

1 APPROVED: October 26, 2005
2 EFFECTIVE: November 6, 2005

3
4 SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
5 SNOHOMISH COUNTY, WASHINGTON
6

7 ORDINANCE NO. 05-103
8

9 RELATING TO REDUCTIONS IN SURFACE WATER MANAGEMENT
10 RATES AND CHARGES FOR COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES
11 WITH APPROVED RAINWATER HARVESTING SYSTEMS;
12 AMENDING TITLE 25A OF THE SNOHOMISH COUNTY CODE
13

14 WHEREAS, on May 20, 2003, the Washington State Legislature approved Laws
15 of 2003, Chapter 394 § 3 amending RCW 36.89.080; and
16

17 WHEREAS, the law requires that counties reduce surface water management
18 rates by a minimum of ten percent for commercial buildings with rainwater harvesting
19 systems; and
20

21 WHEREAS, the law is based in part on guidelines for rainwater harvesting
22 systems developed in 2002 by the Washington State Building Code Council; and
23

24 WHEREAS, surface water management rates are set forth in Snohomish County
25 Code Title 25A;
26

27 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE SNOHOMISH COUNTY
28 COUNCIL:
29

30 NEW SECTION. Section 1. A new section 25A.10.035 is hereby added to Chapter
31 25A.10 Snohomish County Code as follows:
32

33 **25A.10.035 Commercial rainwater harvesting system**
34

35 A system for storing, collecting, and reusing rainwater from a rooftop, installed at
36 a commercial-use building, that has been designed and constructed in accordance with
37 the Washington State Building Code Council's Permissive Rainwater Harvesting
38 System Guidelines For Nonresidential Occupancies (2002 or as amended), has a
39 storage volume of at least ten per cent of the mean annual runoff volume generated
40 from the contributing roof area, and for which design and construction has been
41 approved by the director of the department of planning and development services.

1
2 NEW SECTION. Section 2. A new section 25A.10.073 is hereby added to Chapter
3 25A.10 Snohomish County Code as follows:

4
5 **25A.10.073 Mean annual rainfall depth**

6
7 The mean annual rainfall depth based on climatic statistics from the United
8 States National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration Atlas 2, Volume IX.

9
10 NEW SECTION. Section 3. A new section 25A.10.075 is hereby added to Chapter
11 25A.10 Snohomish County Code as follows:

12
13 **25A.10.075 Mean annual runoff volume**

14
15 The runoff volume calculated as the product of a specified area and the mean
16 annual rainfall depth, or the equivalent runoff volume statistic from that area calculated
17 by a continuous-simulation hydrologic model using long-term local rainfall records.

18
19 Section 4. Snohomish County Code section 25A.20.060, adopted by Ordinance. 01-
20 130 on January 9, 2002, is amended to read as follows:

21
22 **25A.20.060 Exemptions and reductions.**

23
24 (1) The following shall be exempt from annual service charges:

25 (a) property that is owned by, and is the personal residence of, a person or
26 persons approved by the county assessor for a senior citizen or disabled persons
27 property tax exemption under RCW 84.36.381.

28 (b) property that is owned by a "public benefit nonprofit corporation," as defined
29 by RCW 24.03.490 and is used as a cemetery, provided the property does not
30 discharge stormwater off-site through constructed conveyance facilities and a 50 foot
31 vegetated buffer is maintained on the property along any waterbody that drains to a
32 fishbearing stream or lake.

33 (2) The rate charged for state highway right-of-way shall be 30 percent of the rate
34 for comparable real property in terms of impervious surface coverage, or as otherwise
35 provided by RCW 90.03.525.

36 (3) Pursuant to RCW 90.72.070, each parcel permitted and assessed a fee for a
37 dairy waste national pollution discharge elimination system permit shall be exempt from
38 the portion of the annual service charge collected under the authority of Chapter 90.72
39 RCW.

40 (4) Pursuant to RCW 90.72.070, lands classified as forest under Chapter 84.33
41 RCW as an open space timber under Chapter 84.34 RCW shall be exempt from the
42 portion of the annual service charge collected under the authority of Chapter 90.72
43 RCW.

44 (5) The rate charged for a parcel with a commercial rainwater harvesting system
45 shall be reduced from the rate set out in this chapter by a fraction equal to the storage

1 volume of the rainwater harvesting system divided by the mean annual runoff volume
2 generated by the total impervious surface area at the parcel.
3

4
5 PASSED this 26th day of October, 2005.
6

7 SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
8 Snohomish County, Washington
9

10 /s/ Gary A. Nelson
11 Chairperson
12

13 ATTEST:

14
15 /s/ Barbara Sikorski
16 Asst. Clerk of the Council
17

18 (X) APPROVED
19 () EMERGENCY
20 () VETOED

21 DATE: /s/ October 27, 2005
22

23 /s/ Mark Soine
24 Deputy Executive
25 for County Executive

26 ATTEST:

27
28 /s/ Laura Nelson
29

30 Approved as to form only:

31
32 /s/ Gordon W Sivley 8/25/05
33 Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

D-7