

# Water

## NPDES (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) Wastewater Treatment/Disposal Permit

**What Activities Require This Permit?** Direct discharges of wastewater to surface waters of the state.

**What Is The Purpose of This Permit?** To protect waters of the state through compliance with state and federal water quality laws regarding direct discharges of wastewater. The U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has delegated authority to North Carolina to administer the NPDES program. The N.C. Division of Water Resources issues NPDES permits for discharges of treated wastewater to surface waters. Types of facilities permitted to discharge include domestic wastewater treatment plants, industrial treatment plants, and water treatment plants. Certificates of Coverage under NPDES general permits may be acquired for certain activities that meet thresholds conditions including single-family residence discharges.

**Who Issues This Permit?** N.C. Division of Water Resources, NPDES Permitting.

### How Much Will This Permit Cost?

New/Annual fee for Major Individual NPDES Permits: \$3,440; major modification fee \$1,030

New/Annual fee for Minor Individual NPDES Permits: \$860; major modifications fee \$260

New/Annual fee for Certificates of Coverage under General Permits: \$100; \$60 for single family residences

**What Are My Payment Options for Permit Application Fees?** Check

**If Paying by Check, Who do I Make the Check Payable to and Where Do I Send the Check?** Make the check payable to: North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ). Send the check along with the application to the address listed under "Where Do I Submit My Application."

**Where Can I Get The Application For This Permit?** [general permit applications](#) and [individual applications](#)

**How Long Will It Take To Review My Application?** Approximately six months from the receipt of a complete application package; for certificates of coverage under general permits, approximately 60 days.

**Where Do I Submit My Application?** N.C. Division of Water Resources, NPDES Permitting, 1617 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699-1617

**How Long Is My Permit or License or Certificate Valid?** Up to five years.

**Notes/Comments:** 30-day public notice period required for all permits and renewals; Prior to accepting applications, an engineering alternative analysis and an environmental assessment may be required for new or expanded discharges. Coverage under general wastewater permits may be obtained for a given statewide activity below certain thresholds. These activities include discharges from non-contact cooling water, groundwater remediation of petroleum-based contaminants, sand dredging, seafood packing and fish farms, and domestic waste from single-family residences.

### Legal Authority/Statute Reference:

Section 402 of the Clean Water Act; 40 CFR Parts 122-125; Parts 130-131; and Part 133; 15A NCAC 2H .0100

**Link:** <http://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/water-resources/water-resources-permits/wastewater-branch/npdes-wastewater/permitting-contacts>

### Statewide Contact Information:

NC Division of Water Resources

NPDES Permitting

1617 Mail Service Center

Raleigh, NC 27699-1617

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