

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
Snohomish County, Washington

NOTICE OF ENACTMENT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that on November 12, 2025, the Snohomish County Council approved Ordinance 25-053.

ORDINANCE NO. 25-053

AMENDING CHAPTER 25.20 OF THE SNOHOMISH COUNTY CODE RELATING TO
STORM AND SURFACE WATER MANAGEMENT SERVICE CHARGE CREDITS

Background: The ordinance amends provisions of Chapter 25.20 Snohomish County Code (SCC) concerning service charges and credits.

Current county code allows a credit on surface water charges for properties that maintain their onsite stormwater facilities. Code language articulates strict requirements for credit eligibility based on the facility being in compliance with modern development standards. Surface Water Management (SWM) has typically implemented the code to give the credit based on the facility meeting the development standard at the time the facility was originally approved by the County. The code amendment brings code language into alignment with this long-standing practice.

The Federal Clean Water Act obligates federal agencies to pay stormwater charges that are deemed reasonable. The Act allows each agency to evaluate the billed charges and determine their reasonableness based on criteria listed in the Act. The proposed code amendment recognizes that the County has no control over the federal agency determination of county charges and little to no recourse to challenge the finding. The code amendment removes the County's obligation to continue to bill properties owned by federal agencies that have made the determination to not pay local stormwater charges.

Current code allows K-12 schools to receive consideration for the costs of curriculum in reducing the stormwater charges associated with their school properties. The County first notifies each district of impending charges and then evaluates the school district's supplied documentation for the cost of a qualifying curriculum. Typically, the annual curriculum costs meet or exceed the full district-wide stormwater charge for their properties. The amendment changes this in-kind consideration approach to a full exemption of stormwater charges for K-12 schools based on a known curriculum standard that must be met by all accredited schools, both public and private.

For More Information: Copies of the ordinance and related documents are available upon request by calling the Council Office at (425) 388-3494, 1(800) 562-4367 x3494, TDD 1(800) 877-8339, or by e-mailing Contact.Council@snoco.org. The ordinance is also available on the Council's website at <https://snohomish.legistar.com/Default.aspx> (File # 2025-2977).

Dated this 18th day of November, 2025.



Deputy Clerk of the Council

Publish: November 24, 2025

SUBMIT AFFIDAVIT TO: County Council

SUBMIT INVOICE TO: DCNR-Surface Water Management - 107027