



Water Quality Fee APPEAL Process

(For Correction, Exemption or
Partial Exemption)

I. Introduction:

A water quality fee is assessed to the owner of each and every lot and parcel of land within the corporate City of Chattanooga (City) limits which directly or indirectly uses the storm water system of the City and that contains impervious area.

According to TCA 68-221-1107, *“persons, including, but not limited to, owners and operators of agricultural land, whose storm water runoff is not discharged into or through the storm water or flood control facilities, or both, of the municipality shall be exempted from payment of the graduated storm water user fee authorized by this section”.*

II. Appeal Criteria:

Erroneous Billing or Correction of the Impervious Area: The City would provide adjustment in the Water Quality Fee for erroneous billing that may result from miscalculation of the impervious area.

Full or Partial Exemption: The City would provide a full or partial exemption of the water quality fee to properties whose stormwater runoff from impervious areas does not utilize any portion of the City storm water system. Properties that may qualify include those that discharge directly to:

- Tennessee River
- Other “waters of the state” having no City stormwater structures downstream of the property
- Any other conveyance system having no City stormwater structures downstream of the property (ex: sanitary sewer)
 - o This does not include the Combined Sanitary Sewer area downtown as this conveyance system includes both storm and sanitary sewer.

III. Appeal Procedures:

Submit the completed application (Form A: Water Quality Fee APPEAL FORM) with any supporting documentation to the City of Chattanooga Water Quality Program for review and investigation. Contact information is provided on the appeal form.

To view the impervious area each parcel is being charged for you can use the City’s impervious area map. A link to this map and other resources can be found on the Water Quality Fee homepage (www.chattanooga.gov/waterqualityfee).