

Stormwater General Permit

Pollutants carried in storm drainage systems make up between 50% and 90% of all pollutants reaching Connecticut's surface waters. Some examples of potential sources of stormwater runoff pollution from industrial activities include:

- Outdoor boat maintenance;
- Dumpster leakage;
- Open topped dumpsters;
- Dumping of materials into storm drains;
- Internal floor drains or trenches connected to storm drains; and
- Outdoor storage including drums or other containers.

The 1987 amendments to the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, commonly known as the Clean Water Act, provide the authority for the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program to control pollutant discharges to the nation's waters, including those from stormwater runoff.

Section 22a-430 of the Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) requires *all* discharges, including stormwater runoff, to Connecticut's surface waters obtain permits for discharge.

The Connecticut-Department of Environmental Protection developed the **General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater Associated with Industrial Activity** ("Stormwater General Permit") to make compliance with this requirement easier and less expensive for facilities.

Who Must Register for the Stormwater General Permit?

- A permit is required for stormwater discharges from eleven categories of industrial activity defined at 40 CFR 122.26(b)(14) which includes Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes 4493 (marinas) and 3732 (boatyards and boat builders that repair, clean, and/or fuel boats).

What Is a Stormwater Discharge Associated with Industrial Activity?

- The discharge of stormwater runoff from any conveyance, such as a pipe, ditch, channel, swale, or other discrete discharge (including boat launch ramps and marine railways) used for collecting and conveying stormwater from manufacturing, processing, maintenance, waste disposal, or material storage areas at an industrial facility. "Industrial activities" typically performed at marinas include boat bottom pressure washing and sanding, painting, engine maintenance, and disposal of paints, solvents, engine fluids, and other waste materials.

What is Required for Industrial Sites?

1. Registration of the facility includes submission of a fully completed four-page form, with a \$500 processing fee (no annual fees/5year permit life) and a USGS quad map.
2. Develop and maintain compliance with your site specific Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP).
3. Sample stormwater annually. Sampling may be waived after two (2) consecutive years of sample results that do not exceed the monitoring goals specified in Section 5 (c) of the Stormwater General Permit, for two (2) years for an industrial activity initiated before 1997, or for a business with 25 employees or less after one (1) year of sample results that do not exceed the monitoring goals specified in Section 5 (c) of the Stormwater General Permit, for the remaining permit term.

What is a SWPPP?

A SWPPP is a document outlining the facility's potential pollutant sources, training, good housekeeping, and other best management practices to prevent pollutants from getting into stormwater runoff and as further described in Section 5(b) of the Stormwater General Permit.

A SWPPP must:

- be prepared at least 30 days before the start of activity;
- identify the individual(s) designated as the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Team to develop and implement the plan;
- describe all potential sources of pollution which may reasonably be expected to affect stormwater quality at the site or that may result in the discharge of pollutants to surface waters or a storm drain during dry weather;
- be certified by a professional engineer licensed to practice in Connecticut or a *Certified Hazardous Materials Manager*;
- include a discussion of the need for stormwater management or treatment practices, and provide consideration of a variety of measures to minimize pollution;
- provide that qualified personnel conduct site compliance evaluations no less than twice a year in addition to regular site inspections; and
- **include and identify all** sub-sections outlined in Section 5(b) of the Stormwater General Permit, if it doesn't apply note that the sub-section is not applicable to your site.

What are the Stormwater Monitoring Requirements?

- Facilities must conduct annual stormwater monitoring before October 1 of each year for the parameters specified in Section 5 (c) of the Stormwater General Permit. Results must be submitted within 90 days of sampling to the DEP and if the stormwater discharge is to a municipal separate storm sewer system to the operator of the municipal system. Records and information from monitoring activities must be retained for a minimum of five (5) years beyond expiration of the permit.

For more information:

A copy of the Stormwater General Permit can be obtained from the Department or the DEP website. For specific questions regarding the requirements of the Stormwater General Permit, contact the CT-DEP's Bureau of Materials Management and Compliance Assurance at 860-424-3018. The General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater Associated with Industrial Activity expires on September 30, 2007 and is scheduled for reissuance in October of 2007. Changes or modifications to the requirements of the stormwater general permit may occur.