

STORMWATER

What is a stormwater utility? A stormwater utility is a managed program that charges a fee annually to clear and maintain all the stormwater movement in a municipality.

Does Oriental have one? NO, we do not. Nor, are we looking at initiating one, unless absolutely necessary. We usually work through the fall and early winter to clear ditches and help make drainage run more smoothly in the spring and summer wet season. Following Florence, re-grading of a LOT of ditches have made the flow not adequate in many places.

What is my responsibility as a property owner for stormwater management? As a homeowner, you own your property to the edge of the street pavement. As such, you are responsible for cutting grass and making sure stormwater is flowing through the culvert (pipe) under your driveway and that it remains free of obstruction. This is not an easy task.

Some residents have hired firms who specialize in clearing culverts when theirs get plugged up from leaves, grass, twigs, etc. It generally runs about \$250/driveway for that to be individually contracted.

Some residents cause the problem by planting things in the ditchwork that grow over the culvert ends, which is NEVER advised. Some culverts (concrete) crack, break, and/or separate, which allows dirt to flow in and shrink the opening of the culvert. Ordinance now requires a 15 inch internal diameter culvert on new construction, or on replacement (if you're having your driveway replaced).

Why do I have to pay for this? Can't we use Powell (road) Fund, General Fund or ARPA money? We CANNOT use Powell funds- we have budgeted all of our reserve Powell Funds into this year's budget to accomplish some much needed paving. We cannot use Powell funds to clear what is the responsibility of the homeowner- we can use Powell funds to clear and grade the ditches. We CAN use General Funds, and we do budget a small amount for drainage each year- it generally goes to purchase of new pipe to be laid under our streets where pipes have failed and other pieces of larger projects. ARPA money is already designated for water projects, and also cannot be used for general fund type projects if you cannot prove a loss of revenue due to COVID or a problem specifically caused by COVID- which we cannot.

What are options for clearing these issues? (1) The Town can have all the work completed and pay the total cost. This option would likely lead to further discussions for instituting a stormwater utility in the next budget cycle to be able to maintain open drainage. (ONE MORE FEE)(2) The Town can contract the work and assess the owners the associated fee. If the fee is not paid, a lien can be placed on the property until paid. (This costs us just as much, if not more in legal fees as doing the work) (3) We can contract the work, divide it up evenly amongst the properties that have been cleared (see below for estimates), send the property owners the invoice, and move on to the next place where drainage requires our attention. This fee would be a one-time, as it affects your property only- when we move to another area, likely next year, it will only affect property owners whose property has been addressed.

What we would like to do....

The Town has had our professional survey the plugged known places in town and it amounts to one hundred and one (101) impacted properties from bad drainage flow, and six (6) additional properties owned by the Town and some culverts laid under our streets.

As we pay our contractor hourly and work together with him to clean up as he goes, the town pays a reduced rate on the service. We would like to contract the service and have it all cleared, and have those impacted addresses pay a divided share of the cost to the Town. It will likely run in the \$75-\$100 per property range as opposed to the individually contracted price of \$250/driveway.

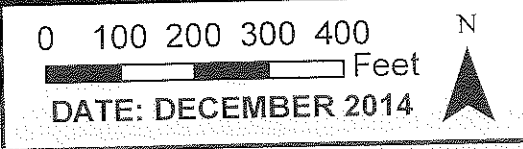
In addition, we can open up the service to those who would choose to get cleared (perhaps on a second pass) that are NOT part of the designated high-issue areas.

This will be a discussion that the Town Board will take up, at their November 9, 8AM meeting for those who would like to participate.



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|--------------|---------|-------|-------------|----------|
| Town Limits | Culvert | Pipe | Catch Basin | Dry Pond |
| Working Grid | Outfall | Ditch | Area Drain | |

**TOWN OF ORIENTAL
NORTH CAROLINA
STORM WATER SYSTEM**



ecc
Eastern Carolina Council

MAP SHEET
D3



	Town Limits	Culvert	Pipe	Catch Basin	Dry Pond
	Working Grid	Outfall	Ditch	Area Drain	Area Drain

**TOWN OF ORIENTAL
NORTH CAROLINA
STORM WATER SYSTEM**

101 Culverts

0 100 200 300 400
Feet

DATE: DECEMBER 2014

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MAP SHEET
D1



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|--|--------------|--|---------|--|-------|--|-------------|--|----------|
| | Town Limits | | Culvert | | Pipe | | Catch Basin | | Dry Pond |
| | Working Grid | | Outfall | | Ditch | | Area Drain | | |

**TOWN OF ORIENTAL
NORTH CAROLINA
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0 100 200 300 400 Feet
 DATE: DECEMBER 2014



MAP SHEET
D2



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|--|--------------|--|---------|--|-------|--|-------------|--|----------|
| | Town Limits | | Culvert | | Pipe | | Catch Basin | | Dry Pond |
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0 100 200 300 400 Feet
 DATE: DECEMBER 2014



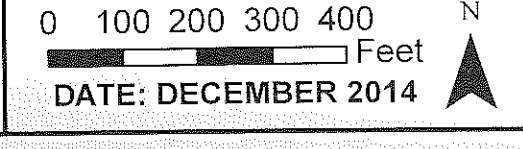
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 Eastern Carolina Council

MAP SHEET
E1



	Town Limits		Culvert		Pipe		Catch Basin		Dry Pond
	Working Grid		Outfall		Ditch		Area Drain		

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NORTH CAROLINA
STORM WATER SYSTEM**



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MAP SHEET
E2