



State of Vermont
PERMIT AND LICENSE INFORMATION

SUMMARY OF STORMWATER PERMITS

**GENERAL SUMMARY
 OF PERMITS**

The management of stormwater runoff is at once a simple concept and a complex problem. Precipitation runs off impervious surfaces rather than infiltrating into the soil. The cumulative impact resulting from the increased frequency, volume, and flow rate of stormwater runoff can lead to destabilization of downstream channels and can also result in increased pollutant loading to waterways.

The DEC Stormwater Management Program provides regulatory oversight and technical assistance to ensure proper design and construction of stormwater treatment and control practices as well as construction-related erosion prevention and sediment control practices, necessary to minimize the adverse impacts of stormwater runoff to surface waters throughout Vermont.

Historically, stormwater permits have been issued as individual discharge permits. In addition to individual permits, the Stormwater Management Program issues authorizations under general permits in order to streamline permitting in many cases. General permits are issued to a category of projects or activities, rather than on an individual basis.

State-law-based general permits include coverage for discharges from impervious surfaces. "Impervious surfaces" means those man-made surfaces, including, but not limited to, paved and unpaved roads, parking areas, roofs, driveways and walkways, from which precipitation runs off rather than infiltrates.

- 1) Stormwater discharges from **new development and redevelopment** to waters that are not principally impaired by stormwater runoff ([Sheet 6.2](#)); and,
- 2) **Previously permitted** stormwater discharges to waters that are not principally impaired by stormwater runoff ([Sheet 6.3](#)).

In addition, there are 3 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) general permits required by federal law. The Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is the permitting authority for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and administers these permits. NPDES stormwater permits administered by the VT DEC include:

- 1) Stormwater Runoff from **Construction Sites** ([Sheet 6.1](#)),
- 2) Multi-Sector General Permit (MSGP) for stormwater discharges associated with **industrial activities** ([Sheet 6.4](#)), and
- 3) Phase II MS4 permit for **municipal separate storm sewer** systems ([Sheet 6.5](#)).

EXAMPLES OF REGULATED ACTIVITY

Operation of a commercial/industrial property with over one (1) acre of impervious surface including roofs, parking, and sidewalks; Construction of a project that will disturb in total more than 1 acre of soil; Operation of a residential development with over 1 acre of roofs, roads, and parking.

WEB ADDRESS

<http://dec.vermont.gov/watershed/stormwater>

ADMINISTERING AGENCY

<p style="text-align: center;">DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION WATERSHED MANAGEMENT DIVISION 1 National Life Drive, Davis 3 Montpelier, VT 05620 802-828-1115</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CONTACT: Stormwater District Reviewer for your area http://dec.vermont.gov/watershed/stormwater/contacts</p>

AUTHORITY

[10 VSA Chapter 47](#); The federal Clean Water Act, [33 USC 1251](#)

APPLICABLE RULES

Vermont Water Pollution Control Rules:
[Stormwater Management Rule for Stormwater-Impaired Waters: Ch. 22](#)
[Stormwater Management Rule: Ch. 18](#)
[2017 Vermont Stormwater Manual Rule and Design Guidance](#)

The National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System ([40 CFR Part 122](#))

OTHER PERMITS

The Dept of Public Safety, Fire Safety Division ([Sheet #49](#))
Act 250 ([Sheet #47](#))

Contact a Permit Specialist for a Project Review Sheet, see:
<http://dec.vermont.gov/environmental-assistance/permits>