City of Brampton

Stormwater Charge Reduction for Working Farms Framework

July 2025

DRAFT FOR CONSULTATION

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1. Introduction

The City of Brampton (City) is proposing to introduce two new opportunities to reduce the stormwater charge payable by working farms in Brampton through (1) recategorization of eligible properties as residential or (2) enrollment of other working farms in the credit program. Working farms would have their stormwater charge reduced through one, not both, of these approaches. This document includes eligibility criteria, information on the application process, and on the levels of stormwater charge reduction available.

Within this report, a “working farm” is defined by the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) as a property that is subject to the Farm Property Class Tax Rate. To be eligible, a property must be assessed by MPAC as “agricultural”, generate $7,000 or more annually in farming operations, have a valid farm business registration number, and have been placed into the Farm Property Tax Class by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA)

1.1 Objectives

The City’s stormwater charge fee structure for residential and other properties is defined in Schedule I of consolidated User Fee By-law 380-2003. The objective of recategorization is to change the billing category of some working farms from “other” to “residential” where this will equitably reduce stormwater charges for these properties.

The City has authorized the availability of a Stormwater Charge Credit Program through Schedule I of consolidated User Fee By-law 380-2003 as set out in the Stormwater Charge Credit Program Manual, which can be amended from time to time. The primary objective of a working farm credit is to recognize the stormwater benefits of Agricultural Management Practices and Land Characteristics that contribute to water quality, rate, water balance and volume control on eligible properties. Working farms that are recategorized as residential will not be eligible for this new credit.

2. Background

Brampton has an extensive stormwater drainage system valued at almost $3.01 billion that protects people, property, and the environment from the impacts of stormwater runoff. This system includes storm sewers, catch basins, manholes, stormwater ponds, roadside ditches, and watercourses.

The City introduced a Stormwater Charge on June 1, 2020, to establish sustainable funding for maintenance of and upgrades to the City’s stormwater drainage system. This charge, as initiated in By-Law 22-2024 and recently amended by the same, applies to all properties in Brampton, with exemptions granted only as mandated by legislation and for properties that are not serviced by the City’s stormwater drainage system. The stormwater charge is calculated based on the land use category (“residential” or “other”) and the amount of impervious surface on a property. Impervious surfaces include paved areas, rooftops, and other hard surfaces that prevent water absorption, resulting in increased stormwater runoff. The amount of stormwater runoff, and thus the stormwater charge, is directly correlated with the extent of these impervious areas.

Properties in Brampton are assessed an annual stormwater charge rate of $95.16 per billing unit, where one billing unit is equivalent to 234 square meters of impervious area. Property owners can view and verify their stormwater charge assessment through an online estimator and can appeal their charge if they find discrepancies. Additionally, the City offers stormwater charge reductions through subsidies and credits.

The current Stormwater Charge Credit Program allows eligible non-residential and multi-residential property owners to seek up to a 50% reduction in their charges by implementing stormwater best management practices, such as stormwater ponds and oil-grit separators. The application requirements include documentation prepared by an engineer which is similar to the documentation prepared for development applications in urban areas.

The agricultural community has expressed concerns over the stormwater charges billed to farms in Brampton. The City has explored options to reduce stormwater charges billed to working farms by reviewing impervious area mapping and conducting a benchmarking study of approaches used in other municipalities in Canada and the United States. The study confirmed that working farms cannot be exempt or subsidized in Brampton because this would be prohibited under the "bonusing" prohibitions of the Municipal Act. The approaches from the study were to recategorize farms as "residential" where appropriate, and develop a streamlined credit program to recognize the stormwater benefits of Agricultural Management Practices and Land Characteristics on working farms. Lastly, the impervious area review recommended some increases and other decreases to impervious areas of working farms, however these revisions will not be implemented until the recommended stormwater charge reduction approaches are also carried out.

3. Recategorization

The recategorization approach for stormwater charge reduction involves updating the billing category of eligible working farms from "other" to "residential" to lower their stormwater charge. The stormwater charge of these properties would be based on the roof area of the primary residential structure on the property. This is the same approach as the current residential billing process which uses roof tiers (based on roof area) associated with billing units to calculate a property's stormwater charge.

Consistent with Schedule I of consolidated User Fee By-law 380-2003, a working farm is eligible for recategorization if they meet the following criteria:

- The property meets the definition of a "working farm".
- The property contains an occupied residence.
- The property does not contain accessory structures associated farming operations.[1]
- The recategorization would result in a reduced stormwater charge for the property (if it does not, the property would still be eligible for a stormwater charge reduction through the credit application program).

[1] Properties meeting this criteria generally contained one or more small accessory structures to the residence that have a smaller roof area than the residence. For example, a small shed or detached garage are accessory structures commonly associated with a Residential property, whereas a large barn or multiple storage structures for farm equipment (typically larger than the residence) are consistent with a Residential property.

The recategorization approach provides an efficient screening tool to reduce stormwater charges for working farm properties that demonstrate similar site characteristics to residential properties in other areas of the city while maintaining the City's stormwater billing framework. Recategorized properties will be ineligible for further reductions through the credit program. Property owners will have the option to accept the calculated reduction through recategorization if they are eligible or obtain a reduction through the credit program the enrollment invitation.

4. Credit

4.1 Program Eligibility

Working farm properties are eligible for the Working Farm Credit Program if they meet the following criteria:

- The property meets the definition of a "working farm."
- The property contains impervious areas.

Where approved, stormwater credits will be applied against the net billable units on a given parcel (i.e. the gross billing units less any legal or technical exemptions). Properties that receive a subsidy for the stormwater charge are not eligible for credits.

Participation in the credit program is by application only.

4.2 Credit Amounts

Stormwater credits are gained through implementation of Agricultural Management Practices and Land Characteristics in three (3) categories as shown in Error! Reference source not found.**1**. Detailed descriptions of the Assessment and Evaluation Criteria for each Agricultural Management Practices and Land Characteristics are provided in **Appendix A**. Examples of application of these criteria are provided in **Appendix B**.

Table 1. Farm Credit Categories

Category	Description	Typical Range of Credit Amount
High Co-Benefit	This practice provides a high level of stormwater co-benefits including multiple co-benefits associated with water quality improvement, volume reduction, rate control, and pollution prevention.	0 to 90%
Medium Co-Benefit	This practice provides a moderate level of stormwater co-benefits including several co-benefits associated with water quality improvement, volume reduction, rate control, and pollution prevention.	0 to 50%
Low Co-Benefit	This practice provides a low level of stormwater co-benefits, or a single benefit associated with water quality improvement, volume reduction, rate control, and pollution prevention.	0 to 10%

The Assessment and Evaluation Criteria determine the credit amount based on the extent to which each eligible Agricultural Management Practice and Land Characteristic is applied on a property. This assessment considers:

- The presence of the practice or characteristic on the property
- The area managed by the practice or characteristic.
- The frequency of the practice or characteristic's use

Regardless of the number, extent, and efficacy of Agricultural Management Practice and Land Characteristics on a property, the total combined credit summed across all categories of agricultural management practice and land characteristics cannot exceed 90%.

4.3 Eligible Agricultural Management Practices and Land Characteristics

Credits in this program are earned through the assessment of a property's Agricultural Management Practices and Land Characteristics described in Section 4.2. Evaluation criteria of the extent of an Agricultural Management Practice or Land Characteristic's presence on the property, amount of area managed, or frequency of use and associated credit values are listed in **Appendix A**.

The following is a list of common[2] Agricultural Management Practices and Land Characteristics in Brampton, each of which provides stormwater benefits:

- Perennial Crop Systems or Pasture
- Natural Areas, Enhancement, and Creation
- Buffer Strips
- Runoff Storage
- Water Treatment Practices for Nitrogen and Phosphorus Removal
- Erosion Control Structures
- Field Drainage Outlet Control, Control Boxes, and Drainage Water Management
- Cover Crops
- Crop Rotations
- Conservation Tillage / No-Till
- Livestock Fencing from Environmentally Sensitive Features
- Machinery Crossings
- Crop Nutrient Plan / Nutrient Management Strategy or Plan (4Rs)
- Nitrification Inhibitor

Stormwater management facilities for which maintenance is funded through the Stormwater Charge program or located within the municipal right-of-way are not eligible for a credit. Stormwater management facilities located within a permanent easement are not eligible for a credit unless the owner of the property is responsible for maintenance of the stormwater management facility as defined in a legally binding maintenance agreement.

[2] This list was established from Agricultural Management Practices and Land Characteristics included in OFA BMP books and info sheets, reviewed against Peel Rural Water Quality Program projects, census of agriculture data, and input received from stakeholders involved in farming in Brampton, OFA, TRCA, CVC, and Peel Region.

5. Enrollment Process

5.1 Enrollment Invitation

All working farm properties will receive an enrollment invitation letter outlining how to complete the credit application form. Properties eligible for recategorization will also be provided with the opportunity to apply for a reduction through the credit form.

5.2 Application Form

The City will accept completed application forms online or by mail.

Visit www.brampton.ca/stormwater to download copies of the application form, or to apply online.

The following are explanations of terms used on the Credit Application Form:

- Registered Owner – this is to be chosen if the applicant is the owner of the property and has permission to act on behalf of any other owners of the property.
- Authorized Agent – this is to be chosen if the applicant is not an owner of the property and has permission to act on the behalf of all the owners of the property;

Status of Stormwater Practices:

- **Existing** – Agricultural Management Practices and Land Characteristics are constructed/established and operational at the time of application.
- **Proposed** – Agricultural Management Practices and Land Characteristics are proposed to be implemented into a developed site.

5.3 Approval Process

Once an application is received by the City, the Stormwater Charge Manager or designate will conduct an initial screening to ensure completeness. An application is deemed complete when the applicant has filled out all appropriate sections of the application form and submitted the relevant supporting documents and reports. The Applicant may be contacted to provide missing or additional information or documents.

Applications that are deemed complete will be registered as such, and applicants are notified that a technical review is being undertaken to verify that the proposed or existing Agricultural Management Practices or Land Characteristics meet the required standards to receive credit. The technical review of an application is expected to be completed within sixty (60) calendar days following registration.

Applicants may be requested to provide additional information to enable review and evaluation of their application. If an Applicant fails to provide the necessary information within 60 days, the application will be rejected.

If the review results in a request for additional information or clarification on matters from the Applicant, a thirty (30) calendar day period will be added to the review period upon receipt of all information requested.

The City reserves the right to conduct a site inspection during the application phase as described in Section 7.

5.4 Effective Date

Approved credits for Agricultural Management Practice and Land Characteristics will be retroactive to the first date of billing (i.e., the first date of stormwater charge accrual on the particular account,) or the date on which the eligible Agricultural Management Practice and Land Characteristics were put into service, as determined by the Stormwater Charge Manager, whichever is later. If the ownership of the property changes, the new property owner is entitled to receive credit from eligible Stormwater Management from the date they assumed ownership.

5.5 Stormwater Charges Billed while Credit Application is Under Review

A pending credit request application shall not constitute a valid reason for non-payment of the current stormwater charge. Any stormwater charge bill that is received during the credit application review process must be paid in full.

6. Terms and Conditions of Credit Approval

Working farm credit program approvals will be subject to terms and conditions, including maintaining the function and state of good repair of the Agricultural Management Practice and Land Characteristics that have been approved for credit, and maintaining appropriate logs and documentation, where applicable. The City may request copies of these documents to verify the operation and state of repair of the Agricultural Management Practice and Land Characteristics at any time during the term of the credit. Further details are provided in Appendix A.

7. Inspections

7.1 Inspection for Credit Applications

The Stormwater Charge Manager or designate may contact the Applicant with a requested date to conduct a site inspection to verify that any constructed Agricultural Management Practice or Land Characteristic are in conformance with the documentation provided and are operating in accordance with documented performance criteria. Inspection results will be considered during evaluation of a credit application. Failure to respond to the request for a site inspection within thirty (30) calendar days will result in the credit application being closed. Where the Applicant has responded to the City's request for site inspections, the inspection must be facilitated within sixty (60) calendar days of the original request, otherwise the credit application will be closed.

7.2 Compliance Inspection

Each Applicant that has received a credit for Agricultural Management Practices and Land Characteristics on their property has the responsibility to regularly inspect, maintain and repair their Agricultural Management Practices and Land Characteristics to ensure their competency and state of good repair during the period that a credit is being received.

The City reserves the right to conduct site inspections and may, at any reasonable time, enter and inspect any property for purposes of assessing whether Agricultural Management Practice and Land Characteristics for which a credit have been approved are being maintained as to function, are in a state of good repair, and are operating in accordance with the performance criteria established in the credit approval. Where these Agricultural Management Practices and Land Characteristics are found to deficient in function or state of repair, stormwater credits may be suspended, reduced or cancelled.

At any point during the term of a credit, the Stormwater Charge Manager or designate may contact the credit holder with a requested date to conduct a site inspection. Inspection staff may request

to see operations and maintenance documents, which a credit holder is required to keep for a minimum of five (5) years. Sites that are inspected will be graded as:

- **Pass** – credit continues to apply.
- **Fail** – credit is terminated.
- **Suspended** – credit is suspended immediately, and Applicant has sixty (60) calendar days to institute remedial action to restore the function and state of good repair of the Agricultural Management Practices and Land Characteristics for which a credit was granted, otherwise the credit will be terminated.

Inspection Precautions for Working Farms
Working Farm properties require that any City inspector entering a farm property for the purpose of an inspection must follow all biosecurity protocols in place to minimize the potential spread of disease and protect the safety and quality of food and agricultural products.

8. Credit Update Application

A credit holder is responsible for notifying the Stormwater Charge Manager or designate of any material change (alteration, improvement, deficiency, or failure) to the Agricultural Management Practices and Land Characteristics for which a credit was approved and is in effect.

Material change means both actions taken by a property owner and those occurring through lack of action by a property owner or unrelated to the actions of the property owner.

No later than three (3) months after any material change has been undertaken or occurs, the holder of a stormwater credit must submit a credit update application to the City. Late submission of the application may result in a discontinuance of the credit amount. The City shall have full and absolute discretion to adjust (increase or decrease) the credit amount.

9. Credit Renewal Application

Renewal applications are not required for Agricultural Management Practice and Land Characteristic credits The approved credits will continue to apply while eligibility criteria are met, and the function of the practices are maintained.

10. Penalties

As described in By-law 82-2020, stormwater credits may be suspended, reduced or cancelled by the City under the following circumstances:

1. Failure of the Applicant (or applicable property owner) to make stormwater charge payments as billed by the Region of Peel;
2. Failure of the Applicant (or applicable property owner) to meet the terms and conditions of the credit approval;
3. Submission of inaccurate or false information by the Applicant (or applicable property owner);
4. Failure of the Applicant (or applicable property owner) to maintain Stormwater Management Practices as required by the terms and conditions of the credit approval;
5. Failure of a Stormwater Management Practice to operate or meet the performance criteria as documented in the Applicant's credit application or credit update or renewal

application and/or its supporting documentation and/or the terms and conditions for the credit approval, update or renewal; or,

6. Failure to submit a complete credit renewal application within the prescribed time.

If an approved Agricultural Management Practice or Land Characteristic is found to be in disrepair or no longer function as approved, the City may fully or partially rescind the credit received based on the Agricultural Management Practice and Land Characteristics in question. The credit holder must reimburse the City for the amount of the credit received for that Agricultural Management Practice and Land Characteristics since the date of the City inspection. Reapplication for a credit based on an Agricultural Management Practice and Land Characteristics where a credit was rescinded is not permitted for twelve (12) months.

10.1 Suspension

Stormwater credits may be fully or partially suspended following property inspections. The Stormwater Program Manager and property owner will negotiate a reasonable period of time to correct deficiencies as quickly as possible while balancing practical aspects of how these practices are reimplemented due to legislation, seasonality, weather conditions or other farm operations factors. If deficiencies are not addressed within this period, the credit will be fully or partially cancelled. Extensions may be granted at the discretion of the Stormwater Charge Manager or their designate upon written request.

10.2 Cancellation

Cancelled stormwater credits will not be reinstated, instead property owners will be required to submit a new credit application no earlier than a year after the date on which the credit was cancelled.

10.3 Appeals

A reduction or cancellation of a stormwater credit may be appealed by the Applicant in writing to the Stormwater Program Manager. The decision of the Stormwater Program Manager shall be considered final and binding.

Appendix A: Credit Criteria

The following criteria are applicable to Working Farm credit applications.

High Co-Benefit

Agricultural Management Practices and Land Characteristics	Evaluation Criteria	Evaluation Criteria & Credit Value		
		30%	50%	70%
Perennial Crop Systems or Pasture	Approximate percentage of the property covered with this practice in the past 5 years	25-50% of the property is covered in perennial vegetation	51-75% of the property is covered in perennial vegetation	>75% of the property is covered in perennial vegetation
Natural Areas, Enhancement, and Creation (e.g. retired cropland, woodlots, wetlands)	Approximate percentage of the covered with this practice in the past 5 years	5%-10% of the property is/has been returned to a naturalized state	11-20% of the property is/has been returned to a naturalized state	>20% of the property is/has been returned to a naturalized state
Runoff Storage	Volume of water stored for reuse compared to the volume of runoff from the property's roof area in a 90th percentile storm.	One or more rain barrel(s), cisterns, or stormwater ponds. If the property owner has this Stormwater Management Practice, they must provide the approximate dimensions so that the stormwater storage volume can be calculated. Credit will be calculated by the City based on the stored value (determined based on the dimensions provided by the Applicant) compared to the runoff volume of a 27mm (90th percentile) storm (determined by the City based on roof area**). The percentage of water stored relative to the runoff value will serve as the credit value for this practice up to 90%.** **Formula:** Storage Volume (L) / (90th Percentile Storm [m] x Rooftop Area [m^2] x Cubic Meter to Liter Conversion Value (L)) Storage Volume / (0.027 x Rooftop Area) x 1000L		

Medium Co-Benefit

Agricultural Management Practices and Land Characteristics	Evaluation Criteria	Evaluation Criteria & Credit Value		
		30%	**40%**	**50%**
Buffer Strips (e.g. grassed waterways, waterbodies, or drains)	Approximate percentage of the property draining to dense vegetated buffers of at least 3 metres wide. *Additional credit will be provided if the average buffer width is greater than 3 metres.*	10-25% of the property is managed with this practice	26-50% of the property is managed with this practice	>50% of the property is managed with this practice
		Plus a bonus credit if the average buffer width is greater than: 5 metres, +5% additional credit 10 metres, +10% additional credit		
Water Treatment Practices for Nitrogen and Phosphorus Removal (e.g. denitrifying carbon filters)	Approximate percentage of the property managing stormwater through this practice in the past 5 years	5-10% of the property drains to a treatment facility for nitrogen or phosphorus removal	11-15% of the property drains to a treatment facility for nitrogen or phosphorus removal	>15% of the property drains to a treatment facility for nitrogen or phosphorus removal
Erosion Control Structures (e.g Water and Sediment Control Basins (WASCOBs)		10-25% of the property is managed with this practice	26-50% of the property is managed with this practice	>50% of the property is managed with this practice
Field Drainage Outlet Control, Control Boxes, and Drainage Water Management		10-25% of the property is managed with this practice	26-50% of the property is managed with this practice	>50% of the property is managed with this practice
Cover Crops	Number of years out of 5 utilizing cover crops	1 year out of 5	2-3 years out of 5	4-5 years out of 5
Crop Rotation	Number of years out of 5 utilizing a non-cash crop rotation of alfalfa or hay	*Not applicable*	1 year out of 5	>1 year out of 5
Conservation Tillage /	Approximate	Tilling practices leave 15-	Tilling practices leave >30% crop	Tilling practices leave 100% of

No-Till	percentage of farm residue left on cropland	30% crop residue on farm fields	residue on farm fields while still employing some form of tilling (Partial Till) *OR* Soil is tilled every 2 to 3 years (Rotational Tillage)	crop residue on farm fields (No Till)

Low Co-Benefit

Agricultural Management Practices and Land Characteristics	Evaluation Criteria	Evaluation Criteria & Credit Value
		10%
Fencing Livestock Out of Waterways	Livestock are fully excluded from all waterways	Fencing is in-place and functioning correctly to prevent livestock from entering all waterways
Machinery Crossings	All crossing points for machinery are reinforced to reduce erosion	Machinery crossings/reinforcement are in place at all crossing points over a body of water
Crop Nutrient Plan / Nutrient Management Strategy or Plan (4Rs)	Preparation and implementation of a Crop Nutrient Management Plan	Documentation of the Crop Nutrient Management Plan *(document uploaded to receive credit)*
Nitrification Inhibitor	Purchase and use of a nitrification inhibitor	Documentation of nitrification inhibitor purchase or application *(document uploaded to receive credit)*
Soil Compaction Mitigation	Implementation of subsurface compaction best management practices	Description of practices aligned with OFA best management practices in place to avoid, reduce the risk, make soils more resilient, or rehabilitate compacted soils.

Appendix B: Examples

Traditional Agriculture – Example #1

Practice Present	Evaluation Criteria	Credit
Buffer Strips	10% of the property managed through this practice. Buffers are on average 5 metres wide	30% + 5%
Conservation Tillage / No Till	Property practices Conservation Tillage, leaving 30% of crop residue on the landscape	15%
Crop Nutrient Plan / Nutrient Management Strategy or Plan (4Rs)	Property has a documented Crop Nutrient Management Plan	10%
Total Credit		60%

Traditional Agriculture – Example #2

Practice Present	Evaluation Criteria	Credit
Natural Areas, Enhancement, and Creation	15% of the property consists of woodlot	50%
Erosion Control Structures	40% of the property is managed through a Water and Sediment Control Basin (WASCOB)	40%
Total Credit		90%

Orchard

Practice Present	Evaluation Criteria	Credit
Perennial Crop Systems or Pasture	Cropland consists of rows of apple trees with grassed rows	70%
Conservation Tillage / No Till	Property does not till cropland	50%
Total Credit		90%[3]

Greenhouse

Practice Present	Evaluation Criteria	Credit
Runoff Storage	The property uses a combination of stormwater cisterns and ponds to capture all the stormwater from built structures. This water is retained for re-use on-site to irrigate greenhouse crops/other purposes. Farmer provided information that their cisterns and ponds retain 10,000 L of water. Technical review of the application confirmed that their roof area is 440 m^2. A 27mm storm (90th percentile generates) 11,880 L of runoff from the rooftops. 84% of an 90^{th} percentile storm would be retained by the cisterns and ponds, as a result a credit of 84% is	84%

[3] Although the total individual credits may exceed 90%, the maximum credit that can be applied to a property is capped at 90%.

	awarded. **Calculation** 10,000L / (0.027m x 440 m^2) x 1000L 10,000L/ (11.88m^3) x 1000L 10,000L/ 11,880L 84%	
Total Credit		84%

Appendix C: Enrollment form

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Credit Application Instructions

1. This form is provided to Working Farm property owners in Brampton who are eligible for a Stormwater Charge Credit. Property owners should review the City of Brampton's Stormwater Charge Credit Program Manual for eligibility requirements.
2. Please fill out all sections of the form. Information provided on your application form will be used to calculate a Stormwater Charge Credit for your property based on the evaluation criteria contained in the Stormwater Charge Credit Program Manual.
3. Submit your completed form by email to environment@brampton.ca or by mail to:

   Environment & Development Engineering
   City Hall, 3rd Floor
   City of Brampton
   2 Wellington Street West
   Brampton, ON L6Y 4R2
   Attention: Stormwater Charge Manager

4. The City will review your completed enrollment form within 60 days of receipt of the completed form.
5. Following review of the completed form, you will receive a mailed letter containing:
   - A letter providing an overview of the credit applied to your account based on the information provided in the form
   - A copy of the completed form responses for your records

Part A - Applicant Information

Brampton's Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA) Statement
The personal information on this form is collected under the authority of the Municipal Act S.O. 2001, c.25. The information will be used for the purpose of processing your application, including contacting you in regard to your application or for a related purpose for which the City may contact you. Questions about the collection of personal information should be directed to Kevin Thavarajah at 437-855-7626 or kevin.thavarajah@brampton.ca. Please review the City's Privacy Statement for more information.

The final form will include an image of a typical Brampton stormwater utility bill with relevant information fields outlined in red boxes corresponding to the requested information below.

Please provide the following applicant information:

Applicant Name:	
Applicant Phone:	
Applicant Email:	
Property Address:	
Please indicate if you are the property owner or authorized agent of the property owner:	
Mailing Address (if different from Property Address):	
Account Number on your Water Bill:	

How do you classify the primary farm operations on your property? (Select one)

- ☐ Oil and Grain Farming
- ☐ Vegetable and Melon Farming
- ☐ Fruit and Tree Nut Farming
- ☐ Greenhouse, Nursery, and Floriculture Production
- ☐ Horse and Other Equine Production
- ☐ Livestock (Cattle, Hog, Poultry and Egg, and Sheep and Goat) Production
- ☐ Other (Please Specify)

_____

Part B – Credits

This section of the form includes a list of Agricultural Management Practices or Land Characteristics eligible for a stormwater charge credit. These practices or characteristics are grouped by the stormwater benefit into four categories:

- High Co-Benefit – credit values ranging from 0-90% per practice
- Medium co-Benefit - credit values ranging from 0-60% per practice
- Low Co-Benefit - credit values ranging from 0-10% per practice
- Other – credit values may vary subject to information provided on other practices.

Please select the response for each agricultural BMP that best reflects how much you have implemented the BMP on your property.

High Co-Benefit Agricultural Management Practices or Land Characteristics

Perennial Crop Systems or Pasture

Definition: Perennial crop systems and pasture include any plant species cultivated for harvest living longer than two years without the need to be replanted each year.
Examples: orchards, pasture grazing land

What is the approximate percentage of your agricultural lands that is maintained as or been converted to pasture or perennial crop systems in the past 5 years? (Select one)

- ☐ I do not utilize this management practice on my property.
- ☐ Less than 25% of the property's agricultural lands
- ☐ 25-50% of the property's agricultural lands
- ☐ 51-75% of the property's agricultural lands
- ☐ More than 75% of the property's agricultural lands

Natural Areas, Enhancement, and Creation

Definition: Area of restored natural cover that provides habitat.
Examples: woodlots, native prairie, wetlands (protected or restored)

What is the approximate percentage of your total property that is maintained as or has been converted to natural cover in the past 5 years? (Select one)

- ☐ None of these land characteristics are present on my property
- ☐ Less than 5% of the property's agricultural lands
- ☐ 5-10% of the property's agricultural lands
- ☐ 11-20% of the property's agricultural lands
- ☐ More than 20% of the property's agricultural lands

Stormwater Storage and Re-Use

Definition: Storage of rainwater in cisterns, rain barrels, and/or stormwater retention ponds for use such as irrigation.
Examples: stormwater retention ponds, cisterns, rain barrels

Please indicate either:

a) The storage volume of your cisterns, rain barrels, and/or stormwater retention pond OR
b) The dimensions of your cisterns, rain barrels, and/or stormwater retention pond

a) Storage Volume (Litres): _____
b) Storage Dimensions (m^3): _____

Please describe briefly how you use this rainwater on your property, such as irrigation.

☐ do not utilize this management practice on my property.

Medium Co-Benefit Agricultural Management Practices or Land Characteristics

Buffer Strips

Definition: Vegetated areas next to streams, rivers, other waterbodies, or drains. These can vary to deal with different issues such as critical habitat, water uptake, trapping runoff, improving streambank stability, and improving vegetation tolerance in soils.
Examples: grassed waterways/waterbodies/drains

What is the approximate percentage of your agricultural lands draining to a waterbody or drain buffer that is at least 3 meters wide? (Select one)

☐ I do not utilize this management practice on my property.
☐ Less than 10% of the property's agricultural lands
☐ 10-25% of the property's agricultural lands
☐ 26-50% of the property's agricultural lands
☐ More than 50% of the property's agricultural lands

What is the average width of your buffer (in metres)?

Water Treatment Practices for Nitrogen and Phosphorus Removal

Definition: Use of carbon substrates (such as woodchips) underground to convert nitrate to nitrogen.
Example: denitrifying carbon filters

What is the approximate percentage of your agricultural lands utilizing these practices to manage stormwater in the past 5 years? (Select one)

- ☐ I do not utilize this management practice on my property.
- ☐ Less than 5% of the property's agricultural lands
- ☐ 5-10% of the property's agricultural lands
- ☐ 11-15% of the property's agricultural lands
- ☐ More than 15% of the property's agricultural lands

Erosion Control Structures

Definition: Small earthen ridge-and-channel or embankments are built across watercourses or areas of concentrated flow within a field to intercept runoff to slow runoff and trap sediment.
Example: Water and Sediment Control Basins (WASCOBs).

What is the approximate percentage of your agricultural lands draining to an erosion control structure? (Select one)

- ☐ I do not utilize this management practice on my property.
- ☐ Less than 10% of the property's agricultural lands
- ☐ 10-25% of the property's agricultural lands
- ☐ 26-50% of the property's agricultural lands
- ☐ More than 50% of the property's agricultural lands

Field Drainage Outlet Control, Control Boxes, and Drainage Water Management

Definition: Management of water flow to direct runoff to treatment facilities such as constructed wetlands and bioreactors before runoff enters natural water bodies.

What is the approximate percentage of your agricultural lands draining to a treatment control facility? (Select one)

- ☐ I do not utilize this management practice on my property.
- ☐ Less than 10% of the property's agricultural lands
- ☐ 10-25% of the property's agricultural lands
- ☐ 26-50% of the property's agricultural lands
- ☐ More than 50% of the property's agricultural lands

Cover Crops

Definition: Plants grown mainly for soil benefit rather than crop yield.
Examples: clover, rye, oats, alfalfa

In the past 5 years, how many years have you utilized cover crops on your agricultural lands? (Select one)

- ☐ I do not utilize this management practice on my property.
- ☐ 1 year out of 5
- ☐ 2-3 years out of 5
- ☐ 4-5 years out of 5

Crop Rotation

Definition: Extending the crop rotation process so that the primary or cash crop (e.g corn, soybeans, or other annual crops) is followed by 2 to 3 years of other crops such as alfalfa or hay which allow the soil to rest and rejuvenate.

In the past 5 years, how many years have you utilized non-cash crops in your agricultural land rotations? (Select one)

- ☐ I do not utilize this management practice on my property.
- ☐ 1 year out of 5
- ☐ More than 1 year out of 5

Conservation Tillage / No-Till

Definition: Reducing the amount of tilling or plowing in the soil to minimize soil erosion and water loss.

Please select the statement that most accurately represents how you till your agricultural lands.

- ☐ I do not utilize this management practice on my property (I do not till my land)
- ☐ Tilling practices leave 15-30% crop residue on agricultural land (Minimal Till)
- ☐ Tilling practice leave >30% crop residue on agricultural land while still employing some form of tilling (Strip Till, Ridge Till, or Zone Till) OR Soil is fully tilled every 2-3 years (Rotational Till)
- ☐ Tilling practices leave 100% of crop residue on agricultural land (No Till)

Low Co-Benefit Agricultural Management Practices or Land Characteristics

Fencing Livestock Out of Waterways

Definition: Installation of fences to keep livestock out of rivers, creeks, streams, wetlands, and forests.

Are livestock fully excluded from all waterways on your property?

- ☐ Not applicable, no livestock on the property
- ☐ Yes – livestock are fully excluded from all waterways on the property
- ☐ No – livestock are not excluded from all waterways on the property

Machinery Crossings

Definition: Reinforcement of locations where machinery crosses waterways to reduce erosion.

Are all water crossing points for machinery reinforced to reduce erosion?

- ☐ I do not utilize this management practice on my property.
- ☐ Yes – all water crossing points for machinery are reinforced
- ☐ No – all water crossing points for machinery are no reinforced

Crop Nutrient Plan / Nutrient Management Strategy or Plan (4Rs)

Definition: Optimization of fertilizer application through a documented approach to soil testing, and nutrient application timing, amount, and location.

Please upload or attach documentation confirming the preparation and implementation of a Crop Nutrient Management Plan.

- ☐ I do not utilize this management practice on my property.

The digital form will require the applicant to upload a copy of their Crop Nutrient Management Plan

Nitrification Inhibitor

Definition: Additive with applications of ammonia or ammonium nitrogen slowing the conversion of nitrate.

Please upload or attach documentation confirming the purchase and use of a Nitrification Inhibitor.

- ☐ I do not utilize this management practice on my property.

The digital form will require the applicant to upload a copy of their Nitrification Inhibitor purchase and use

Soil Compaction Mitigation

Definition: Additive with applications of ammonia or ammonium nitrogen slowing the conversion of nitrate.

Please briefly describe practices in place to avoid compaction, reduce compaction risk, make soils more resilient, or rehabilitate compacted soils.

☐ I do not utilize this management practice on my property.

Other Practices

Please describe in as much detail as possible other farm practices you utilize on your property which have a stormwater benefit that accomplishes one or more of the following:

- Water quality improvement
- Water volume reduction
- Rate control
- Pollution prevention

Part C – Confirmation of the Credit Conditions and Access Rights

I, [Applicant Name] _____ agree to all conditions of the credits I have applied for as outlined in the City of Brampton's Stormwater Charge Credit Program Manual. The City reserves the right to audit any approved credit and access to inspect agricultural BMPs shall be provided and all documents and maintenance records shall be made available upon request from the City.