

## Frequently Asked Questions about the Storm Water User Fee

- Why did I get this bill? City Council passed an ordinance requiring all city property owners to pay a monthly storm water user fee.
- Where does the money go? Fees will help pay for repairs and improvements in storm water drainage. The levee, storm drains, ditches, creeks, and drain pipes all require care. In addition, new federal and state rules require better-managed storm water.
- How will it help me? Without a well-maintained storm water system, most of the city would flood. Homes, businesses, and jobs could be lost. Insurance rates would increase.
- How was my bill figured? Each residential property owner pays a set fee listed as an ERU (Equivalent Residential Unit).
- When will I be billed? Two times a year. The first billing, due July 30, 2011 covered the period of July 1 – December 31, 2010. This bill covers the period January 1, 2011 – June 30, 2011.
- Are there different rates? Yes. Homeowners pay the lowest rate, and all other properties pay more based on each property's water runoff area.
- Does every property pay? Yes. Every property has storm water runoff so each property owner pays. Businesses, schools, and churches all pay.
- Why can't I have a combined drinking water, sewer, and storm water bill? Billing is based on property owners, not utility customers, so the bill cannot be combined with sewer and water bills.
- Do others have these fees? Dozens of Indiana communities have such a fee ranging as high as \$8/month in Fortville and \$7/month in West Terre Haute. The \$3 Vincennes fee is in the lowest 20%.

For more information: Go to our website at [www.vinutilities.com](http://www.vinutilities.com), or call 882-7877.