="checkbox"/> Peak Rate Control / Volume Control Structural Best Management Practice	<input type="checkbox"/> Education Credit
<input type="checkbox"/> Rain Barrel Rebate	<input type="checkbox"/> Stormwater Partnership Credit

---

### Customer Information

Owner's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Alt. Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Property Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Parcel Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

**Additional Information**

If you are applying for any of the following credits, the Authority will contact you to discuss the details of the credit after you submit page 1 of the application.

- Credits related to Best Management Practices
  - Stormwater Partnership Credit
- 

**Confirmation of Credit Conditions and Authority Access Rights**

I, (please print name) \_\_\_\_\_ agree to all conditions of the Credits I have applied for as outlined in the *Authority Stormwater Management Program Credit Manual*. Additionally, I agree that Authority, or its designee, may at reasonable times enter my property to inspect the property or condition or operation of Best Management Practices. By affixing my signature hereto, I certify that I am authorized to make the representations contained herein on behalf of the referenced property.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

---

**FOR AUTHORITY USE ONLY**

Date Received: _____	Credit(s): <input type="checkbox"/> Granted <input type="checkbox"/> Denied
Date Reviewed: _____	% Credit to be Applied: _____
Date of Credit Expiration: _____	Reviewer: _____

## **ATTACHMENT B – MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT**



**OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT  
STORMWATER FACILITIES AND BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES OPERATIONS  
AND MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT**

See Agreement Referenced in the Borough Stormwater Management Ordinance (available online or at the Borough office).

## **ATTACHMENT C – PRE-APPLICATION MEETING REQUEST FORM**

---

**Pre-Application Meeting Request Instructions**

1. This form is provided to Stormwater Management customers who want to install a new Best Management Practice, retrofit an existing Best Management Practice to become eligible for Stormwater Management Credit, or are interested in the Stormwater Partnership Credit. Customers should review the Authority's Credit Manual for eligibility requirements for credits.
2. Please fill out all sections on the form, except for the last section marked "For Authority Use Only".
3. Please mail completed form to:

400 Fayette St., Suite #200  
Conshohocken, PA. 19428  
Attn: Stormwater Management Credit Administrator

Or submit electronically, as set forth on the Authority's website.

---

Please Mark All That Apply

- I want to install a new Best Management Practice
- I want to retrofit an existing Best Management Practice
  
- I have an idea for a project that might qualify for the Stormwater Partnership Credit
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

---

Customer Information

Owner's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Alt. Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Property Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Parcel ID (if known): \_\_\_\_\_

---

**FOR AUTHORITY USE ONLY**

Date Received: _____	_____
Date Reviewed: _____	Reviewer: _____

## **ATTACHMENT D – APPEAL FORM**

---

### Appeals Instructions

1. This form is provided to customers who have reduced their Impervious Area coverage or who disagree with the Impervious Area determination by the Authority for their property.
2. Please fill out all sections on the form, except for the last section marked "For Authority Use Only".
3. You may attach supporting documentation to the form. Please note that any submitted documentation will not be returned to the customer. Please mail completed form to:

400 Fayette St., Suite #200  
Conshohocken, PA. 19428  
Attn: Stormwater Management Credit Administrator

4. Or submit electronically, as set forth on the Authority's website. An Authority representative will review the Appeal Form within 60 days of receipt of the completed form.

---

### Appeal Information

Impervious Area Estimate (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

---

### Customer Information

Owner's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Alt. Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Property Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Parcel ID (if known): \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide a brief description as to why this change is necessary:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

---

### FOR AUTHORITY USE ONLY

Date Received: _____	Appeal: <input type="checkbox"/> Granted <input type="checkbox"/> Denied
Date Reviewed: _____	Change to be Made: _____
Date of Application: _____	Reviewer: _____