

## **BAY RESTORATION FUND**

On May 26, 2004, Governor Ehrlich signed into law Senate Bill 320 that established the Bay Restoration Fund (BRF). This legislation requires owners of wastewater treatment plants (WWTP) to collect \$2.50 monthly fee per equivalent dwelling unit (EDU) from their users, effective January 1, 2005. The BRF fees collected are to be deposited with the State Comptroller by the 20<sup>th</sup> day after each calendar quarter, first payment due by April 20, 2005.

During the 2012 legislative session, [House Bill 446](#) doubled the BRF fee for most users served by wastewater treatment plants and those on On-site sewage disposal (septic) systems to \$5.00 per month per household/EDU. For wastewater treatment plant users and septic systems not discharging (which Taneytown is not) to the Chesapeake Bay and Coastal Bay watersheds, the fee remains at the current level of \$2.50 per month per household/EDU. HB 446 also requires that BRF fee billing authorities develop a [financial hardship fee waiver](#) plan for low income households.

Since the City of Taneytown bills quarterly, \$15.00 must be collected and deposited with the State for every residential and non-residential EDU. The water bills will have a line identifying the charge as “Bay Restoration Fee”. To bill non-residential sewer customers, the City must calculate the average daily flow based on metered water, using 250gpd as an EDU. For example, if the average daily flow is 1,000 gallons, the Bay Restoration Fee would be \$30.00 per quarter, based on 4 EDU (1,000/250).

The Bay Restoration Fee will be a separate line item on the water bill and posted into the City’s finances as such, therefore, at the end of the quarter, the amount shown in the Bay Restoration Fee account will be transferred to the State of Maryland.

For more information explaining this legislation please visit [MDE's website](#).