

Stormwater Management Funding Study for Laramie, Wyoming  
Glossary of Terms and Acronyms for Stormwater Management

List of Acronyms

BMP- Best Management Practice  
CCTV- Closed Circuit Television  
CSO- Combined Sewer Overflow/Outfall  
DPW- Department of Public Works  
EPA- Environmental Protection Agency  
ERU- Equivalent Residential Unit  
GI- Green Infrastructure  
GIS- Geographic Information System  
IA- Impervious Area  
LOS- Level of Service  
MAF- Master Account File  
MS4- Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System  
NPDES- National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System  
NSFDR- Non-Single Family Detached Residential  
O&M- Operations and Maintenance  
SFDR- Single Family Detached Residential  
SFG- Stormwater Focus Group  
SPPP/SWPPP- Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan  
SDMP: Storm Drainage Master Plan  
SPT: Special Purpose Tax  
SWDF- Stormwater Drainage Fee  
SWMP- Stormwater Master Plan  
TMDL- Total Maximum Daily Load  
WIP- Watershed Improvement Plan  
WYPDES – Wyoming Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

Best Management Practice (BMP): Stormwater BMPs are engineered devices, practices, or methods that are used to manage stormwater runoff by controlling peak runoff rate, improving water quality, and managing runoff volume.

Catch Basin: A catch is a curbside drain with the sole function of collecting rainwater from properties and streets and transporting it to local waterways through a system of underground piping, culverts and/or drainage ditches. Catch basins can be found in parking lots and serve the same purpose.

Equivalent Residential Unit: Refers to a value stated in square feet that represents the median amount of impervious area on all or on a statistically valid sample of

residential properties in a community. The ERU is used to establish the billing unit for a stormwater drainage fee.

**Extent of Service:** A delineation of the geographic boundary that identifies the limits of public responsibility for the operation and maintenance of the stormwater conveyance system. It is often stated in terms of public ownership of property within the jurisdiction (e.g., public right of way or publicly owned easements).

**Geographic Information Systems (GIS):** Geographic information systems are computer-based tools used to store, visualize, analyze, and interpret land features/data. Geographic data (also called spatial, or geospatial data) identifies the features specific to a location or parcel.

**Green Infrastructure (GI):** Green infrastructure is an engineered approach to stormwater management that restores or mimics natural systems management of the water cycle.

**Impervious Area:** Impervious surfaces means a hard surface area which either prevents or retards the entry of water into the soil as under natural conditions prior to development. It can be a hard surface area which causes water to run off the surface in greater quantities or at an increased rate of flow greater than occurred when natural conditions were present prior to development. Common impervious surfaces include, but are not limited to, rooftops, walkways, patios, driveways, parking lots or storage areas, concrete or asphalt paving, gravel surfaces with compacted subgrade, packed earthen materials and oiled, macadam or other surfaces which similarly impede the natural infiltration of stormwater.

**Inlet:** A stormwater inlet refers to manholes, curb cuts and other drop-type structures constructed to direct stormwater into storm sewers or other underground drainage systems.

**Level of Service:** A measure of service quantity, frequency, or quality for a particular activity that defines the rate of occurrence, the standard of performance, and type of action desired to maintain operation of the stormwater conveyance system at an acceptable level.

**Special Stormwater Fee for Service:** A special fee is established to cover the expense of providing a service to a limited user group needing the assistance of City staff. Examples of special stormwater fees include development plan reviews or inspection of construction sites to receive permit approval in compliance with City code (e.g., occupancy permits).

**Storm Drainage Master Plan:** A storm drainage master plan outlines characteristics of a watershed, defines the existing stormwater system that serves the watershed and makes recommendations on how to improve the infrastructure within the City.

Stormwater Drainage Fee: Storm Drainage Fee means the property-related fee charged on all developed parcels in the City to fund the Storm Drainage Services. Drainage fees may be charged to undeveloped parcels based on policy established by the Council.

Watershed: It's a land area that channels rainfall and snowmelt to creeks, streams, and rivers, and eventually to outflow points such as reservoirs, bays, and the ocean. A watershed is any surface area from which runoff is collected and drained through a common point.