

Watershed Stewardship (WS)

1. Join Keep Conyers-Rockdale Beautiful in a Community Cleanup Event

Litter is a major source of stormwater pollution in Rockdale County. Twice a year Keep Conyers-Rockdale Beautiful (KCRB),



Rockdale County and the City of Conyers organize community stream cleanup events in conjunction with the Rivers Alive (in October) and the Great American Cleanup (in April) campaigns. During these cleanup events,



volunteers pick up litter along streams, the reservoir, in neighborhoods, parks, schools, within County / City rights of way, detention ponds, in parking lots and other areas of the community. With the

community volunteering, KCRB not only removes a great deal of debris from local waterways, but the public learns why it is important to prevent litter from finding its way onto the ground in the first place. Information about the events are advertised on the local cable access channel, *Rockdale 23*, on the County's website, www.rockdalecounty.org, in water bill inserts and local newspaper articles. These events provide a wonderful opportunity to help keep Rockdale County beautiful and contribute to the downstream pollution solution.



Valid participation in a Rockdale County stream cleanup event will qualify participants for a 5% Watershed Stewardship Stormwater Utility Credit.*

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2. Participate In Rockdale County's Storm Drain Stenciling Program



A storm drain marker or stencil is a 4-inch diameter plastic decal with the message "No Dumping, Drains to Stream". During the storm drain stenciling program, volunteers, at their



own pace, attach the stencils with glue to local storm drain inlets or structures to remind the general public not to pour or dump anything into storm drains. Anything that enters a storm drain or storm sewer system is released without



treatment unto nearby water bodies used for swimming, fishing and drinking. Attaching stencils to storm drains helps to remind and educate citizens that water quality and aquatic life are

directly affected by any pollutants entering storm drains. The Stormwater Utility has implemented a storm drain stenciling program through which volunteers can receive a free demonstration and stenciling kit from stormwater personnel with all supplies necessary to attach the markers to the storm drains within the County. This program is a great way for volunteers and youth groups to be a solution to downstream stormwater pollution and eliminate pollution at its source!

Valid stenciling participation will qualify participants for a 5% Watershed Stewardship Stormwater Utility Credit.*



For more information about volunteer opportunities, please contact the Stormwater Utility at 770-278-7142.



Rockdale County
Department of
Planning & Development

Stormwater Utility

Stormwater Utility Bill Credits & Volunteer Opportunities!



Rain Gardens, Rain Barrels and Stormwater Ponds



Cleanup Events and Storm Drain Stenciling

Administration & Services Building
P.O. Box 1495, 958 Milstead Avenue
Conyers, Georgia 30012

Office: 770-278-7100

24-Hour Hotline: 770-278-7145

Stormwater Events: 770-278-7142

rscwu@rockdalecounty.org

stormwater.events@rockdalecounty.org

Website: www.rockdalecounty.org

What is a Stormwater Utility Credit?

A Stormwater Utility credit is a discount that is applied to your Stormwater Utility bill, which is given in recognition of your effort toward protecting downstream water bodies and reducing your impact to the County's drainage system in accordance with the Stormwater Utility Credit Manual. Credits are generally given to a Stormwater Utility customer who has satisfied one or more of the following criteria:



- Customer has installed and maintains a qualifying **Residential Environmental Technology (RET)**
- Customer owns a **Low Impact Parcel (LIP)**
- Customer participated in a qualifying Stormwater Utility **Watershed Stewardship (WS)**, or volunteer event

How do I apply for a credit?

To apply for a credit, you must submit a completed credit application form and a right-of-entry form to the Stormwater Utility. To be considered complete, all applications must include all required customer contact information, property information, the "type" of credit selected, and a brief description of the proposed credit. The Stormwater Utility also recommends that you provide any supporting calculations, plans, sketches, photos, and other documentation which may assist Stormwater Utility personnel in reviewing the credit application. All credits will be verified by Stormwater Utility personnel to ensure compliance with the Stormwater Utility Credit Manual.

When does my credit expire?

Residential Environmental Technology, Low Impact Parcel, and non-single family residential (NSFR) credits automatically expire within three years after being applied to your bill. Watershed Stewardship credits expire within one year after being applied to your bill. It is the responsibility of the property owner to ensure that a new completed application, with all documentation, is submitted prior to the credit expiration date.



Residential Environmental Technology (RET):



The residential environmental technology (RET) credit was established to reward customers who have installed and/or maintained a qualifying stormwater best management practice (BMP) within their property. In general, a BMP is any measure that reduces the amount of stormwater leaving a property, slows down or reuses stormwater runoff, or removes pollutants from the property's stormwater runoff. BMPs usually accomplish this by collecting stormwater runoff and allowing it to evaporate into the air and/or soak into the ground.

The following items are a few examples of RET qualifying BMPs:

1. Construct and Maintain a Rain Barrel

A rain barrel is attached to a downspout and collects and stores rainwater from rooftops that can be reused to water lawns, gardens, or wash cars. Recycling rain water can also reduce irrigation water bills.



2. Construct and Maintain a Rain Garden



A rain garden is a man-made, planted depression located in a natural low point that is designed to absorb rainwater runoff from impervious areas. Rain gardens reduce stormwater runoff by slowing it down, acting

as a filter, and allowing the stormwater to soak into the ground instead of draining directly into storm sewer systems and streams.

**Please refer to the Stormwater Utility Credit Manual for more information at www.rockdalecounty.org*



3. Construct and Maintain a Stormwater Management Facility

A stormwater management facility is a best management practice that is designed specifically to provide permanent or temporary storage of stormwater runoff. Some examples are stormwater ponds, lakes, bioretention areas, and enhanced swales. These facilities must be located on your property and can qualify for the RET credit if properly constructed and maintained. There are many other BMPs that can qualify for the RET credit. However, most alternative BMPs will require the design by a Certified Design Professional, and will require specialized construction to ensure long-term functionality.



Adequately designed, installed and maintained BMPs located on your property, which have been approved by the Stormwater Utility, will qualify a single-family resident for a 20% Residential Environmental Technology Stormwater Utility Credit.*

Low Impact Parcel (LIP)

Low impact parcels are significantly large properties which have very little impervious area. In general, these parcels have very little negative downstream impact, because they do not generate as much stormwater runoff as other areas of similar size and most of the property is undeveloped. In order to qualify for the LIP credit, the parcel must satisfy both of the following requirements:

- The parcel must be at least 6 acres in size.
- The parcel must have less than 2.3% of impervious coverage. Impervious coverage is measured as the total amount of impervious surface area (e.g. buildings, accessory structures, driveways, walkways, patios, swimming pools, gravel areas, etc.) divided by the total parcel area.

Properties which meet the above criteria will qualify a single-family resident for a 25% Low Impact Parcel Stormwater Utility Credit.*