

**ORDINANCE NO. 2257**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WEIRTON REPEALING ORDINANCE 1743  
AND ORDINANCE 1774, WHICH ORDINANCE 1743 IS CODIFIED AS  
ARTICLE §956 - "STORMWATER MANAGEMENT AND SURFACE WATER  
DISCHARGE CONTROL" OF THE WEIRTON CITY CODE AND RE-ENACTING  
SAID ARTICLE §956 AS "STORMWATER MANAGEMENT AND SURFACE  
WATER DISCHARGE CONTROL"**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Weirton has been designated by Federal Law as a regulated municipal separate storm sewer system, and as such, must comply with the regulatory requirements established under the Clean Water Act; and,

**WHEREAS**, there is a public need to protect life, property and the water environment from loss, injury and damage caused by storm and surface water, and a responsibility of the City as a trustee of the water environment for future generations; and,

**WHEREAS**, the 2001 West Virginia Legislature amended the West Virginia Code so as to authorize municipalities to regulate stormwater management and surface water discharge as part of its public works program; and,

**WHEREAS**, accordingly, it is necessary and proper for the City of Weirton to enact rules and regulations, as well as service fees, pertaining to stormwater management and surface water discharge control.

**WHEREAS**, the City of Weirton passed and codified Ordinance 1743 on March 11, 2013, adopting Article 956: Stormwater Management and Surface Water Discharge Control; and,

**WHEREAS**, the City of Weirton sought to update Article 956 and passed Ordinance 1774 on June 9, 2014; and,

**WHEREAS**, Ordinance 1774 was never codified creating inconsistencies for those tasked with reviewing and enforcing the Stormwater Management and Surface Water Discharge Control regulations, making it reasonable and necessary to repeal Article 956; and,

**WHEREAS**, the City of Weirton City Council, recognizing the importance of Stormwater Management and Surface Water Discharge Control and the significance of this update to the continued growth of the City, resolve that Article 956 – Stormwater Management and Surface Water Discharge Control shall be re-enacted, as amended, and become effective 30-days after passage.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF WEIRTON THAT:**

**SECTION 1: REPEAL:** Ordinances 1743 and 1774, as amended and codified as Article 956 be and is hereby repealed in its entirety:

**SECTION 2: RE-ENACTMENT:** Article 956 be and is hereby re-enacted as follows:

**§ 956 STORMWATER MANAGEMENT AND SURFACE WATER DISCHARGE CONTROL ADOPTED BY REFERENCE.**

The document entitled "Stormwater Management and Surface Water Discharge Control" for the City of Weirton, West Virginia," dated October 13, 2025, is hereby enacted and henceforth shall be the regulatory ordinance, and is otherwise adopted by reference as though set out in full herein.

**ARTICLE 956: STORMWATER MANAGEMENT AND SURFACE WATER DISCHARGE CONTROL (See Attached)**

**FIRST READING:** September 8, 2025

**PUBLICATION DATE:** September 29, 2025

**SECOND READING:** October 14, 2025



*Kimberly Long*  
City Clerk

*Dean M. Harris*  
Dean M. Harris, Mayor

**Recommended by Weirton City Manager, Michael A. Adams**  
**Document approved as to form by the City Attorney**

## STORMWATER MANAGEMENT AND SURFACE WATER DISCHARGE CONTROL

### § 956.01 DEFINITIONS.

For purposes of this article the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning.

**BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMPs).** Physical, structural and/or managerial practices that, when used singly or in combination, control site run-off, spillage and leaks, waste disposal and drainage from raw material storage and prevent or reduce the discharge of pollutants directly or indirectly to waters of the state. BMPs may include schedules of activities, prohibition of practices, design standards, educational activities and treatment requirements.

**FACILITY.** A building, structure, installation or construction site in which pollutants are produced and/or generated as a result of a process or processes, conducted within the building, structure or installation.

**FOOTING DRAIN.** A pipe or conduit which is placed around the perimeter of a building foundation or other structures for the purpose of admitting ground water.

**ILLICIT CONNECTION.** Any physical connection to a publicly maintained storm drain system which has not been permitted or allowed by the City of Weirton from the date of enactment of this article.

**ILLICIT DISCHARGE.** Any discharge to a storm drain or into the stormwater collection system that is not composed entirely of stormwater, except discharges pursuant to an NPDES permit, discharges resulting from firefighting activities, and other discharges exempted in this article.

**IMPERVIOUS AREA.** Land area covered by any manmade surface that significantly inhibits stormwater from penetrating the soil.

**INDUSTRIAL SITES.** Those sites that contain industrial activities which require NPDES stormwater permits as set forth in 40 CFR 122.26(a)(6).

**MS4.** The municipal separate storm sewer system serving the City of Weirton, as defined by federal law at 40 CFR 122.26.

**MULTI-UNIT PROPERTY.** A residential, non-residential or commercial property of any size that has located upon the property two or more tenants, at least one of which having no ownership interest in the property.

**NON-STORMWATER.** All flows to the stormwater system not defined as stormwater in this article or as determined by the city. This includes, but is not limited to, cooling water, process water, ground water from a purge well and swimming pool discharge.

**PERVIOUS AREA.** All land area that is not impervious.

**POLLUTANT.** Objects including, but not limited to, dredged soil, solid waste, sewage, garbage, sewage sludge, grease, petroleum products, munitions, chemical waste, detergents, biological

materials, radioactive materials, heat, wrecked or discarded equipment, rock, sand, silt, dirt, industrial, municipal and agricultural waste, gasses entrained in water, paints, oil and other automotive fluids, soil, rubbish, debris, materials containing fecal coli form, fecal streptococcus, and enterococcus, heavy metals, hazardous wastes, yard waste from commercial landscaping operations, animal waste, materials that result from the process of building, and offensive matter of any kind, which, when discharged to water, cause or contribute to water pollution.

**POLLUTION.** The degradation of the physical, thermal, chemical, biological or radioactive properties of the waters of the state and/or the discharge of any pollutant to the waters of the state which will or is likely to create a nuisance or to render such waters harmful, detrimental or injurious to public health, safety or welfare or to the beneficial use of the water and/or the water environment.

**PRIVATE FACILITY.** A stormwater facility not otherwise classified as a public facility as defined below.

**PUBLIC FACILITY.** A stormwater facility that serves two or more properties, including, but not limited to, main pipelines that collect and transmit stormwater from and/or across two or more properties, and all taps or other connections onto a public facility. Public facilities that are privately owned upon enactment of this article shall become publicly owned facilities, and thus the responsibility of the Stormwater Utility, only upon conveyance by the private owner and acceptance by the Utility.

**REAL PROPERTY.** Land and fixtures and improvements upon that land, but does not include public streets or sidewalks.

**SERVICE AREA.** All areas within the political boundaries of the City of Weirton and those areas outside of said boundaries that naturally drain into the city, that may be designated by City Council as included in the area served by the Utility.

**STORMWATER.** Atmospheric precipitation, surface runoff water, ground water discharge, flows from footing drains and all other discharge sources identified in the City of Weirton stormwater NPDES permit, except as may be defined as non-stormwater by this article.

**STORMWATER MANAGEMENT.** The process of collection, conveyance, storage, treatment and disposal of stormwater to ensure control of the magnitude and frequency of runoff to minimize the impact of the runoff upon the water quality of the receiving stream and the other hazards associated with flooding.

**STORMWATER SYSTEM.** Includes all facilities, structures and natural watercourses used for collecting and conducting stormwater to, through and from drainage areas to points of final outlet including, but not limited to, any and all of the following: inlets, conduits, outlets, channels, ponds, drainage easements, water quality facilities, catch basins, streams, gulches, flumes, culverts, siphons, retention or detention basins, dams, floodwalls, pipes, flood control systems, levies and pumping stations. As applied in this article, STORMWATER SYSTEM does not include highways, roads and drainage easements, and/or stormwater facilities constructed, owned and/or operated by the West Virginia Division of Highways.



USER. A firm, person or property which is the legal owner or occupant of a property that directly or indirectly contributes stormwater or non-stormwater flows to the stormwater system, within the service area of the Utility as defined by this article.

UTILITY. The Weirton Stormwater Utility and its duly appointed officers and agents. In the absence of an established stormwater utility the City of Weirton Planning and Development office will act as the stormwater utility for the purposes of this ordinance. The Director of Planning and Development will act as the Director identified in this ordinance.

#### § 956.02 GENERAL.

(A) This article has been enacted to protect and enhance the water quality of our watercourses, water bodies, groundwater and wetlands in a manner pursuant to and consistent with the Clean Water Act and associated federal and state stormwater regulations.

(B) The intent of this article is:

- (1) To control non-stormwater discharges to storm drain systems;
- (2) To reduce pollutants in stormwater discharges;
- (3) To control stormwater runoffs by providing design, construction and maintenance criteria for permanent and temporary stormwater facilities;
- (4) To maintain and improve the stormwater collection system in order to protect and improve water quality in the receiving streams and to reduce or eliminate local flooding resulting from stormwater accumulation;
- (5) To fully comply with federal and state statutory and regulatory requirements and schedules regarding stormwater management and the water quality of the receiving streams.

Statutory reference:

Municipal public works, see W. V. Code § 8-16-1

Sewage works and stormwater works, see W. V. Code §§ 16-13-1, 16-13-2

#### § 956.03 STORMWATER USER FEES AND SERVICE CHARGES.

(A) The City Council shall, by ordinance, set user fees which will recover from users their fair share of costs for use of the stormwater system by property within the service area. Such user fees will be for the operation and maintenance of, improvements to, necessary additions to, and environmental compliance programs for the stormwater system.

(B) The Utility may establish and enforce service fees to be charged and collected for services rendered by the Stormwater Utility or by agents of the utility, including, but not limited to, fees for permit application, stormwater management plan review, inspection, and other services.

Statutory reference:

Municipal public works, see W. V. Code §§ 8-16-18, 8-16-21

Sewage works and stormwater works, see W. V. Code § 16-13-22

#### § 956.04 BILLING.

The billing for stormwater service may be combined with the billing for other utility services provided by the city.

Statutory reference:

Municipal public works, see W. V. Code §§ 8-16-18

Sewage works and stormwater works, see W. V. Code § 16-13-16

#### § 956.05 COLLECTION.

The utility is authorized to assess interest and penalties upon unpaid and past due stormwater user fees and service charges, and to act as deemed appropriate to enforce collection of unpaid fees and charges. Unpaid stormwater fees and charges shall constitute just cause for disconnection of public water service to the non-paying property. The Utility shall ensure sufficient notice of disconnection is issued no later than 30 days prior to the scheduled disconnection and that notice of disconnection is posted on the affected property no later than five days prior to the scheduled disconnection. Water service shall be reactivated only upon full payment of the stormwater service charges or other payment arrangements approved by the Utility. The Utility may also take appropriate legal action to collect unpaid charges, including, but not limited to, placing a lien upon the subject property and/or bringing a civil action in a court of competent jurisdiction to recover unpaid charges and fees.

Statutory reference:

Municipal public works, see W. V. Code §§ 8-16-18

Sewage works and stormwater works, see W. V. Code § 16-13-16

#### § 956.06 USE OF FUNDS.

All funds collected for stormwater service shall be accounted for separately and shall be used solely for the construction, operation and maintenance of the stormwater system and stormwater environmental compliance programs.

Statutory reference:

Sewage works and stormwater works, see W. V. Code § 16-13-16, 16-13-23(a)

#### § 956.07 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS AND PROHIBITIONS.

(A) The use of the stormwater collection system shall be the collection and transportation of stormwater.

(B) No person shall place or cause to be placed any pollutant into the stormwater system other than stormwater, unless written approval has been granted by the Utility. The Utility may refuse to grant approval to discharge non-stormwater into the stormwater system for any reason or combination of reasons.

(C) The Weirton Stormwater Utility shall administer use of the stormwater system to all users within the service area as defined by this article.

(D) No person shall cause or permit the introduction of any pollutant into the stormwater system, whether solid, liquid or gaseous, that will cause:

(1) Chemical reaction, either directly or indirectly with the materials of construction used in the stormwater system or that will impair the strength or durability of sewers or structures;

(2) Mechanical action that will destroy or damage sewers or structures;

(3) Restriction of the normal maintenance and inspection of sewers;

(4) Danger to public health and safety or to the environment;

(5) Conditions that create a public nuisance;

(6) An oil sheen or unusual color;

(7) Abnormal demand on the stormwater system capacity;

(8) An adverse effect upon the function of the stormwater system; or,

(9) The stormwater system to violate its NPDES permit or applicable receiving water standards and all other federal, state, and local regulations.

(E) Any person or entity engaged in activities which will or may result in pollutants entering the storm drain system shall undertake best management practices to reduce such pollutants. Examples of such activities include, but are not limited to, compliant operation of facilities that may be a source of pollutants, such as paved parking lots, gasoline stations, industrial facilities, and private roads/streets.

(F) No person shall throw, deposit, leave, maintain or cause to be thrown, deposited, left or maintained any refuse, rubbish, garbage, grease, petroleum products, or other discarded or abandoned objects, articles and accumulations in or upon any street, alley, sidewalk, storm drain inlet, catch basin, conduit or other drainage structures, parking area, or upon any private or public plot of land so that the same might become a pollutant, except where the pollutant is being temporarily stored in properly contained waste receptacles or is part of a well defined compost system.

(G) No person shall cause or permit any dumpster, solid waste bin, or similar container to leak such that any pollutant is discharged into any street, alley, sidewalk, storm drain, inlet, catch basin, conduit or other drainage structure, or upon any public or private plot of land in the urban watershed.

(H) No person shall cause discharge to the MS4 from potable or non-potable water sources that have a potential to violate in-stream water quality standards are prohibited.

(I) No person shall discharge excessive irrigation runoff, wash water or dust control water into the MS4.

(J) No person shall use the stormwater system for discharge from any environmental cleanup that is regulated under federal or state law unless approved by the Utility. Approval by the Utility must be conditioned upon the discharge meeting all criteria for discharge under this chapter. Approval conditions may provide for measures appropriate to prevent harm due to possible infiltration into the ground adjacent to the system or failure of any pretreatment system for the discharge.

Statutory reference:

Municipal public works, see W. V. Code §§ 8-16-5

Sewage works and stormwater works, see W. V. Code § 16-13-2, 16-13-22

#### § 956.08 ILLICIT CONNECTIONS AND ILLICIT DISCHARGES.

It is prohibited to establish, use, maintain or continue illicit connections to the municipal stormwater system, or to commence or continue any illicit discharges to the municipal stormwater system.

Statutory reference:

Municipal public works, see W. V. Code §§ 8-16-5

Sewage works and stormwater works, see W. V. Code § 16-13-2, 16-3-22

#### § 956.09 OUTDOOR STORAGE AREAS.

In outdoor areas, no person shall store grease, oil or other hazardous substances in a manner that will or may result in such substances entering the stormwater system. In outdoor areas, no person shall store motor vehicles, machine parts, or other objects in a manner that may leak grease, oil, or other hazardous substances to the stormwater system. To prevent the discharge of hazardous substances to the stormwater system, the Utility may require the installation of a spill containment system. Spill containment systems may consist of a system of dikes, walls, barriers, berms, or other devices as required. No person shall operate a spill containment system such that it allows incompatible liquids to mix and thereby create a hazardous condition.

Statutory reference:

Municipal public works, see W. V. Code §§ 8-16-5

Sewage works and stormwater works, see W. V. Code § 16-13-2, 16-13-22

§ 956.10 CONSTRUCTION SITES.

- (A) Any person performing construction work in the watershed of the City of Weirton Stormwater Utility shall comply with the provisions of this article and shall provide erosion and sediment controls and flow controls that effectively prevent discharges of pollutants to the stormwater system and protect neighboring priorities from uncontrolled runoff. For the purposes of this section, construction shall mean any man-made activity which, either temporarily or permanently, disturbs, alters, creates, cuts, fills, grades, excavates, occupies or otherwise affects the land such that the soil, or any other natural non-vegetative earthen material, is exposed and/or potentially transported into the water environment through the mechanisms of erosion and sedimentation.
- (B) The Director may establish standards and guidelines for implementing BMPs intended to provide erosion and sediment control for construction sites. Such standards and guidelines shall be at least as stringent as those, if any, provided by the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection.
- (C) The following activities shall be exempt from the requirements of this section.
  - (1) Residential gardens and/or flower beds of less than 1,000 square feet of actual disturbed area;
  - (2) Additions or modifications to existing detached single-family dwellings of a size less than 1,000 square feet of actual disturbed area; and
  - (3) Activities that result in an actual disturbed area of less than 1,000 square feet. However, a phased construction project shall be measured by the size of all planned or contemplated phases. Each phase may be required to meet the requirements of this article.
  - (4) Any exemption provided under this section shall relieve only the requirements to apply for and obtain a City of Weirton stormwater permit. The activity must still be conducted in such a manner that pollution from erosion and sedimentation as a result of the activity is prevented.
- (D) All construction work subject to the provisions of this article shall be required to obtain a City of Weirton stormwater permit unless exempted under the provisions of Section 956.10 (C). The director shall issue a City of Weirton stormwater permit for plans that meet the requirements of this section and any other requirements of this article.
  - (1) No city building permit shall be issued without the approval of a City of Weirton stormwater permit issued under the provisions of this article, unless the Director has issued a formal determination stating that a City of Weirton stormwater permit is not required. Processing of the application for a City of Weirton stormwater permit shall be coordinated with other City permits as provided in Section 956.16.
- (E) Any construction work for which a City of Weirton stormwater permit is required shall implement the measures required by the City of Weirton stormwater permit as the first item of work to be performed before any other aspect of construction is begun.



(1) In the event that unique site conditions require some other aspect of construction to be accomplished prior to implementation of the measures required by the City of Weirton stormwater permit, the permittee shall be required, as a condition of the City of Weirton stormwater permit, to provide and maintain temporary and/or phased measures so the intent of this section is accomplished. In such cases, site work shall be planned and prioritized so that implementation of the full measures of the City of Weirton stormwater permit shall be accomplished as soon as possible.

(F) Any permit issued under the provisions of this article shall be posted at the subject site during the time that such work is being performed, in such a manner and at such place on such premises as the same may be readily seen and inspected by the police officers and other agents and officials of the City. In the event that any such permit so posted shall be removed, lost or destroyed, a duplicate thereof shall immediately be applied for to the Director.

#### § 956.11 DISCHARGE OF NON-STORMWATER TO THE MS4.

(A) Discharges from the following activities will not be considered a regulated source of pollutants to the municipal separate storm sewer and waters of the state when properly managed: water line flushing and uncontaminated discharges from potable water sources, landscape irrigation and lawn watering, irrigation water, diverted stream flows, rising ground waters, groundwater infiltration to separate storm drains, uncontaminated pumped ground water, foundation and footing drains, roof drains, water from crawl space pumps, residential air conditioning condensation, springs, individual residential car washes, flows from riparian habitats and wetlands, de-chlorinated swimming pool discharges or flows from fire fighting activities and training.

(B) The Utility shall have ten days' notice of any planned discharge of non-stormwater to the MS4. Such discharges shall be de-chlorinated to a concentration of 0.1 ppm or less, pH adjusted, and shall be volumetrically and velocity controlled to prevent re-suspension of sediments to the MS4.

Statutory reference:

Municipal public works, see W. V. Code §§ 8-16-5

Sewage works and stormwater works, see W. V. Code § 16-13-2, 16-13-22

#### § 956.12 DISCHARGE IN VIOLATION OF PERMIT.

Any discharge that would cause a violation of a municipal NPDES permit and any amendments, revisions or reissuance thereof, either separately considered or when combined with other discharges, is prohibited. Liability for any such discharge, including, but not limited to, the cost of remedial activity, shall be the responsibility of the person(s) causing or responsible for the discharge, and the city shall seek to have such persons defend, indemnify and hold harmless the

city in any administrative or judicial enforcement action against the City of Weirton relating to such discharge as provided by applicable rules of law.

Statutory reference:

Municipal public works, see W. V. Code §§ 8-16-5

Sewage works and stormwater works, see W. V. Code § 16-13-2, 16-13-22

#### § 956.13 NOTIFICATION OF SPILLS.

All persons in charge of a facility or responsible for emergency response for a facility are responsible to train facility personnel, maintain records of such training and maintain notification procedures to assure that immediate notification is provided to the Utility upon becoming aware of any suspected, confirmed or unconfirmed release of material, pollutants or waste creating a risk of discharge into the municipal stormwater system or into a receiving stream. The City of Weirton shall be notified immediately of a spill when it occurs. All response and cleanup documentation shall be maintained by the person(s) responsible for the discharge and made available to the City of Weirton upon request.

Statutory reference:

Municipal public works, see W. V. Code §§ 8-16-5

Sewage works and stormwater works, see W. V. Code § 16-13-2, 16-13-22

#### § 956.14 CONSTRUCTION.

(A) Only designated City of Weirton employees or parties authorized by the Utility may perform construction upon the public facilities of the stormwater system. Public facilities of the system shall include:

(1) Those facilities that serve two or more properties, including, but not limited to, stormwater system facilities that collect and transmit stormwater from and/or across two or more properties; and

(2) All taps or other connections from a private lateral to a public facility of the system.

(B) All public costs and expenses of and incidental to the installation of private stormwater facilities, connections to public facilities, and installation of public facilities to facilitate and convey flows from a specific private facility shall be borne by the owner(s) of the private facility. Payment terms for these costs and expenses shall be designated by the Utility.

(C) Parties authorized by the Utility to perform construction of or upon the public facilities of the stormwater system shall comply with the design and construction standards promulgated by the Utility. These parties shall allow for inspection of the construction by the Utility at all times, and construction shall only occur during normal working hours of the Utility unless otherwise authorized by the Utility. No facility constructed by an authorized party may be covered or

connected to a public facility without specific authorization of the Utility. This authority shall be granted by the Utility upon satisfaction of the design and construction standards, promulgated by the Utility.

(D) All public facilities shall, upon authorized completion, be property of the City of Weirton.

Statutory reference:

Municipal public works, see W. V. Code §§ 8-16-5

Sewage works and stormwater works, see W. V. Code § 16-13-2, 16-13-22

#### § 956.15 STORMWATER TAPS.

(A) The Utility or a party authorized by the Utility will furnish and install stormwater system taps of the size and at the location requested in writing by an applicant upon a form to be provided by the Utility. The applicant shall pay the full and actual cost of the tap installation.

(B) The Utility may deny a tap application when the requested tap is proposed to an inadequate public facility.

Statutory reference:

Municipal public works, see W. V. Code §§ 8-16-5

Sewage works and stormwater works, see W. V. Code § 16-13-2, 16-13-22

#### § 956.16 PLAN SUBMISSION AND REVIEW PROCESS.

(A) The plan submission and review process shall be coordinated with and integrated into the City of Weirton planning and permitting process. Persons applying to the City for a building permit, and/or a building permit that includes work subject to the provisions of this article, shall submit a City of Weirton stormwater permit application simultaneously with the submission of their other City permit application(s). The City shall promptly forward all such applications for a City of Weirton stormwater permit to the Director for review and further action.

(1) Applicants may choose to submit their City of Weirton stormwater permit application directly to the Director in advance of their application for a City Building permit, but in such case the applicant shall include a copy of their stormwater permit application with their eventual submission to the City, and the City shall forward the copy of the stormwater permit application to the Director as confirmation.

(2) Applicants for projects located outside the municipal boundaries of the City shall submit their City of Weirton stormwater permit application directly to the Director.

- (B) The City shall not issue any building permit that includes work subject to the provisions of this article, unless and until the appropriate stormwater permit(s), has (have) been approved and issued.

Statutory reference:

Municipal public works, see W. V. Code §§ 8-16-5

Sewage works and stormwater works, see W. V. Code § 16-13-2, 16-13-22

#### § 956.17 STORMWATER MANAGEMENT AND COMPREHENSIVE DRAINAGE PLANS.

- (A) Stormwater management and comprehensive drainage plans are required to obtain a City of Weirton stormwater permit and shall be in accordance with this article and the City of Weirton Stormwater Management Design Manual as described in Section 957.18.
- (B) The requirements and standards of this section shall apply to all new developments and redevelopment projects. The intent of these regulations is to minimize the discharge and transport of pollutants to storm drain systems and prevent the deterioration of water quality.
- (C) All new developments and redevelopment projects within the City watershed shall include stormwater management plans and comprehensive drainage plans as described in this section. These plans shall be subject to review and approval of the Director.
- (D) The following activities shall be exempt from the requirements of this section, except that no activity shall be exempt from the management of the discharge of sediment or any other form of water pollution that may leave any parcel or site.
- (1) Agricultural land management activities;
  - (2) Additions or modifications to existing detached single-family dwellings of a size less than 1,000 square feet; and
  - (3) Activities that result in impervious surface area of less than 3,000 square feet, regardless of the ratio of impervious surface area to total site area. However, a phased construction project shall be measured by the size of all planned or contemplated phases. Each phase may be required to meet the requirements of this article.
- (E) All new development and redevelopment projects subject to the provisions of this article shall be required to obtain a City of Weirton Stormwater permit unless exempted under the provisions of Section 956.17(d). The director shall issue a City of Weirton stormwater permit for plans that meet the requirements of Article 956 and design requirements contained within the City of Weirton Stormwater Management Design Manual. No city building permit which includes work subject to the provisions of this section, shall be issued without the approval of a City of Weirton stormwater permit issued under the provisions of this article, unless the Director has issued a formal determination stating that a City of Weirton stormwater permit is not required. Processing of the application of a

stormwater permit shall be coordinated with other City permits as provided in Section 956.16.

- (1) Any work for which a stormwater permit is required, the permittee shall implement the erosion and sediment control best management practices and flow control best management practices required by the City of Weirton stormwater permit as the first item of work to be performed, before any other aspect of construction has begun.
  - (2) In the event that only an erosion and sediment control plan is required to obtain a City of Weirton stormwater permit, the measures required by the erosion and sediment control plan shall be implemented first so that no other aspect of the construction is begun until all stormwater permit requirements have been implemented. The erosion and sediment control plan must contain best management practices for flow control during construction to protect neighboring properties from runoff.
  - (3) In the event that unique site conditions require some other aspect of the construction to be accomplished prior to implementation of the measures required by the City of Weirton stormwater permit, the permitted shall be required, as a condition of the permit, to provide and maintain temporary and/or phased measures so that the intent of this section is accomplished. In such cases, site work shall be planned and prioritized so that implementation of the full measures of the permit shall be accomplished as soon as possible.
  - (4) Any permit issued under the provisions of this article shall be posted at the subject site during the time that such work is being performed, in such a manner and at such place on such premises as the same may be readily seen and inspected by the police officers and other agents and officials of the City. In the event that any such permit so posted shall be removed, lost or destroyed, a duplicate thereof shall immediately be applied for to the Director.
- (F) Technical, administrative or procedural matters may be modified by the Director as needed to meet the objectives and policies defined in this article, so long as such modifications are not contrary to or beyond the intent of the objectives and policies included in this article.
- (G) Uniform requirements shall be applied to each regulated project site. These requirements shall be based upon the criterion that post development stormwater peak runoff rates of flow must not exceed the pre-development peak runoff rates of flow. In redevelopment projects, a peak runoff rate of flow reduction of ten percent from the preexisting peak runoff rate of flow must be achieved. However, no reduction shall be required beyond the peak runoff rate of flow that would occur from the parcel in its natural, undeveloped state.
- (H) For any new construction that results in impervious area of 3,000 square feet or more and for any redevelopment project, an erosion and sediment control plan and a stormwater management and comprehensive drainage plan will be required in order to qualify for a City of Weirton stormwater permit. The plan shall include all requirements listed in the City of Weirton Stormwater Management Design Manual.



- (I) No construction shall be performed in a manner that will negatively impact the water environment in the vicinity of construction or in other areas, regardless of whether this impact is manifested by flow restrictions, increased runoff, diminishing channel or floodplain storage capacity, harm to aquatic life or any other manifestation of negative impact.
- (J) New construction or redevelopment projects shall begin with the installation of all approved erosion and sediment control best management practices and flow control best management practices. The Director may halt construction, void a permit, or take other enforcement actions consistent with this section upon a finding of inadequate erosion and sediment control best management practices or inadequate flow control best management practices upon a site or property subject to the provisions of this section.
- (K) All active construction sites shall be inspected by the owner no less than weekly and within 24 hours after a 0.25 inch rain event to ensure and verify effective erosion and sediment control. The owner or site manager shall maintain records of these inspections on site in an inspection log. The Director may halt construction on properties that do not provide satisfactory proof of compliance with this requirement.
- (L) The owner of a completed new development and/or redevelopment construction shall submit to the Director within 30 days of substantial project completion an “as-built” plan of the stormwater management facilities located upon the property/site.
- (M) Waivers for providing stormwater management.
  - (1) Every applicant shall provide for stormwater management as required by this chapter unless a waiver of these requirements is granted by the Director. A written request for waiver must be submitted to the Director in a form that he/she prescribes.
  - (2) The Director may waive the minimum requirements for stormwater management, except that any requirement waived shall not cause any degradation of water quality.
  - (3) Any requirements described in Article 929 and/or the MUB Stormwater Management Design Manual may be waived by the Director, if the Director finds that meeting the minimum on-site stormwater management requirements is not feasible due to unique natural or existing physical characteristics of a site, or that the property owner would suffer an undue hardship if required to meet the full satisfaction of the Director that the waiver will not result in any of the following impacts to downstream waterways:
    - a. Deterioration of existing culverts, bridges, dams, and other structures;
    - b. Degradation of biological functions or habitat;
    - c. Accelerated stream bank or streambed erosion; or
    - d. Increased threat of flood damage to public health, life and/or property.

(4) Where compliance with the full requirements for on-site stormwater management is waived, the applicant shall satisfy stormwater management requirements by accomplishing a mitigation measure approved by the Director. Mitigation measures may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a. Alternative means for on-site stormwater management of stormwater discharges that have been established in a stormwater management plan that has been approved by the Director.
- b. The creation of appropriately designed and constructed stormwater management facility or drainage improvements on other properties, public or private, that currently lack stormwater management facilities. This alternative facility must provide a level of stormwater control that is equal to or greater than that which would be afforded by the waived on-site practices and there must be a legally obligated entity responsible for the long-term operation and maintenance of the off-site practice. The Director shall, to the maximum extent practical, ensure that the benefits arising from the off-site practice shall be realized in the same basin/watershed as the waived management practice.
- c. The purchase and donation of privately owned lands to the City or the grant of easement to the City, to be dedicated to preservation, and/or the creation of green space, wetlands, or permanent buffer areas to protect water quality and aquatic habitat.

Any mitigation measure shall provide a level of environmental protection and/or improvement that is, in the sole discretion of the Director, approximately equal to or greater than that which would have been provided by the waived practice.

(N) Fee in lieu of stormwater management practices.

(1) Where the Director waives all or part of the minimum stormwater management requirements, and the applicant does not complete an approved mitigation project, the applicant shall be required to pay a fee in lieu of stormwater management practices, in an amount as determined by the Director. This amount shall be approximately equal to the cost of stormwater management and based on the cubic feet of storage required for stormwater management of the development in question. All of the monetary contributions shall be credited to an appropriate stormwater capital improvements program project, and shall be made by the applicant prior to the issuance of any stormwater permit for the development.

(O) Impervious areas measured for determining the requirements of this section, or for assessing compliance with the requirements of this section, shall be determined using the highest combination of proposed/constructed impervious area plus any additional proposed/actual disturbed area in excess of the proposed/constructed impervious footprint.

(P) Disturbed areas measured for determining the requirements of this section, or for assessing compliance with the requirements of this section, shall include areas for which vegetative

cover has been, or will be, altered, reduced, or eliminated and for which a change in runoff characteristics may be reasonably determined.

#### § 956.18 Stormwater Design Manual

- (A) The stormwater utility may furnish additional policy, criteria and information including specifications and standards, for the proper implementation of the requirements of this article and may provide such information in the form of a stormwater design manual.
- (B) This manual may include a list of acceptable stormwater treatment practices, including the specific design criteria for each stormwater practice. The manual may be updated and expanded from time to time, at the discretion of the Stormwater Utility, based on improvements in engineering, science, monitoring and local maintenance experience. Stormwater treatment practices that are designed and constructed in accordance with these design and sizing criteria will be presumed to meet the minimum water quality performance standards.

#### § 956.19 Plan Submission and Review Process

- (A) The plan submission and review process shall be coordinated with and integrated into the City planning and permitting process. Persons applying to the City for a grading permit, and/or a building permit that includes work subject to the provisions of this article, shall submit a City of Weirton stormwater permit application simultaneously with the submission of their other City permit application(s). The City shall promptly forward all such applications for a stormwater permit to the Director for review and further action.
  - (1) Applicants may choose to submit their City of Weirton stormwater permit application directly to the Director in advance of their application for a City grading permit and/or building permit, but in such case the applicant shall include a copy of their stormwater permit application with their eventual submission to the City, and the City shall forward the copy of the stormwater permit application to the Director as confirmation.
  - (2) Applicants for projects located outside of the municipal boundaries of the City shall submit their City of Weirton stormwater permit application directly to the Director.
- (B) The City shall not issue any grading permit, or any building permit that includes work subject to the provisions of this article, unless and until the appropriate stormwater permit(s), has (have) been approved and issued.

#### § 956.20 MAINTENANCE OF STORMWATER FACILITIES.

- (A) Private stormwater facilities located in private property and within the service area as defined by this article shall be maintained by the owner or other responsible party and shall be repaired and/or replaced by such person when such facilities are no longer functioning as designed.
- (B) Disposal of waste from maintenance of private facilities shall be conducted in accordance with applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations.

(C) Records of installation and maintenance and repair shall be retained by the owner or other responsible party for a period of five years and shall be made available to the Utility upon request.

(D) The Utility may perform corrective or maintenance work, which shall be at the owner's expense, upon any failure to maintain facilities or correct problems with facilities after receiving due reasonable notice from the Utility.

(E) Routine maintenance of detention/retention facilities shall be conducted by the owner of the facility in accordance with this article and guidance of the Utility.

Statutory reference:

Municipal public works, see W. V. Code §§ 8-16-5

Sewage works and stormwater works, see W. V. Code § 16-13-2, 16-13-22

#### § 956.21 INSPECTION.

(A) Stormwater systems within the service area shall be inspected by the Utility during and after construction to assure consistency with the approved stormwater management plan.

(B) All stormwater systems within the service area shall be subject to the authority of the Utility to ensure compliance with this article and may be inspected when deemed necessary.

(C) The owner of a private stormwater system, or other responsible party designated by the owner, shall make annual inspections of the facilities, including any detention/retention facility, and maintain records of such inspections for a period of five years.

(D) Whenever necessary to make an inspection to enforce any of the provisions of this article, or whenever the Utility has reasonable cause to believe that there exists in any building or upon any premises any condition which may constitute a violation of the provisions of this article, the Utility may enter such building or premises at all reasonable times to inspect the same or perform any duty imposed by this article; provided that:

(1) If such building or premises is occupied, the Utility's representative first shall present proper credentials and request entry; and

(2) If such building or premises is unoccupied, the Utility's representative first shall make a reasonable effort to locate the owner or other persons having charge or control of the building or premises and request entry.

(E) The property owner or occupant has the right to refuse entry but, in the event such entry is refused, the Utility is hereby empowered to seek assistance from any court of competent jurisdiction in obtaining such entry and performing such inspection.

(F) Routine or area inspections shall be based upon such reasonable selection processes as may be deemed necessary to carry out the objectives of this article, including but not limited to, random sampling and/or sampling in areas with evidence of stormwater pollution, illicit discharges, or similar factors.

Statutory reference:

Municipal public works, see W. V. Code §§ 8-16-5

Sewage works and stormwater works, see W. V. Code § 16-13-2, 16-13-22

#### § 956.22 SAMPLING.

With the consent of the owner or occupant or with court order, the Utility may establish on any property such devices as are necessary to conduct sampling or metering operations. During all inspections as provided herein, the Utility may take any samples deemed necessary to aid in the pursuit of the inquiry or to record the on-site activities, provided that owners or occupants shall be entitled to split samples.

Statutory reference:

Municipal public works, see W. V. Code §§ 8-16-5

Sewage works and stormwater works, see W. V. Code § 16-13-2, 16-13-22

#### § 956.23 TESTING AND MONITORING.

(A) Whenever the Utility determines that any person engaged in any activity and/or owning or operating any facility may cause or contribute to stormwater pollution or illicit discharges to the stormwater system, the Utility may, by written notice, order that such person undertake such monitoring activities and/or analyses and furnish such reports as the Utility may require. The written notice shall be served either in person or by certified or registered mail, return receipt requested, and shall set forth the basis for such order and shall particularly describe the monitoring activities and/or analyses and reports required. The burden to be borne by the owner or operator, including costs of these activities, analyses and reports, shall bear a reasonable relationship to the need for the monitoring, analyses and reports and the benefits to be obtained. The recipient of such order shall undertake and provide the monitoring, analyses and reports within the time frames set forth in the order.

(B) In the event the owner or operator of a facility or property fails to conduct the monitoring and/or analyses and furnish the reports required by the order in the time frames set forth therein, the Utility may cause such monitoring and/or analyses to occur. If a violation is found, the Utility may assess all costs incurred, including reasonable administrative costs and attorney's fees, to the owner or operator. The Utility may pursue judicial action to enforce the order and recover all costs incurred.

(C) The Utility shall promulgate a regulation detailing a process by which the person alleged to be engaging in an activity causing or contributing to pollution or illicit discharges shall receive notice and an opportunity to appeal/contest said allegations pursuant to § 956.25, the appeal provisions of this article.

Statutory reference:



Municipal public works, see W. V. Code §§ 8-16-5

Sewage works and stormwater works, see W. V. Code § 16-13-2, 16-13-22

#### § 956.24 CONCEALMENT.

Causing, permitting, aiding, abetting or concealing a violation of any provision of this article shall constitute a violation of such provision.

Statutory reference:

Municipal public works, see W. V. Code §§ 8-16-5

Sewage works and stormwater works, see W. V. Code § 16-13-2, 16-13-22

#### § 956.25 ENFORCEMENT.

(A) No person shall cause or allow any discharge into the municipal separate storm sewer system in violation of the city's NPDES permit, the Clean Water Act and/or this article.

(B) No person shall construct or maintain any property, residence or business not in compliance with the standards of this article and/or the Clean Water Act.

(C) Authorized representatives of the city bearing proper credentials and identification shall be permitted, after reasonable notice, to enter upon all properties in the municipal watershed for the purposes of inspection, observation, measurement, sampling and testing in accordance with this article.

(D) No person or firm shall fail to provide any report or other information or perform any duty required by this article.

(E) The Utility is authorized to issue notices of violations, orders and citations, and to impose civil penalties provided in this article.

(F) Notice of a violation of this article shall be served upon the alleged violator by personal service or by certified mail, return receipt requested. The notice shall state the nature of the violation, the potential penalty, the action required to correct the violation, and a time limit for making the correction.

(G) If, after the required notice, a person refuses to comply with this article within the time limit included in the notice, the Utility may cause the work to be done to obtain compliance and shall charge the cost of that work to the person responsible for the violation. The responsible person shall pay in full the charged amount within 30 days of the invoice date, or otherwise make arrangements acceptable to the Utility, for full payment of the invoiced amount. If full payment is not received within 30 days of the invoice date, the Utility may institute a civil action in a court of competent jurisdiction to recover the invoiced costs and associated attorney's fees, court costs and other expenses.

(H) (1) A civil penalty up to the maximum permitted by the Constitution and laws of the state of not less than \$50 or more than \$5,000 per day for each violation may be assessed by the Utility against any person or firm who has violated or continues to violate any section of this article or any of the following:

- (a) Failing to comply with a valid order issued under this article; and/or
- (b) Failing to allow entry, inspection or monitoring; and/or
- (c) Violation of reporting requirements or falsification of reports.

(2) In determining the amount of the assessment, the Utility shall consider all relevant circumstances, including, but not limited to, the extent of harm caused by the violation, the magnitude and duration of the violation, the compliance history of the violator, the economic benefit gained by the violator as a result of the violation, the cost to the city as a result of the violation, and any other relevant factor.

(I) The Utility may recover from a violator reasonable attorney's fees, court costs and other expenses associated with the enforcement of this article, as well as the cost of actual damages incurred by the city.

(J) Civil penalties assessed hereunder are intended to protect the public health, safety and welfare by protecting the waters of the state from contamination. If a person or entity fails or refuses to remedy a violation, a penalty pursuant to this article may be assessed per diem until the violation is corrected or remedied.

(K) The Utility is authorized to take all steps necessary to immediately and without prior notice halt any discharge of pollutants which reasonably appear to present an imminent danger to the health or welfare of persons or to the environment of the watershed. A person or entity causing such discharge shall immediately eliminate the violation. If such person or entity fails to immediately eliminate the violation, the Utility may take all steps necessary to eliminate the discharge.

(L) Any person against whom an assessment or order has been issued may secure a review of the assessment or order by filing with the Utility a written petition setting forth the grounds and reasons for the objection(s) and asking for a hearing before the City Council. If a written petition is not filed within 30 days after the date the assessment or order is served, the violator shall be deemed to have consented to the assessment or order and it shall become final.

(M) Within ten days of receipt of a request for an appeal of an assessment or action of the Utility, the Utility shall issue a report and recommendation to the City Council regarding the appeal, and provide the appellant a copy of the report. Within 30 days of a filed appeal of an assessment or action, the City Council shall conduct an administrative hearing regarding the alleged violation and resulting assessment. At said hearing, the City Council may hear additional evidence and may revoke, affirm or modify the appealed assessment.

(N) An assessment and ancillary costs, unpaid after 30 days following issue by the Utility and not otherwise timely appealed, shall be grounds for termination of water service. In the alternative, and at the discretion of the Utility, the Utility may apply to a court of competent jurisdiction for a

judgment and seek execution of the judgment, and the court in such proceedings shall treat the failure to appeal the assessment as a confession of judgment in the amount of the assessment.

(O) (1) When the Utility finds that a person or entity has violated or continues to violate any section of this article, the Utility may petition a court of competent jurisdiction for the issuance of a permanent or temporary injunction, as appropriate, which restrains or compels specific compliance with this article and/or an order issued by the Utility. The Utility may also seek such other action as is appropriate for legal and/or equitable relief, including a requirement that the person or entity conduct an environmental remediation. A petition for injunctive relief shall not be a bar against or a prerequisite for taking any other action against the person or entity.

(2) In addition to the other enforcement powers and remedies established by this article, the Utility has the authority to utilize any of the remedies or sanctions authorized by West Virginia law and this Code that, in its judgment, will effectively protect the city watershed and comply with federal and state laws and regulations.

Statutory reference:

Municipal public works, see W. V. Code §§ 8-16-5

Sewage works and stormwater works, see W. V. Code § 16-13-2, 16-13-22

#### § 956.26 NONEXCLUSIVITY OF REMEDIES.

Remedies under this article are in addition to and do not supersede or limit any and all other remedies, civil or criminal. The remedies provided for herein shall be cumulative and not exclusive.

Statutory reference:

Municipal public works, see W. V. Code §§ 8-16-5

Sewage works and stormwater works, see W. V. Code § 16-13-2, 16-13-22

#### § 956.27 APPEAL.

The City Council shall act as the review body available to any user or prospective user aggrieved by a decision, act or inaction of the Stormwater Utility. City Council shall act as the final body to review any such appeal.

Statutory reference:

Sewage works and stormwater works, see W. V. Code § 16-13-2, 16-13-22

#### § 956.28 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY.

The degree of protection required by this article is considered reasonable for regulatory purposes. The standards set forth herein are minimum standards and this article does not imply that compliance will ensure that there will be no unauthorized discharge of pollutants into the waters of the state or no damage to real or personal property within the service area. This article shall not create liability on the part of the city, any agent or employee thereof for any damages that result from reliance on this article or any administrative decision lawfully made thereunder.