

## Religious Organizations

In Baltimore, some buildings owned by **religious organizations** may be eligible for a substantial reduction in the stormwater fees applied to them. However, it is up to the property owner to submit the information necessary to get the reduced rate.

This information will help get you started...

### What is the fee for the property owned by our religious group?

The fee for some structures (buildings) located on property owned by religious organizations is **\$1/ERU/month**. An ERU (equivalent residential unit) is based on the impervious surface area of a typical single family property in Baltimore. It is calculated to be 1,050 square feet.

### How does that compare to what others will pay?

Typically, the fee is **\$5/ERU/month**.

### Is all of our property eligible for the reduced fee?

Structures on the property are eligible **ONLY** if the property is not subject to State property taxes under Md. Tax-Property Code Ann. § 7-204 or City property tax; AND the structures on the property are used exclusively for: a) places of worship; or b) K - 12th grade education.

### Is anything else eligible for the reduced fee?

If a religious organization owns a cemetery, then the roads in the cemetery may be exempt from the stormwater fee.

### Can we also apply for stormwater fee credits?

Structures that receive the reduced fee **cannot** also receive credits. Stormwater fee credits may be applied to those portions of a property that are not eligible for the reduced fee.

### How can we apply for the reduced fee?

To be considered for the reduced stormwater fee, you must submit an application provided by the Department that identifies the eligible structures and/or cemetery roads.

### What if my stormwater fee is a financial hardship?

Religious organizations, or any non-profit, can apply for a Hardship Exemption. They will have to meet specific criteria and create an Alternative Compliance Plan.

### How can we apply for the reduced fee?

Applications for the reduced fee, along with other information, are available at **PublicWorks.BaltimoreCity.gov**, or by calling **(410) 396-5398**.