Maine’s Multi-Sector General Permit for Stormwater Discharge Associated with Industrial Activity (MSGP)

Multi-Sector General Permit for industrial stormwater

Maine’s Multi-Sector General Permit (MSGP) is a waste discharge permit which authorizes the direct discharge of stormwater associated with an industrial activity to surface waters of the state such as wetlands, rivers, streams, lakes, or to a municipal separate storm sewer system that discharges to surface waters of the state. The MSGP includes 29 industrial sectors which are listed below and are itemized in detail in the permit. The MSGP requirements are designed to reduce or eliminate pollutants in stormwater discharges from these industrial activities. The MSGP includes permit requirements that apply to all industrial sectors and additional permit requirements that apply to each specific type of industrial activity.

Industrial Sectors Covered by the MSGP

Industrial activities covered under the permit are categorized into Sectors using applicable Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) Code. Information on Standard Industrial Codes are available through the U.S. Department of Labor at the following web site: http://www.osha.gov/pls/imis/sicsearch.html.

* timber products
* paper and paper products manufacturing
* chemical or chemical products manufacturing
* asphalt paving and roofing materials manufactures or lubricant manufacturing
  * glass, clay, cement, concrete and gypsum product manufacturing
* primary metals
* metal mining (ore mining and dressing)
* coal mines and coal mining related facilities
* oil and gas extraction
* hazardous waste treatment, storage or disposal facilities
* landfill, land application site
* automobile salvage yards
* scrap recycling facilities
* steam electric generating facilities
* land transportation
* water transportation
* ship and boat building and repair yards
* air transportation facilities
* treatment works
* food and kindred products
* textile mills, apparel, and other fabric products manufacturing
* furniture and fixture
* printing and publishing
* rubber, miscellaneous plastic products, miscellaneous manufacturing industries
* leather tanning and finishing
* fabricated metal products
* transportation equipment, industrial or commercial machinery
* electronic, electrical, photographic, and optical goods
Exclusion from MSGP Coverage

A facility may qualify for exclusion from the MSGP when activities and materials are not exposed to rain or snow or ice melt. "No exposure" means that all industrial materials and activities are protected by a storm-resistant shelter that prevents exposure to rain, snow, snowmelt, ice-melt, run-on, and runoff. As long as the condition of "no exposure" exists at a facility, the operator is excluded from MSGP requirements provided that the operator files a No Exposure Certification (NEC) form with the Department. The NEC must be refiled every five years when the Department re-issues subsequent permits. These facilities are not required to submit an annual fee but are subject to DEP inspection at least once every five years.

General Requirements of the Multi-Sector General Permit (for complete details on requirements below please see text of the MSGP, applicable Sector and Visual or Analytical Monitoring Standard Operating Procedures):

File a Notice of Intent to comply with Maine’s MSGP which includes an annual fee. The NOI must be refiled every five years when the Department re-issues subsequent permits. Develop and implement of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) which describes how a facility operates utilizing Best Management Practices (BMPs) to prevent or eliminate potential pollutants from coming into contact with stormwater. BMPs may be structural such as stormwater treatment ponds or operational such as good housekeeping practices. The text of the MSGP describes general control measures required to be implemented for permit and a facility’s Sector may include additional control measures.

- Conduct & document quarterly visual monitoring to ensure no discharge of potential pollutants
- Conduct & document quarterly site evaluations to ensure proper BMP implementation
- Conduct & document corrective actions to ensure proper function of BMPs

- Conduct & document annual employee training to ensure employees are familiar with the facility’s SWPPP and BMPs implemented onsite to meet permit requirements.

Some additional Sector-Specific requirements may include quarterly analytical sampling (benchmark monitoring) or annual analytical sampling (numeric monitoring) and weekly or monthly site evaluations. Please see text of the MSGP and your applicable Sector for complete details.

DEP Technical Assistance:

DEP’s Industrial Stormwater Unit administers this program as an inspection-based and technical assistance program with a goal of preventing pollution to waterbodies from stormwater runoff from industrial activities. Inspectors will conduct compliance inspections and will assist you in determining if your facility needs coverage, answer any permit questions or further explain the permit requirements, and provide technical assistance in reviewing your SWPPP when requested. To request technical assistance please contact one of the regional inspectors listed below.

Central Maine Regional Office - Augusta
Chase Main 207-446-2693
Chase.main@maine.gov

Southern Maine Regional Office - Portland
Alison Moody 207-615-8936
Alison.r.moody@maine.gov

Eastern Maine Regional Office - Bangor
Jana Wood 207-215-7869  Jana.wood@maine.gov

Northern Maine Regional Office - Presque Isle
Sean Bernard 207-760-3135  Sean.l.bernard@maine.gov