

SUMMARY

Water Quality Permit Application, Nondegradation Authorization, And Annual Permit Fees

EXPLANATION OF FEES The Montana Water Quality Act (MWQA) requires that the Board of Environmental Review adopt rules that are sufficient to recover the cost of issuing permits, licenses, and other authorizations issued by the Department, as well as the administrative costs of operating the program.

Permit fees are assessed in two different categories: application fees and annual fees. Application fees are paid concurrently with the submittal of an application for a new permit or every five years for renewals. These fees cover the cost of reviewing and processing the application, developing effluent limits, and informing the public and other agencies of these activities. The second component of the fee system is the annual fee that covers the cost of administering the permit during its five-year term, including data entry, compliance monitoring and sampling, technical assistance, and inspections.

In addition to permit fees, the WQA requires that fees be assessed for section 308 authorizations, which allow the exceedance of state water quality standards for pesticide applications and emergency remedial activities, and section 318 authorizations, which set water quality standards for turbidity. If the proposed activity results in degradation of state waters, an additional fee is necessary (Schedule 1.D).

PAYMENT OF FEES All fees must be made payable to the Department of Environmental Quality, Water Protection Bureau and submitted using one of the following methods.

- Business, personal, or cashier's check or money order mailed to:
Department of Environmental Quality
Water Protection Bureau
PO Box 200901
Helena MT 59620-0901
- State inter-unit journal transfer. This method is restricted to transactions between state government agencies.

Electronic payment is not available at this time. If you have questions, please call the Water Protection Bureau at (406) 444-3080.

Note: Any application received without proper fee payments **will not be processed** until all appropriate monies are paid and matched with the application; therefore, it is essential that you send fee payments with the application, that you reference the permit number (if available) or permit type (MPDES, storm water, ground water, 318 etc.), and/or project name (e.g. Third St. Dewatering Project). If payment is generated by corporate office, holding or management company, or consultant, it is important that the above items are referenced on the payment instrument to avoid delay in matching paperwork with payment and subsequent delay in processing.

Schedule I.A Application Fee for Individual Permits

Category	Renewal Fee	New Permit Fee
Publicly owned treatment works - major permit	\$ 4,800	\$ 5,000
Privately owned treatment works - major permit	5,000	5,000
Publicly owned treatment works - minor permit	1,500	2,500
Privately owned treatment works - minor permit	3,000	4,200
Ground water permit, domestic wastes flow rate - gallons per day		
0-10,000 gpd	1,200	2,500
10,001 to 30,000 gpd	1,500	2,500
more than 30,000 gpd	2,500	4,000
Ground water permit, industrial, or other wastes		
0-1,000 gpd	1000	1,500
1,001 to 5,000 gpd	1,500	2,500
5,001 to 10,000 gpd	2,500	3,500
more than 10,000 gpd	4,800	5,000
Concentrated animal feeding operation permit	600	600
Storm water permit construction, industrial, and mining, oil, and gas activities	2,000	3,200
Traditional storm water municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) permit		
population greater than 50,000	9,000	11,000
population 10,000 to 50,000	7,000	9,000
population less than 10,000	6,000	8,000
Non-traditional MS4 permit	5,000	7,000
Other MS4 permits	4,000	5,000
Significance determination	4,000	5,000
Storm water outfall - (integrated)	1,000	1,500

Schedule I.B Application Fee for Non-Storm Water General Permits

Category	Renewal Fee	New Permit Fee (includes initial annual fee)
Concentrated animal feeding operation	\$ 600	\$ 1,200
Construction dewatering	400	900
Fish farms	600	1,200
Produced water	900	1,200
Suction dredge resident of Montana	25	50
nonresident of Montana	100	200
Sand and gravel	900	1,200
Domestic sewage treatment lagoon	800	1,200
Disinfected water	800	1,200
Petroleum cleanup	800	1,200
Pesticides		
Single county – less than threshold	25	50
Multi county – less than threshold	50	100
Single county – greater than threshold	250	500
Multi county – greater than threshold	600	1,200
Ground water remediation or dewatering	800	1,400
Ground water potable water treatment facilities	800	1,400
Other general permit, not listed above	600	1,200

Schedule I.C Application Fee for Storm Water General Permits

Category	Renewal Amount	New Permit Amount (includes initial annual fee)
Storm water associated with construction		
1 to 5 acres	\$ 900	\$ 900
more than 5 acres, up to 10 acres	1,000	1,000
more than 10 acres, up to 25 acres	1,200	1,200
more than 25 acres, up to 100 acres	2,000	2,000
more than 100 acres	3,500	3,500
Storm water associated with industrial activities		
small - 5 acres or less	1,200	1,500
medium - more than 5 acres, up to 20 acres	1,500	1,800
large - more than 20 acres	1,800	2,000
Storm water associated with mining, oil, and gas		
small - 5 acres or less	1,200	1,500
medium - more than 5 acres, up to 20 acres	1,500	1,800
large - more than 20 acres	1,800	2,000
Traditional storm water municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4)		
population greater than 50,000	7,000	10,000
population 10,000 to 50,000	6,000	8,000
population less than 10,000	5,000	6,000
County MS4 permit	4,000	5,000
Non-traditional MS4 permit	2,000	3,000
Storm water no-exposure certification required once every five years	300	500
Storm water construction waiver		400

Schedule I.D Application Fee for Other Activities

Category	Amount
Short-term water quality standard, turbidity "318 authorization"	\$ 250
Short-term water quality standard, remedial activities and pesticide application "308 authorization"	250
Federal Clean Water Act section 401 certification	See ARM 17.30.201(6)(o)
Review plans and specifications to determine if permit is necessary, pursuant to 75-5-402(2), MCA	2,000
Major modification	Renewal fee from Schedule I.A
Minor modification, includes transfer of ownership	500
Resubmitted application fee	500
Administrative processing fee	500

Schedule II. Review of Authorizations to Degrade

Category	Amount
Domestic sewage treatment	\$5,000
Industrial activity	5,000

Schedule III.A Annual Fee for Individual Permits

Category	Minimum Fee	Fee Per Million Gallons of Effluent per Day (MGD)
Publicly owned treatment works - major permit	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000
Privately owned treatment works - major permit	3,000	3,000
Publicly owned treatment works - minor permit	1,500	3,000
Privately owned treatment works - minor permit	1,500	3,000
discharge of non-contact cooling water only	800	800
Ground water permit, domestic wastes annual average daily flow - gallons per day		3,000
0 to 10,000 gpd	1,300	
10,001 to 30,000 gpd	2,000	
more than 30,000 gpd	3,000	
Ground water permit, industrial, or other wastes		3,000
0 to 1,000 gpd	2,000	
1,001 to 5,000 gpd	2,500	
5,001 to 10,000 gpd	2,800	
more than 10,000 gpd	3,000	
Concentrated animal feeding operation permit	600	
Storm water permit construction, industrial, and mining, oil, and gas activities	2,000	
Traditional storm water municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) permit		
population greater than 50,000	3,000	
population 10,000 to 50,000	2,500	
population less than 10,000	2,000	
Non-traditional MS4 permit	1,500	
Other MS4 permits	1,500	
Storm water outfall - (integrated)	1,000	

Schedule III.B Annual Fee for Non-Storm Water General Permits

Category	Amount
Concentrated animal feeding operation	\$600
Construction dewatering	450
Fish farms	450
Produced water	750
Portable suction dredges	
resident of Montana	25
nonresident of Montana	100
Sand and gravel production	750
Domestic sewage treatment lagoon	850
Disinfected water	750
Petroleum cleanup	750
Pesticides	
Single county – less than threshold	25
Multi county – less than threshold	50
Single county – greater than threshold	250
Multi county – greater than threshold	600
Ground water remediation or dewatering	800
Potable water treatment facilities	800
Other general permit, not listed above	800

Schedule III.C Annual Fee for Storm Water General Permits

Category	Amount
Storm water associated with construction	
1 to 5 acres	\$ 650
more than 5 acres, up to 10 acres	750
more than 10 acres, up to 25 acres	1,150
more than 25 acres, up to 100 acres	1,800
more than 100 acres	2,800
Storm water associated with industrial activities	
small - 5 acres or less	1,000
medium - more than 5 acres, up to 20 acres	1,200
large - more than 20 acres	1,500
Storm water associated with mining, oil, and gas	
small - 5 acres or less	1,000
medium - more than 5 acres, up to 20 acres	1,200
large - more than 20 acres	1,500
Traditional storm water municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4)	
population greater than 50,000	5,000
population 10,000 to 50,000	4,000
population less than 10,000	2,500
County MS4 permit	1,200
Non-traditional MS4 permit	1,200