



Dam Safety Permitting Fact Sheet

General Permit to Conduct Repairs and Alterations to Dams

GP-015 Filing with Confirmation of Eligibility Categories

General Permits Overview. General permits are issued to authorize in advance, certain defined categories of minor activities which are expected to have minimal environmental impacts. This “general” authorization is valid throughout a prescribed geographic area for the duration of that permit.

Those wishing to conduct an activity which conforms with the activities described and authorized by a general permit must meet the terms and conditions contained within that general permit. A general permit sets terms and conditions for conducting an activity which, when complied with, are protective of the environment and public safety. General permits are a faster and more cost-effective way to permit specific activities. Because these permits have already been publically noticed and issued, persons utilizing general permits are not required to publish newspaper notices of application and the authorization is granted without additional newspaper notice, comment period, or hearing.

- The non-filing category means that no filing or application is required in order to obtain authorization for the activities described in the permit. See fact sheet GP-014 for more information.
- The permit described in this fact sheet is a filing with confirmation of eligibility category permit which requires a filing to DEEP and a notice to the municipality before beginning the authorized activity. This permit authorizes two intermediate levels of minor repairs and alterations to dams and removal of remnants of dams. The first level authorizes dam owners to take care of a variety of maintenance and minor repair or alteration activities on smaller dams without professional engineering oversight and the second level authorizes increased amounts of work on any size dam but requires professional engineering oversight. This allows dam owners to undertake activities not listed in the non-filing permit or at increased levels / quantity of work.
- The approval of filing category authorizes more work than the non-filing or filing only and requires a filing to DEEP, a notice to the municipality, and written approval of that filing before beginning the authorized activity. See fact sheet GP-016 for more information.

Dam Safety General Permits are administered by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), Bureau of Water Protection and Land Reuse, Water Protection and Management Division. DEEP uses both individual and general permits to regulate activities. Individual permits are issued directly to an applicant in response to detailed applications and can authorize complex projects.

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This filing with confirmation of eligibility general permit authorizes the following minor categories of activities on a dam:

Without Professional Engineering oversight – Use form DEEP-DAMSAFETY-GP-015-3(a)1

- All activities authorized under the General Permit-014;
- Repairs to dams 15 feet or less in height and 50 ac-ft. or less of water storage;
- Replacing missing and storm scoured riprap (only in areas where riprap already exists and includes moving displaced riprap back to its original location);
- Restoring eroded areas;
- Patching of spalling and sealing of concrete surfaces done by hand (maximum of 500 square feet of repairs not requiring reinforcing steel and maximum repair depth of one (1) inch.);
- Repair of up to 200 linear feet of cracks in concrete;
- Repair of up to one cubic yard of concrete in total for the dam;
- Repointing voids and repairing masonry.

With Professional Engineering oversight – Use form DEEP-DAMSAFETY-GP-015-3(a)2

- Projects receiving authorization under Section 14 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899, 33 U.S.C. § 408 (Section 408) from the US Army Corps of Engineers;
- Emergency drawdown of the impoundment;
- Drawdowns for inspection or investigation work on dams;
- Removal of recently accumulated sediment from areas ancillary and adjacent to dams including spillways, intake areas, channels, and areas designed to capture sediment;
- Installation or replacement of up to 200 linear feet of engineered toe drain systems;
- Minor repair or modification of trash racks, gates and valves within inlet or outlet or drop inlet structures that can be completed without excavation into the dam;
- Placing up to 25 cubic yards of riprap;
- Removing up to 5 tree root systems less than 3 inches diameter at breast height annually;
- Filling animal burrows on upstream or downstream slopes and restoration of the embankment where the burrows full extent can be determined without excavation;
- Patching of spalling and sealing of concrete surfaces (up to 1,000 square feet);
- Repair of up to 500 feet of cracks in concrete;
- Limited amounts of repair of concrete structures on dams, spillways, and appurtenances requiring formwork and reinforcing steel;
- Repointing voids and repairing masonry;
- Sliplining and grouting up to 100 linear feet of up to 36-inch diameter existing outlet pipes where the existing pipe is not significantly deformed;
- Grouting voids by means of gravity fed cement or pressure injection chemical grouting process;
- Installation of footbridges or vehicular bridges over spillways not requiring center support piers;
- Digging test pits, drilling soil borings, or installing piezometers while investigating dams;
- Removal of dam remnants or stabilization of naturally breached dams;

Authorizing Statutes This general permit is issued under the authority of sections 22a-6 and 22a-411 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

Application Process This is a “filing with confirmation of eligibility” type general permit. Eligible activities are authorized under this general permit upon receipt of a complete and sufficient *Request for Authorization*. If the request is found to be complete and consistent with the general permit, the requestor will receive a brief notification of such finding. If the request is found to be incomplete or not consistent

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with the general permit, the requestor will receive a brief notification of such finding as well as an explanation of other options for authorizing your activity. Eligible activities are authorized under this general permit provided the activities comply with all provisions, requirements, and conditions of the general permit. A notification to the municipality and the DEEP is required at least two weeks prior to undertaking the activities authorized by this permit.

Permit Duration This general permit is effective on October 17, 2025 and expires ten years from this date.

Contact

Dam Safety Program, DEEP.DamSafety@ct.gov Phone: 860-424-3706

Address

Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
Bureau of Water Protection and Land Reuse, Inland Water Resources Division
79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106

This overview is designed to answer general questions and provide basic information. You should refer to the appropriate statutes and regulations for the specific regulatory language of the different permit programs. This document should not be relied upon to determine whether or not a Dam Safety permit is required. It is *your* responsibility to ensure that all required permits have been obtained.