

**ATTENTION OWNER OCCUPIED PROPERTY
OWNERS:
YOU MAY QUALIFY FOR A FINANCIAL
HARDSHIP EXEMPTION FROM PAYING THE
STATE OF MARYLAND'S BAY RESTORATION
FEE (BRF)**

Bay Restoration Fund Facts

In 2004 the State of Maryland took a major step to protect our waterways through the enactment of the Bay Restoration Fund (Senate Bill 320). The purpose of the bill was to create a dedicated fund to improve the environment and water quality of the Chesapeake Bay. Through an environmental surcharge fee, this fund is used to upgrade wastewater treatment plants, upgrade septic systems in the critical area, and implement cover crops on agricultural land. Approximate annual fee to the user \$30.00. SB320 also required all Municipalities to bill all properties through their Utility Billing and transmit the funds to the State.

During the 2012 State of Maryland Legislative Session came the adoption of Senate Bill 240, doubling the BRF. Effective July 1, 2012, the BRF was doubled for all property owners. For most the fee is now \$60.00 a year. The Town of Denton began billing the new fees on the Utility Bills issued on Oct. 1, 2012, (for the July 1, 2012 –Sept. 30, 2012 billing cycle). Denton bills this fee with the quarterly billing.

Single Family Residential Home Owners - saw a quarterly increase from \$7.50 per quarter to \$15.00 per quarter; annual increase from \$30.00 to \$60.00.

Multi Family/Non-Residential/Commercial Owners – the BRF is based on the number of EDU's and the total average daily water consumption. Minimum BRF will be \$15.00 per quarter/\$60.00 for a year.

BRF Exemption Plan - Most recently with the implementation of House Bill #446, another bill was adopted during the 2012 legislative session in which Municipalities are now required to establish a BRF Exemption Plan.

As a result, on February 7, 2013, The Denton Town Council took action and adopted Resolution #778, establishing a BRF Exemption Plan and Application. If you own property within the Denton Town limits and it is your primary place of residence, [CLICK HERE](#) to get details concerning this plan and as well as an application to apply.

For additional information about the State of Maryland Bay Restoration Fund visit the Maryland Department of the Environment website at: www.mde.state.md.us.