



Permitting Storm Water in Montana

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MT DEQ - MPDES Section

What is Storm Water?

- Includes storm water runoff, snow melt, surface runoff, and/or drainage that transports pollutants and discharges them, untreated, to waterways.
- Urbanization increases impervious surfaces creating concern for potentially harmful storm water discharges to state waters.
- Pollutants of concern are diversified due to multiple land-use categories.
- When left uncontrolled, discharges from storm water can result in fish kills, destruction of spawning and wildlife habitat, a loss in aesthetic value, and contamination of recreational waterways that can threaten public health.

General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s)

Permit Number: MTR040000

Expiration Date: 12/31/2021

Expected Renewal Date: 1/1/2022

Current Status: In public comment ending 11/29/2021

Hearing Scheduled: 11/29/2021 at 10 a.m.

Stakeholder Workgroup: Spring 2020 - Present

Summary of Coverage

- MS4: a system of conveyances designed for collecting and conveying storm water
- Designations pursuant to ARM 17.30.1107:
 - Billings
 - Bozeman
 - Helena
 - Great Falls
 - Kalispell
 - Butte
 - Missoula
 - Malmstrom AFB
 - MDT
 - Yellowstone County
 - Missoula County
 - Cascade County
 - University of Montana
 - Montana State University

Summary of Requirements

- MS4 Standard: Remove Pollutants to the Maximum Extent Practicable (MEP)
- Storm Water Management Program (SWMP)
- Minimum Control Measures (MCMs)
 - Public Education and Outreach
 - Public Involvement and Participation
 - Illicit Discharge Detection & Elimination
 - Construction Site Storm Water Runoff Control
 - Post-Construction Site Storm Water Management
 - Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping
- Annual Reporting

Summary of Changes

- Comprehensive General Permit with clear, specific, and measurable requirements
- “Deadline for Implementation” removed
- Provides a menu of Best Management Practices (BMPs), when necessary
- Clarified Training Requirements
- Clarified Monitoring Requirements
- Program Effectiveness Assessment

Questions?

General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction Activity (SWC)

Permit Number: MTR100000

Expiration Date: December 31, 2022

Anticipated Renewal Date: June 2022 (Issuance) January 1, 2023 (Effective)

Current Status: Internal Review

Stakeholder Meeting: November 29, 2021

Anticipated Public Comment Period: December 27, 2021- January 31, 2022

2023-2027 SWC

Who needs coverage?

- Construction activities disturbing at least one acre of land where a discharge to state surface water can occur.

Summary of Proposed Changes

- Improve permit navigability
- Clarify larger common plan of development or sale
- Update public sign requirements
- Include electronic submission option

Multi-Sector General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Industrial Activity (MSGP)

Permit Number: MTR000000

Expiration Date: January 31, 2023

Expected Effective Date: February 1, 2023

Current Status: Internal Review

Stakeholder Meeting: December 15, 2021

Public comment period: Jan 24 - Feb 24, 2022

2023-2028 MSGP

Who needs coverage?

- Industrial facilities with SIC codes covered by the MSGP that have potential to discharge

Summary of Proposed Changes:

- Public sign
- Updated benchmark monitoring thresholds
- Report-only indicator monitoring
 - pH, TSS, COD
 - For subsectors with no existing monitoring reqs
 - Quarterly monitoring
 - Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs)
 - For specific subsectors, SIC codes, and/or coal-tar sealcoat
 - Biannual monitoring

Additional Questions?

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