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Gainesville Landlords Beware: Your Tenant's Stormwater and Residential Solid Waste Fees Will Hit Your 2026 Ad Valorem Tax Bill This November

The City of Gainesville is in the process of shifting monthly collection of its estimated stormwater and solid waste fees from the account holder for GRU electric meter(s) on your property to annual upfront collection on your ad valorem tax bill for the property.

Stormwater is rainwater that leaves a property and migrates into the City Right-of-Way. It is not to be confused with wastewater – which is water that is supposed to reach GRU wastewater plants through wastewater lines for treatment.

Both City Stormwater fees and GRU wastewater charges are similar in that:

- 1) The water is polluted
- 2) The volume of water being charged is ESTIMATED – not metered
- 3) Become a constituent of a global bill that must be paid in full as follows:
 - a. GRU wastewater and City Solid Waste and/or Stormwater fees are currently bundled and billed monthly by GRU. There is a penalty for late payment. October 2026 will be the final monthly billing for City Stormwater and residential solid waste.
 - b. The billed-in-arrears ad valorem tax and billed-upfront non-ad valorem assessments are bundled and the owner is billed annually by the Tax Collector. There is a discount for early payment (of the global “tax” bill) as follows: 4% in November, 3% in December, 2% in January, 1% in February. Interest is charged after April 1.
- 4) There are possible workouts for late payment of either bill, and there is a hardship exemption for all non-ad valorem assessments (fire, stormwater, solid waste) on the Tax Collector's ad valorem tax bill, that is **administered by the City of Gainesville.**