The Huntington Stormwater Utility is solely funded by the water quality fee. No monies are recieved from the City.

Floodwall monolith under construction. c. 1940

Without the protection of Huntington's Floodwall system, the City of Huntington would not exist as we know it today. Every person that lives here, works here, or comes here for recreation benefits from the floodwall system. Without the floodwall in place, most of Huntington's downtown area would be in a FEMA-designated floodplain.

Mowing on the Levee

Huntington Stormwater Utility
P.O. Box 7578,
Huntington, WV 25777
304-781-1952

www.huntingtonswu.com

HUNTINGTON'S FLOODWALL SYSTEM

What service does the Floodwall provide?

BACKGROUND OF FLOODWALL

In 1937 the Ohio River overflowed its banks in one of the worst floods in US history. The City of Huntington experienced devastating damage from the flooding. As a result of this flood and previous floods that had occurred, the United States Army Corps of Engineers designed and constructed the floodwall and levee system that protects Huntington. The system was constructed between 1939-1942. The City of Huntington promised to operate and maintain all floodwall infrastructure. When the Stormwater Utility was created in 2014, they assumed this responsibility.

The Floodwall system consists of 11.4 miles of concrete walls and earthen levee, has 17 pump stations and 45 gate openings.

Our crews are on call 24/7. When the Ohio River starts rising, we go into action. Pump stations are activated and, if river levels continue to rise, preparation for gate closures are made. Our crews work weekends, holidays and long hours to ensure the safety of the citizens of Huntington.

Our Challenges

The floodwall and Levee are 84 years old. As with any old infrastructure, maintenance is constant. Mechanical and electrical parts are not easily replaced or repaired. Many of these components no longer exist, so they have to be fabricated. Fabrication and repairs are extremely expensive. We are making updates and upgrades as funding permits.