

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

3
4 SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
5 SNOHOMISH COUNTY, WASHINGTON
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7
8 ORDINANCE NO. 05-102
9

10
11 RELATING TO REDUCTIONS IN SURFACE WATER MANAGEMENT
12 RATES AND CHARGES FOR COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES
13 WITH APPROVED RAINWATER HARVESTING SYSTEMS;
14 AMENDING TITLE 25 OF THE SNOHOMISH COUNTY CODE
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18 WHEREAS, on May 20, 2003, the Washington State Legislature approved Laws
19 of 2003, Chapter 394 § 3 amending RCW 36.89.080; and
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21 WHEREAS, the law requires that counties reduce surface water management
22 rates by a minimum of ten percent for commercial buildings with rainwater harvesting
23 systems; and
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25 WHEREAS, the law is based in part on guidelines for rainwater harvesting
26 systems developed in 2002 by the Washington State Building Code Council; and
27

28 WHEREAS, surface water management rates are set forth in Snohomish County
29 Code Title 25;
30

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED:
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33 NEW SECTION. Section 1. A new section 25.10.025 is hereby added to Chapter 25.10
34 Snohomish County Code as follows:
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36 **25.10.025 Commercial rainwater harvesting system**
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38 A system for storing, collecting, and reusing rainwater from a rooftop, installed at
39 a commercial-use building, that has been designed and constructed in accordance with
40 the Washington State Building Code Council's Permissive Rainwater Harvesting
41 System Guidelines For Nonresidential Occupancies (2002 or as amended), has a
42 storage volume of at least ten per cent of the mean annual runoff volume generated
43 from the contributing roof area, and for which design and construction has been
44 approved by the director of the department of planning and development services.

1 NEW SECTION. Section 2. A new section 25.10.063 is hereby added to Chapter 25.10
2 Snohomish County Code as follows:

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4 **25.10.063 Mean annual rainfall depth**

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

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9 NEW SECTION. Section 3. A new section 25.10.065 is hereby added to Chapter 25.10
10 Snohomish County Code as follows:

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12 **25.10.065 Mean annual runoff volume**

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

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18 Section 4. Snohomish County Code section 25.20.030, last amended by Ordinance 03-
19 136 on November 19, 2003, is amended to read as follows:

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21 **25.20.030 Rate structure**

22 (1) The director shall classify all properties in the watershed management areas
23 into rate categories according to their land use classification and/or degree of
24 impervious surface coverage. The "Index of Land Use Classifications and Rate
25 Categories" dated January 8, 2002, or any revision thereafter compiled by the director,
26 is available in the department of public works and incorporated by this reference.

27 (2) Beginning January 1, 2004, annual service charges for all watershed
28 management areas, except as noted in subsections (3), and (5) and except for service
29 charges for farms, shall be the Stillaguamish CWD rate. Annual service charges for
30 farms shall be at the Stillaguamish CWD single-family rate for each quarter acre of a
31 farm, up to a maximum of one acre.

32 (3) For the period beginning January 1, 2004 and ending December 31, 2009,
33 the annual service charge for properties located in those portions of watershed
34 management areas within the Urban Growth Areas shall be as follows:

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36

Rate Category	Annual Service Charge
Single Family	\$65.00 per parcel
Condominium	\$58.50 per unit
Farm	\$65.00 per quarter acre; one acre maximum
Exempt	No charge
Very Light	\$19.49 per quarter acre
Light	\$65.00 per quarter acre
Moderate	\$108.30 per quarter acre
Heavy	\$147.31 per quarter acre
Very Heavy	\$194.98 per quarter acre

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Ordinance No. 05-102
Reductions in Surface Water Management Rates
For Rainwater Harvesting Systems, etc.
Amending Title 25 Snohomish County Code

1 (a) The service charges established in (~~section~~) subsection (2) represent the
2 base rate. All service charges collected under this subsection (3), less the base rate
3 applicable each year, shall be used solely for Surface Water Management drainage
4 improvement projects located in those portions of Watershed Management Areas within
5 Urban Growth Areas.

6 (b) The first priority for expenditure of service charges collected under this
7 subsection shall be capital projects as listed in the Surface Water Management Annual
8 Construction Program.

9 (4) The following shall be exempt from annual service charges:

10 (a) property that is owned by, and is the personal residence of, a person or
11 persons approved by the county assessor for a senior citizen or disabled persons
12 property tax exemption under RCW 84.36.381. Any person eligible for this low income
13 senior citizen or disabled persons exemption shall be provided a refund of annual
14 service charges for the subject property for the first year the exemption is sought and for
15 up to three prior years, PROVIDED, that eligibility for each year has been approved by
16 the Assessor's office, and PROVIDED FURTHER, that refunds shall not be approved
17 for any year prior to 1999;

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

23 (5) The rate charged for state highway right-of-way shall be thirty percent of the
24 rate for comparable real property in terms of impervious surface coverage, or as
25 otherwise provided by RCW 90.03.525.

26 (6) In this section, "Stillaguamish CWD rate" means the total annual service
27 charges imposed for each rate category set out in SCC 25A.20.030(2), except that the
28 exceptions set out in SCC 25A.20.050, 25A.20.060 and 25A.20.070 shall not apply.

29 (7) The rate charged for a parcel with a commercial rainwater harvesting system
30 shall be reduced from the rate set out in this section by a fraction equal to the storage
31 volume of the rainwater harvesting system divided by the mean annual runoff volume
32 generated by the total impervious surface area at the parcel.

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34 PASSED this 26th day of October, 2005.

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36 SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
37 Snohomish County, Washington

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39 /s/ Gary A. Nelson
40 Chairperson

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42 ATTEST:

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44 /s/ Barbara Sikorski
45 Asst. Clerk of the Council

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(X) APPROVED
() EMERGENCY
() VETOED
DATE: /s/ October 27, 2005

/s/ Mark Soine
Deputy Executive
for County Executive

ATTEST:

/s/ Laura Nelson

Approved as to form only:

/s/ Gordon W. Sivley 8/25/05
Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

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