

3.01 SURFACE WATER DISCHARGE PERMIT (Industrial)

- *Question: Will I discharge any wastewater from an industrial facility or landfill to any place other than the sanitary sewer?*

Why do I need this approval?

The industrial surface water discharge permit is a combined state and federal permit under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES). This permit is issued for industrial facilities that discharge to State surface waters. The permit is designed to meet federal effluent guidelines when applicable and also ensure the discharge satisfies State water quality standards.

All industrial, commercial, or institutional facilities that discharge wastewater (or storm water from certain facilities) to surface waters of Maryland may need this permit. Alternatively, an industrial discharge to the municipal wastewater collection system may require a pretreatment permit.

What laws or regulations give MDE the legal authority to issue this approval?

FEDERAL: Federal Clean Water Act.

STATE: Environment Article, Title 9, Subtitle 3; COMAR 26.08.01 through 26.08.04 and for the Pretreatment Permit, COMAR 26.08.08.

What is the process to get this approval?

Submit a completed application to the Department. To request a form, call (410) 537-3323 or download the form from our web site,

<https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/Permits/WaterManagementPermits/Pages/waterpermits.aspx>.

Participate in public notice events as specified in Environment Article §1-601, et seq.

The Department publishes notice of the application and provides an opportunity for an informational meeting. The Department develops permit limits.

5) The Department publishes a notice of tentative determination and conducts a public hearing, if requested.

6) The Department issues the permit if adverse comments are not received.

7) If adverse comments are received, the Department prepares a final determination and publishes additional notice providing 15 days to request a contested case hearing.

8) The Department issues the permit if the final determination is not contested.

9) If contested, administrative procedures for the appeal process are followed.

Are there any other requirements?

POST-APPROVAL: Must meet all effluent limits, monitoring requirements, and other permit conditions.

Is this approval directly related or contingent on other approvals?

PRETREATMENT PERMIT: A separate pretreatment permit is required for certain facilities that seek to discharge non-domestic wastewater to publicly-owned wastewater treatment systems (POTWs). The pretreatment permit is issued locally from the municipal wastewater treatment utility (POTW) as long as the POTW has an approved program delegated to it by the Department. If a facility is defined as a significant industrial user by 40 CFR 403, and is not located in an area that has been delegated pretreatment authority, the Department issues the pretreatment permit, which includes the state and federal requirements, in coordination with the POTW. As part of its permit streamlining efforts, the Department delegated the authority to many local municipalities to issue pretreatment permits for significant industrial users.

How long should I expect it to take to get this approval once I submit a complete application?

Type of Facility/Approval	Turnaround Time
New minor facilities	9 months
New major facilities	12 months
Renewal minor facilities	14 months
Renewal facilities	according to watershed schedule

Also see [Standard Turnaround Times](#).

Once I get this approval, how long will it last?

Maximum of five years

How much will this approval cost?

Type of Fee	Fee
Application fee	\$50 to \$20,000 depending on the volume of discharge, the type of industry, and how the water is used.
Annual permit fee	\$100 to \$5,000 depending on the volume of the discharge.

Do I need to know any additional information?

General permits have either been issued or are being developed for a variety of industrial discharge categories (see Industrial Wastewater/Stormwater General Discharge Permits, 3.02, 3.03).

Who do I contact with additional questions?

Paul Hlavinka (Pretreatment Permits only)
Industrial Discharge Permits Division

Paul.Hlavinka@maryland.gov
(410) 537-3323