

## **VLAWMO's Storm Water Utility Fee**

In the past, VLAWMO was funded by assessments made to the six communities that are in the VLAWMO watershed area. Those assessments were paid either through the city or township general funds or a municipal storm water utility. Through this method, property owners within neighboring watersheds contributed to the VLAWMO program although they were not within the VLAWMO boundary. In an effort to charge ONLY the property owners within VLAWMO for its support, the VLAWMO Storm Water Utility (SWU) was initiated in 2007. All six communities formally approved the SWU as the most equitable way of paying for watershed activities.)

Fees are assessed on an annual basis. All single family residential lots are assessed the same rate regardless of size. Parcels with other land uses such as commercial, institutional, or multi-family residential have a rate based on how much impervious surface they have and the acreage of the parcel

**PLEASE NOTE:** *The Storm Water Utility Fee* **IS NOT A TAX.** VLAWMO does not have taxing authority. By including our fee within your property taxes, we are saving the taxpayer's money by not doing a separate mailing. Your tax dollars will go towards the watershed stewardship work that VLAWMO is committed to doing.