

What is meant by “impervious”?

An **impervious** surface is any area within a parcel which prevents or significantly impedes the infiltration of stormwater into the soil. Examples of impervious surfaces include:

- Parking lots
- Roofs
- Driveways
- Patios
- Sidewalks
- Swimming Pools
- Gravel and stone areas

Why is this important?

As more pervious areas (natural soil) are covered with impervious surfaces, increased amounts of stormwater cannot soak into the ground and becomes “runoff”, placing an increased demand on the stormwater system. During higher volume rain events, this runoff can overwhelm the stormwater system and flooding can occur.

What is the Village doing about this?

The Village has taken a multi-pronged approach to get homeowners to reduce and contain more of their runoff and to help them manage private property drainage problems.

- In recent years, the Village has tried to offset increases in impervious lot coverage by requiring new construction to hold a certain volume of runoff before allowing it to leave the property. As a result, our [stormwater building codes](#) are significantly more restrictive than required by the County.
- In 2012, stormwater fees were pulled out of property taxes and the Village’s [Stormwater Utility](#) was established with a tiered pay scale. Now properties with greater amounts of impervious surfaces are charged at a higher rate, similar to water usage.
- The Village also recognizes the benefits when property owners [proactively manage stormwater](#) on their property. The [Stormwater Credit & Incentive Manual](#) provides a few ways in which property owners can get both one time and on-going credit towards the Stormwater Utility fee.
- Village staff will meet with homeowners, on request, to diagnose private property drainage issues and suggest mitigation projects. When qualified, staff will work with homeowners to facilitate a [stormwater cost share project](#).