

FAQs

Joe Parman
Van Buren County
Drain Commissioner



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS about the McConnell & Olcott Intercounty Drain Day of Review of Apportionments

Why did I receive a notice?

A petition was filed for maintenance and improvement of the McConnell & Olcott Intercounty Drain. Subsequently, the McConnell & Olcott Intercounty Drain Drainage Board held a meeting and determined the petitioned maintenance and improvement was necessary.

In accordance with the decision that maintenance and improvement was necessary, a project has been designed and a bid letting occurred to construct the project.

All property owners subject to an assessment were sent a copy of the notice.

What is a Drainage District?

A drainage district is the land area that benefits from the drain. The drainage district makes up the watershed that contributes water to the drain. Each property and municipality within the drainage district pays for maintenance and improvement of the drain.

What is a Day of Review of Apportionments?

A Day of Review of Apportionments provides an opportunity for property owners to review the percent of benefit of the drain assigned to their property. The apportionments of benefit are based on acreage and land use. The apportionments determine the assessment amount for each property for costs of construction or maintenance.

Why are the apportionments being revised?

Parcel apportionments are being revised to more accurately reflect the percentage of benefit that each property receives from the drain.

If a parcel is on the outer boundary of a drainage district, it is possible that only a portion of the parcel will be assessed.

When do I receive my drain assessment?

Drain assessments are included on your winter tax bill.

What is my assessment amount?

Estimated assessment amounts are included on your notice and are also available at the Day of Review.

What is a Letting?

A drain contract letting is a public meeting where the Drain Commissioner receives and opens bids from contractors to perform certain work on a drain. Once a bid is selected, the project can be scheduled.

Do I have to attend the Day of Review?

You are not required to attend the Day of Review, but it is your right to do so.

How can I get more information?

Call (269) 205-3293 or visit the Van Buren County Drain Commissioner's website at: <https://www.vanburencountymi.gov/514/Drain-Commissioner>.

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