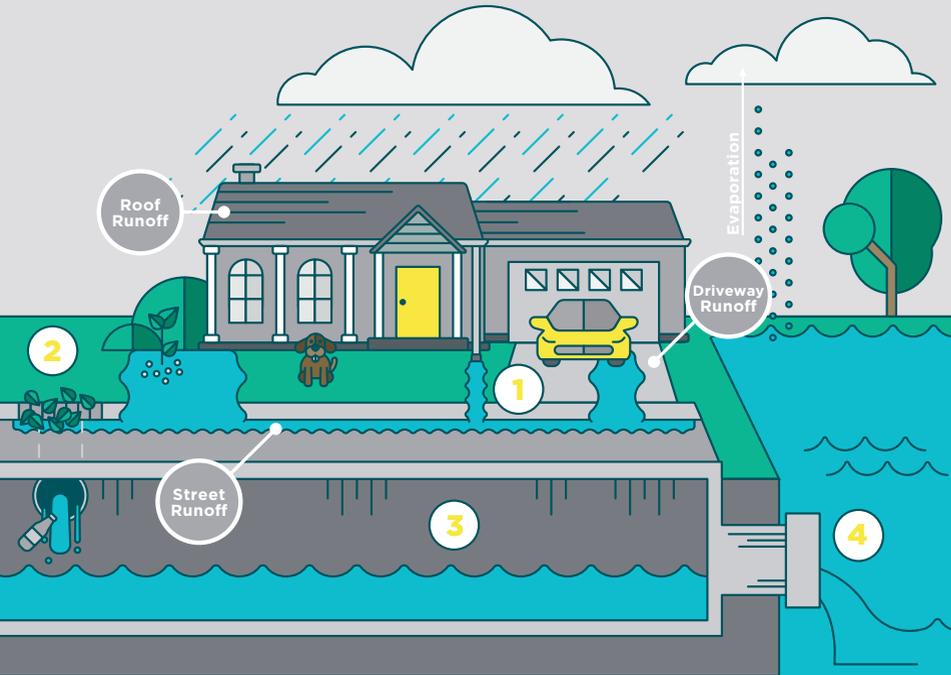


The Stormwater Cycle

Local governments are tasked with collecting stormwater and returning it to our water sources in an environmentally conscious manner to maintain public health and safety. A stormwater utility fee provides local governments with an equitable way to recover the costs of these services from their customers. [This graphic illustrates the stormwater management process at a high level.](#)



- 1 Property Runoff from Impervious Surfaces**
Runoff picks up pet waste, fertilizers, motor oil, detergents, chemicals, and litter.
- 2 Runoff Collection**
Runoff flows through curbs, gutters, drainage pipes, and culverts. Some systems have combined sanitary and stormwater collection systems.
- 3 Runoff Management**
Basins, swales, detention ponds, etc. are used to slow down and infiltrate runoff and minimize contamination load as stormwater returns to streams and rivers.
- 4 Runoff Returns to Waterways**
Some local governments are responsible for maintaining natural channels and flood and levy systems in waterways.

Raftelis helps to develop stable and defensible stormwater funding strategies to serve customers over the long term.

With more than 70 specialized consultants, Raftelis has the largest and most experienced water, wastewater, and stormwater utility financial and management consulting practice in the nation. Our staff have assisted more than 1,000 utilities across the U.S. and Canada.

Raftelis consultants are experienced in all aspects of local government stormwater management and utility program implementation. We execute a wide range of analytical and evaluative projects for agencies just beginning to differentiate stormwater service delivery from streets maintenance or water/wastewater, to those with well-established stormwater programs wishing to improve service delivery, fee structures, or customer service. Our staff help evaluate and benchmark programs and policies, document and improve business processes, and develop and implement new programs.

Our team has implemented stormwater fees & programs for **40+** local governments across the country.

With the combined strength of unmatched experience in stormwater management consulting and utility financial/rate consulting, we bring a unique combination of skills and knowledge to each project. In addition to our strong financial, policy, and data analysis skills, our expertise in program development and regulatory issues, stakeholder facilitation, and customer service provision allows us to assist clients with their program development and public relationships during utility development, implementation, and post-go live periods.

We work with our clients to develop, implement, and maintain sustainable stormwater programs that fund infrastructure maintenance and capital needs now and into the future.

Want to learn more?
Visit www.raftelis.com or
email us at info@raftelis.com

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Equitably Funding Stormwater Costs

The Need for Stormwater Funding

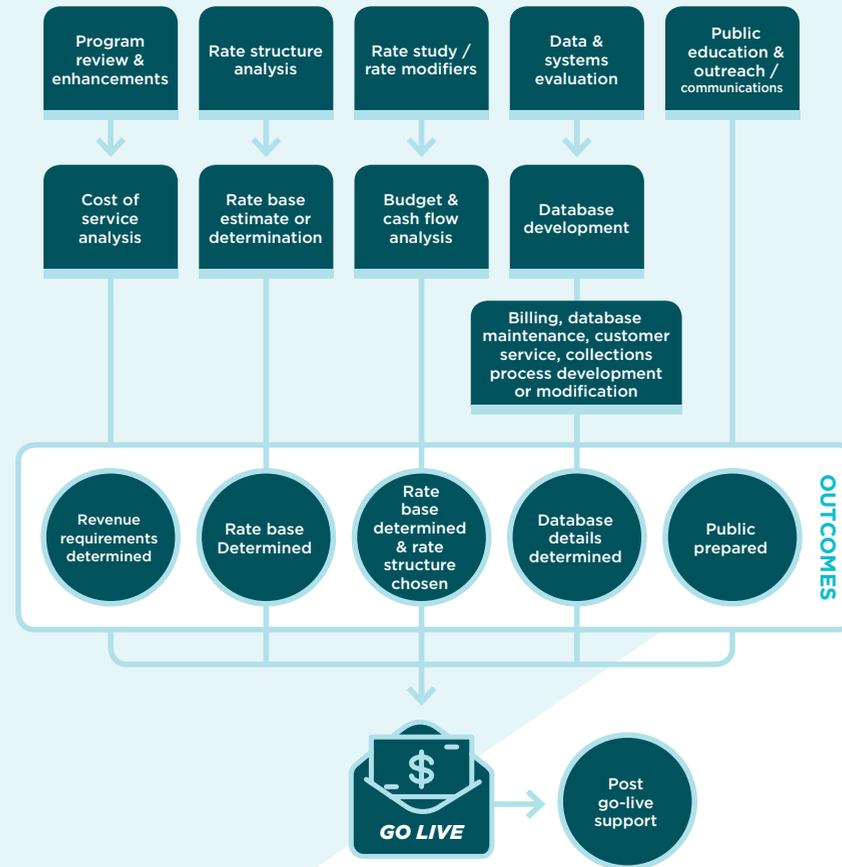
Many local governments are faced with growing stormwater management costs and no equitable means to collect the necessary revenue to meet these needs.

There are several drivers for these cost increases, including:

 <p>Growing infrastructure maintenance and rehabilitation needs</p>	 <p>Managing the increased frequency of flooding events</p>	 <p>More local environmental awareness and concern</p>	 <p>Increasingly stringent water quality regulatory requirements</p>
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Water and wastewater utilities, are able to relatively easily measure their customers' usage and meet their revenue needs in an equitable manner through rates. However, for many jurisdictions, stormwater management is provided in a distributed manner by different departments and is paid for through funding sources that are not focused on stormwater, such as property taxes. This leads to customers paying for stormwater services at a rate that does not necessarily reflect the demand that each customer places on the system.

Raftelis develops stable, dedicated funding for stormwater services, and programs to effectively administer and bill for these services.



Developing a Stormwater Fee

Each individual community has their own objectives for stormwater funding. There are many facets to each fee and program, and a variety of approaches to address an agency's unique needs.

This flowchart illustrates Raftelis' typical approach for developing and implementing a stormwater program.

Making it Work

Raftelis has successfully developed and refined fees for local governments in communities with different concerns, with a variety of billing methods, varying data quality, and differing goals for funding structures and incentives.

Here are a few examples of stormwater programs with varying needs and approaches.



Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District OHIO

- Serves 370,000 accounts in Cleveland and the surrounding area
- Stormwater Management Program began billing in January 2013
- Following litigation, the fee was taken offline in 2013 and was dormant until the Ohio Supreme Court upheld the fee, allowing the District to resume billing in 2016
- Raftelis provided data, policy, administration, and financial consulting to support the development and implementation of the program, the reimplemention of the program following litigation, and ongoing post go-live support



City of Boulder COLORADO

- Serves 30,000 accounts in a city with a highly engaged and informed customer base
- Faced with equitably recovering increased operating and capital requirements following the flooding of 2013
- Rate structure was perceived as being overly complex and was implemented before the City had individual property pervious and impervious area information
- Raftelis helped to development and implement a rate structure that equitably recovers costs from customers while promoting green and pervious spaces, and evaluated incentives for sustainable stormwater management practices



City of Baltimore MARYLAND

- Serves 225,000 accounts in an economically challenged city with extensive aging infrastructure concerns
- Needed a more stable source of revenue for its stormwater management program to meet high costs of compliance with a more stringent NPDES permit and the Chesapeake Bay rules
- Developed program in compressed timeline to comply with new state law
- Raftelis provided data, policy, administration, and financial consulting to support the development and implementation of the program and ongoing post go-live support