

CURRENTS

Meet Our Stormwater Team

This group of stormwater experts are making a difference for Pittsburgh today and into the future.



Members of the stormwater team pictured clockwise from top left: Tony Igwe, Meghan Simek, Maria Natoli, Ana Bennett, Ryan Quinn, Beth Dutton, and James Stitt. Not pictured: Benjamin Grunauer and Samantha Young.

As more frequent and extreme rain events impact our neighborhoods and waterways, the Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority is reimagining how stormwater is managed across the city. Our stormwater team is planning, designing, implementing, and maintaining stormwater-related projects that help to reduce local flooding and sewer overflows while improving water quality in our streams and rivers.

Located within our Engineering and Construction

Department, the stormwater team collaborates closely with other PWSA departments and external stakeholders such as local government, community groups, and residents.

As the Senior Group Manager of Stormwater, Tony Igwe leads our stormwater team while shaping the future of PWSA's stormwater program. Senior Project Manager of Stormwater Beth Dutton and Sustainability Manager James Stitt also guide the development and implementation of stormwater

program initiatives. For example, improving our approach to managing stormwater includes the development of a stormwater strategic plan, which will serve as Pittsburgh's blueprint to address local stormwater challenges.

Our engineers and project managers supervise the design and construction of a variety of stormwater projects. Our methods include utilizing a combination of green and gray infrastructure to improve the wet weather conditions of a given project area. Green infrastructure uses vegetation, soils, stones to mimic natural processes, manage runoff locally, and create healthier urban environments. Gray infrastructure uses man-made, engineered components such as gutters, storm sewers, tunnels, culverts, detention basins, pipes, and mechanical devices to capture and convey runoff.

Like other infrastructure, stormwater projects need to be inspected and maintained to function properly. Our stormwater inspector investigates maintenance needs and supervises our maintenance contractor

Next Board Meeting: October 28

For a complete list of PWSA's board and community meetings, please visit Pgh2o.com/events-meetings.

Following COVID-19 restrictions, meetings are held virtually and may be tentative or postponed.

in their work to keep each stormwater project clear of debris, weeds, and other issues.

Our stormwater team also evaluates stormwater fee credit applications to determine if the proposed stormwater control qualifies for a credit. To learn more about how to apply for a stormwater fee credit on your bill, visit pgh2o.com/stormwater-credit-program.

Our stormwater team includes:

- Tony Igwe, Senior Group Manager – Stormwater
- Beth Dutton, Senior Project Manager – Stormwater
- James Stitt, Sustainability Manager
- Meghan Simek, Project Manager
- Ana Bennett, Associate Project Manager
- Ryan Quinn, Associate Project Manager
- Maria Natoli, Associate Project Manager
- Benjamin Grunauer, Engineer III
- Samantha Young, Stormwater Inspector III

Join our email list to get the latest news and updates.

Signing up is simple at pgh2o.com/subscribe.





Additional Stormwater Resources

Explore the resources below for additional information about the stormwater fee, including the stormwater credit program, customer assistance and a web map where you can search your property.

STORMWATER CREDIT PROGRAM: Our Stormwater Credit Program offers a discount on the monthly stormwater fee. Property owners choosing to manage stormwater on site may reduce their monthly stormwater charge. Installing stormwater management systems such as a rain garden or an underground stormwater system on private property are examples of how a private property owner may earn a credit. Find out more information and apply at pgh2o.com/stormwater-fee.

FEE FINDER WEBSITE: Use our searchable map to view the amount of impervious surface on your property and understand your stormwater fee. To use the site:

- Launch the [Fee Finder Website](#)
- Enter your address in the search bar and press enter
- Click inside the boundaries of your property to view details about its impervious surface and the number of Equivalent Residential Units (ERU's)
- To determine your fee amount, multiply the number of ERU's by the stormwater rate of \$5.96 and subtract any credits that may apply

DISPUTING STORMWATER FEE: If you have questions about the amount of impervious surface calculated for your property or believe there is a discrepancy, please contact our Customer Service department by calling 412-255-2423 (Press 5), to start the process.

Visit pgh2ostormwater.com for more information about our plans to manage stormwater.

Please call PWSA Customer Service at **412-255-2423 (Press 5)** or email info@pgh2o.com for questions about the stormwater fee or general questions about the credit program.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Donate to the Hardship Grant Program online at Pgh2o.com/give.

Enroll in eBilling

Convenient and easy to use, our online billing and payment portal ensures timely delivery of bills and payments. Visit Pgh2o.com/ebilling to enroll.

Penn Liberty Plaza 1
1200 Penn Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Customer Service*

T 412.255.2423 (Press 5)
info@pgh2o.com

**translation services available*

Emergency Dispatch*

412.255.2423 (Press 5)
Available 24/7

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[nextdoor.com](https://www.nextdoor.com)



WATER WISE

Keep Leaves Out of Storm Drains!



Actions you take in your yard impact our sewers, streams, and rivers.

Leaves and grass clippings left on the ground can clog storm drains and sewer pipes, contributing to street flooding when it rains. Fertilizers and yard waste can also cause nutrient pollution and oxygen depletion in our streams and rivers when carried through storm drains and sewers. This hurts our waterways and the fish and wildlife that rely on them.

Help protect our water and sewer resources:

- Do not rake or blow leaves or grass clippings into the street.
- Do not dump yard waste or trash near or into storm drains.
- Place your leaves in a bag for curbside yard debris collection or compost them at home.
- If you have a mulching lawnmower, use it to recycle leaves and their nutrients into your lawn.
- Only apply fertilizers or pesticides if necessary and do not overapply.
- Select slow-release and organic fertilizers, which are less likely to wash away.
- Fertilize lawns in the fall to prevent nutrients washing away during spring rains.