

Our Vienna Watershed

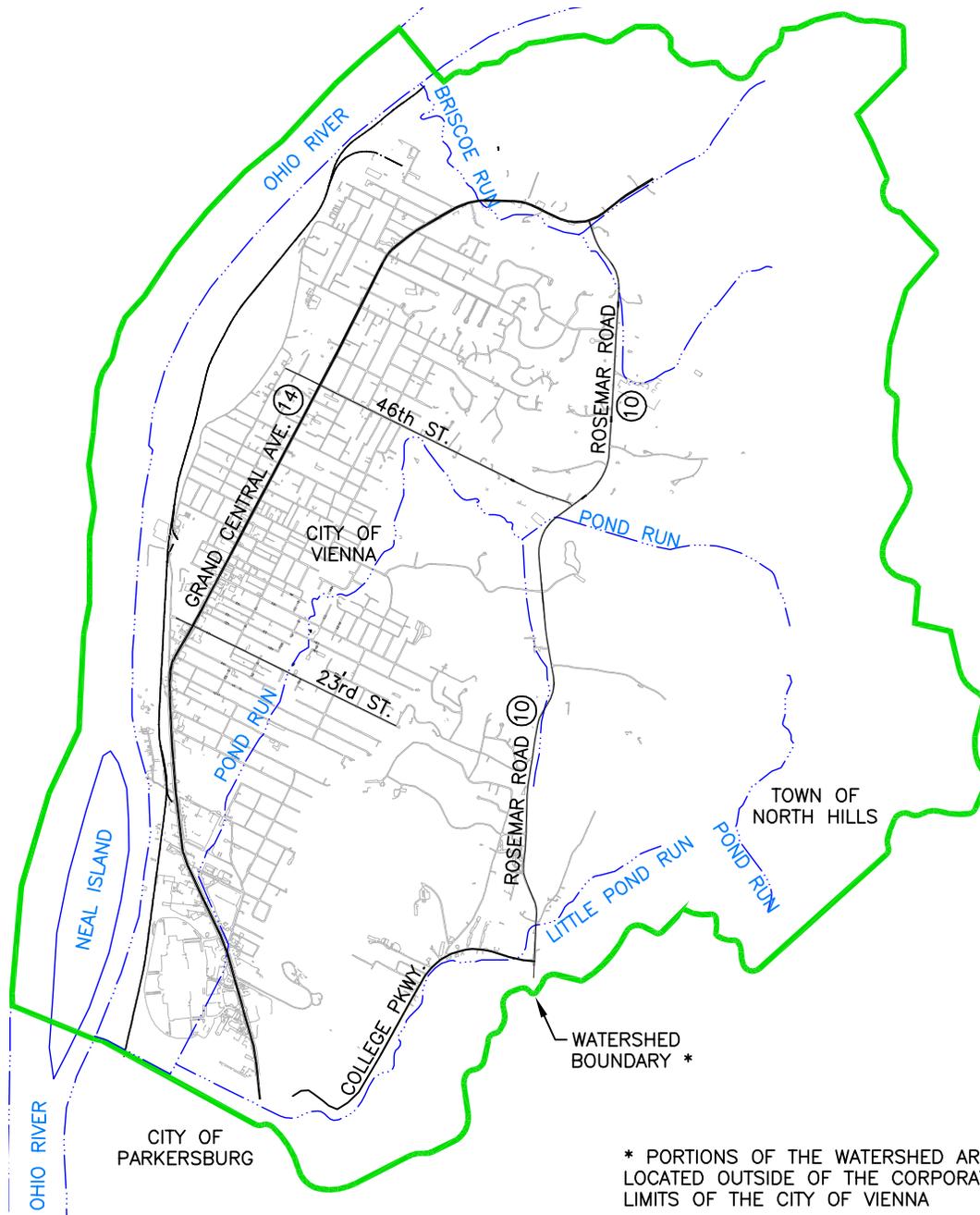
A watershed is an area that drains naturally into downhill streams and rivers. Our urban watershed includes the Ohio River, Pond Run and Briscoe Run.



STORM WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN



Vienna, West Virginia



* PORTIONS OF THE WATERSHED ARE LOCATED OUTSIDE OF THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF VIENNA

Storm water Q&A

What happens when it rains?

Rainwater runs across impervious surfaces (parking lots, roofs, streets, etc.) and collects in the city's storm sewers. Most of this water then travels directly into our rivers and streams. Occasionally, excess rainwater overwhelms the storm sewers, or these facilities fail to function as designed. The water then floods into our homes, businesses and streets. In some locations (depending on the age and design of the storm and sanitary sewers) rainwater may overflow out of the storm sewer system and into an adjacent sanitary sewer system. These excess flows may be discharged directly into the watershed.

What are we required to do with the storm water?

The Federal EPA has designated Vienna as a "Phase 2" storm water community. This means that the City must actively manage storm water to the new EPA standards. Vienna is subject to significant penalties if we fail to comply with the Federal requirements.

What are the benefits of storm water management?

By enacting storm water management, we will comply with Federal requirements. This also means that we will improve the water quality in our urban watershed. Other benefits may include flood control, a significant reduction in pollution caused by surcharged sanitary sewers, improved watershed planning, public education and improved maintenance, repair and expansion of our storm water collection system.

Isn't this service paid for out of my taxes?

Until now, storm water management has been funded out of the City's general revenue fund. Compliance with the new Federal standard requires considerable additional funding. Without additional efforts toward storm water management, urban development in and around Vienna will degrade the quality of our water, and thus our quality of life. Therefore, City Council has established a reliable and fair system to collect additional and dedicated revenues for storm water management.

What is a fair way to fund the required storm water management activities?

In accordance with West Virginia law, all properties discharging water into the City watershed are required to participate in the storm water utility, regardless of whether the property is within or outside the City limits. As with any other utility service, fees are assessed based upon the amount of service provided by the utility. In other words, a service fee will be charged based upon the amount of storm water that runs off a property and into our watershed.



Pollution caused by storm water runoff harms our urban watershed. Rainwater discharges into our waters during and after a storm often contain harmful levels of sediment, bacteria and other contaminants. Unmanaged excess rainwater can also cause our sanitary sewers to surcharge into the watershed.

Contact us:

City of Vienna
(304) 295-4541

Report Illicit Storm Water Discharge:
Public Works Director
(304) 295-4543
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