

Stormwater Management Utility Fact Sheet

The Stormwater Management Utility (SMU) program was implemented in 1989. The SMU is billed through Gainesville Regional Utilities, the city owned utility. All owners and/or tenants in the City of Gainesville are customers of the SMU program.

The current SMU rate is \$9.00/ERU (Equivalent Residential Unit). One ERU equals 2,300 square feet of impervious area. This represents the average impervious area for all developed detached single family properties in the City of Gainesville.

Fees are assessed as follows:

All residential properties are charged a fixed monthly rate.

Single Family Detached - 1 ERU

Duplex Units - 1 ERU per dwelling unit

Condominium Units - 1 ERU per dwelling unit

Apartments - 0.6 ERU per dwelling unit

Mobile Homes - 0.6 ERU per dwelling unit

Non-residential properties are assessed according to the amount of impervious area on the property. The number of ERU's billed is determined by dividing the impervious area by 2,300 square feet.

SMU funds are used to:

1. Sustain SMU program activities
2. Maintain stormwater conveyance systems
3. Regulate development of land
4. Suppress mosquito problems
5. Expand stormwater system effectiveness

The benefits of the SMU are numerous, including:

1. Decreased frequency of street ponding and flooding
2. Reduced erosion in streams, and ditches
3. Improved mosquito control
4. Cleaner water in our streams, lakes, and Floridan aquifer
5. Maintain eligibility in the Federal Flood Insurance Program and provide property owners with a discounted Flood Insurance rate
6. Generally higher property values