

CITY OF HENDERSON
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICE UTILITY

The City of Henderson will be implementing a program with the goal of helping to improve the environment by updating its conservation and storm water management activities. The information below, as well as information from the websites referred to within the correspondence will provide further details.

In order to set aside funds to implement these programs, an environmental service utility fund has been established. Funds raised in this account will be used to pay for storm water management and other environmental service activities associated with this account.

Storm Sewer and Fees

Storm sewers are systems built to prevent flooding and to separate storm water from sanitary sewer systems. Storm water is the runoff from rain and melted snow that picks up dirt, grease, fertilizer, and many other pollutants as it makes its way into streams, rivers and lakes. Minnesota law currently defines “storm sewer” as storm water management systems, including storm sewers, mains, holding areas and ponds and other accessories and related facilities for the collection and disposal of storm water.

In the City of Henderson costs for paying for storm water management activities are to be based on the size of your property (adjusted for a reasonable calculation of the storm water runoff) or by referring to the same reasonable classification for this type of property. Additional fees for the use and availability of the storm sewer system shall be determined on a case by case basis depending on the type of activities undertaken.

Use of the Environmental Fee

All funds derived from the environmental service utility fee will be used to pay for all or part of the construction, reconstruction, repair, enlargement, improvement, acquisition, maintenance, operations, administration and use of these environmental service utility. The City of Henderson will initially be charging the fee based on property size at the following rates:

Environmental Service Fee (for all classifications of property)

Per parcel Rates:

10,000 square feet or less	\$1.00 per month
Over 10,000 to 20,000	\$2.00 per month
Over 20,000 to 30,000	\$3.00 per month
Over 30,000 to 40,000	\$4.00 per month
Over 40,000	\$5.00 per month

Also, \$5 of the original \$15 capital outlay charge will be put in the environmental service utility fund with the remaining \$10 staying in the water utility fund.

Additional information on storm sewer and drainage can be found online at The Minnesota Rural Water Association website

www.mrwa.com/stormdrainage.htm

SEE THE OTHER SIDE FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The City of Henderson will also be making changes to its compost and brush program. Some of the changes are listed below.

COMPOST PROGRAM

All residents are encouraged by the City of Henderson to start individual compost programs with their grass clippings and food waste. Composting is the process that converts food scraps and yard waste such as leaves and grass clippings into useful, nutrient-rich soil.

The City of Henderson will **NO LONGER** be transporting compost waste of any kind for residents on a scheduled basis and prohibits any dumping of any kind at the compost site without first contacting the city office at 507-248-3234.

Residents will be able to pick up a key to gain access to the compost site at 600 Main Street based on availability and may reserve a key for use on weekends.

Brush and branches smaller than 2 inches in diameter will be allowed at the compost site. Items larger than 2 inches in diameter will have to be broken down to 2 inches or less or disposed of elsewhere.

Leaves will continue to be allowed at the City of Henderson compost site, however, no containers or bags of any kind are allowed unless they are COMPOSTABLE.

It is prohibited to dispose of leaves and grass clippings into the street.

Brush, branches and leaves can also be burned in an approved recreational fire ring. The ring cannot be more than 36 inches or 3 feet in diameter. For more information regarding burning visit the Minnesota DNR website at: <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/forestry/fire/questions.html#notneeded>

For more information on getting started on your compost program visit: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/feature/backyard/compost.html> or contact Eric Karels, the Environmental Service Officer for the City of Henderson at 507-248-3234 to set up an appointment for a consultation.

For more information regarding any of the information provided in this mailing visit the City of Henderson's website:
www.hendersonmn.com/environment.php