

The goal of the construction stormwater permit from Ecology is to protect the quality and beneficial uses of the nation's surface water resources from the over use effects of stormwater runoff from construction activities. To achieve this goal, the permit requires operators to plan and implement appropriate pollution prevention and control practices for stormwater runoff during the construction period. The Best Management Practices (BMPs) are aimed primarily at controlling erosion and sediment transport, but also include good housekeeping practices aimed at other pollutants such as construction chemicals (e.g. oils and fluids) and solid waste (e.g. litter). As used in this permit the terms "Construction and Construction-related activities" include all clearing, grading, excavating and stockpiling activities that will result in the disturbances of one or more acres of land areas.

WHAT IS THE GOAL OF THIS PERMIT?



City of Spokane
Wastewater Management Department

STORMWATER

FOR CONSTRUCTION

September 2007

WHAT TYPE OF CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES MAY NEED A CONSTRUCTION STORMWATER PERMIT FROM ECOLOGY?

Answer the following questions . . .

- Does your construction project disturb one or more acres of land through clearing, grading, excavating, or stockpiling of fill material? The cumulative disturbed acreage of the entire project whether in a single or multi-phase project must be considered. This applies even if the project disturbs only a small portion (less than one acre) of the larger project planned over time.
- Is there any possibility that stormwater could runoff your site during construction or otherwise enter surface waters or conveyance systems leading to surface waters of the state? In many cases this is a yes. However, if the topography and location of the site prevents rainfall or snowmelt from leaving the site or entering a waterway, a permit is not required.

If you answered "Yes"

then you will need a Stormwater Permit from Ecology.

Any construction activity that will be, or is part of a "common plan" of development that will, disturb one or more acres and has the potential to have a discharge of runoff water to a water of Washington must either have a permit OR have qualified for a waiver. Regulated discharges are broken down into two categories: "Large" and "Small". A large construction area disturbs more than five acres either all at once or as part of a larger plan. A small construction area is one that disturbs from one to five acres all at once or as part of a larger plan.



PROTECT OUR RIVER

HOW TO APPLY FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY'S CONSTRUCTION STORMWATER PERMIT.

Download a permit Application, also called a "Notice of Intent" or "NOI," from the Department of Ecology's website:

www.ecy.wa.gov/biblio/ecy02085.html

Additional information is available about the Construction Stormwater Permit at:

www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/stormwater/index.html

OTHER QUESTIONS

IF CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY DOES NOT ADVERSELY IMPACT WATER QUALITY, IS COVERAGE UNDER THE CONSTRUCTION STORMWATER PERMIT NECESSARY?

Waivers are possible only for discharges of stormwater associated with small construction activity (i.e., construction disturbing less than five acres). These waivers are authorized by federal regulation and are explained in Appendix D of the permit. Waivers are not available for any construction activity disturbing more than five acres, even if the phased construction plan doesn't disturb more than five acres at a time. However, other permits may apply.

More Information available at:

www.spokanewastewater.org
www.ecy.wa.gov/biblio/0710058.html
www.epa.gov

Information provided by the City of Spokane