

#### CT DEEP – Commercial Stormwater Program

NEW\*\*\*\*  Contact: [DEEP.StormwaterCommercial@ct.gov](mailto:DEEP.StormwaterCommercial@ct.gov)

*We are anticipating many inquiries after the issuance of the general permit. We'll do our best to respond quickly, but it may take up to 2–3 business days.*

### Helpful Tips for Submitting Your Application

- Review the permit terms and conditions before starting your application.
- Develop required plans first (e.g., Stormwater Management Plan) before filling out the form.
- Prepare detailed site maps showing outfalls, drainage, paved areas, fueling/storage, and monitoring points.
- Gather all required information in advance. Online applications may need to be completed in one session.
- Permits are not transferable. New ownership requires a new application.
- Fees are non-refundable.
- Provide all required information to avoid long processing times or returned applications.

## 1. General Information

### Q: What is the Commercial Stormwater General Permit?

A: It is a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) general permit that authorizes the discharge of stormwater associated with **commercial activity** from sites with **five (5) or more acres of contiguous impervious surface** to waters of the State of Connecticut.

### Q: When does the current permit expire?

A: September 30, 2025.

### Q: When is the new permit issued?

A: October 1, 2025.

**Q: When does the new permit take effect and when does it expire?**

A: The permit becomes effective on **December 1, 2025** and expires on **September 30, 2030**. It may be administratively continued until DEEP reissues it.

**Q: Who must register?**

A: Any person or municipality that **initiates, creates, or maintains** a stormwater discharge associated with commercial activity from a qualifying site. Both owners and operators may be responsible depending on site control.

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## 2. Obtaining Coverage

**Q: How do I apply?**

A: Submit a completed **Registration Form** electronically with DEEP, including fee payment, site information, discharge information, and a **Stormwater Management Plan (SMP)**.

**Q: What is the fee?**

A: \$625. Municipalities pay half; state and federal agencies pay the full amount. The fee is non-refundable.

**Q: When must I apply?**

- Existing permittees: within **120 days** of the new permit effective date.
- Existing sites without coverage: within **1 year**.
- New sites: at least **60 days before beginning discharge**.
- Transfers of ownership: new registration within **30 days of transfer**; old owner must file a Notice of Termination

**Q: Can I modify my authorization?**

A: Yes, through a **Notice of Change (NOC)** for contact info updates or adding/removing discharge points. Significant modifications (e.g., new activity, new pollutant sources) require a new registration

**Q: How do I terminate coverage?**

A: File a **Notice of Termination** within 14 days of ending discharge or transferring ownership

## 3. Stormwater Management Plan (SMP)

### Q: What is an SMP?

A: A site-specific plan describing activities, pollutant sources, and control measures to minimize stormwater pollution. It must be implemented and kept current throughout the permit term

### Q: What must be included?

- Site description and maps (location, drainage, outfalls).
- Inventory of pollutant sources.
- Spill and leak records.
- Control measures (housekeeping, sweeping, de-icing, fueling, vehicle maintenance, outdoor storage, etc.).
- Inspection and monitoring procedures.
- Employee training records

### Q: How often must the SMP be updated?

A: Whenever site changes affect pollutant potential, when inspections show deficiencies, or when required by DEEP

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## 4. Stormwater Control Measures

### Q: What BMPs are required at all sites?

- Good housekeeping (clean, orderly site).
- Impervious surface sweeping (at least 4x/year).
- Catch basin cleaning.
- Spill prevention and response procedures.
- Employee training (within 90 days of hire, then annually).
- Preventive maintenance program

### Q: What BMPs are required for specific activities?

- **De-icing materials:** cover or enclose piles, use impervious liners in sensitive areas.
- **Fueling:** spill kits, dry cleanup methods, minimize pollutant discharge.
- **Vehicle/equipment maintenance:** prohibit discharges of fluids, use drip pans, perform indoors when possible.
- **Outdoor liquid storage:** secondary containment, roofed areas, testing of containment water.
- **Garden centers:** proper storage of fertilizers, pesticides, mulch, soil, and plants under cover

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## 5. Monitoring & Reporting

### Q: What monitoring is required?

- **Annual analytical monitoring** for pollutants such as oil & grease, metals, nutrients, TSS, COD, bacteria, and chloride
- **Quarterly visual monitoring** of stormwater outfalls for clarity, color, odor, oil sheen, solids, foam, and other indicators

### Q: How do I report results?

A: Results are submitted electronically using **NetDMR**. “No discharge” must also be reported if no qualifying sample is collected

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## 6. Compliance

### Q: What discharges are prohibited?

- Discharges not authorized by the permit.
- PCBs, mercury, and illicit discharges.
- Wash water from raw materials, vehicles, or equipment (unless authorized separately)

#### **Q: What happens if I don't comply?**

A: DEEP may take enforcement actions, including penalties, suspension of coverage, or requiring an individual permit

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## 7. Resources

- **CT DEEP Stormwater Program:** [Stormwater Permitting, Compliance, & Enforcement Program](#)
- **Industrial Application (ezFile):** [CT DEEP ezFile](#)
- **Impaired Waters Map:** [CT DEEP GIS Viewer](#)
- **NetDMR/CDX:** [EPA NetDMR Portal](#)
- **Central Data Exchange:** [CDX Sign-in](#)
- **NPDES eReporting Tool:** [eRule NetDMR Homepage](#)
- **Compliance Assistance:** [Industrial Wastewater Discharge Permit Compliance Information](#)

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- **Map:** [CT DEEP GIS Open Data](#)
- **Map:** [CT DEEP Water Quality](#)
- **Map:** [CREST Collaborative Solar Suitability Application](#)
- **Compliance Assistance:** [Industrial Wastewater Discharge Permit Compliance Information](#)
- **Top Ten List:** [WPED Top Ten](#)

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- **EPA Stormwater Program:** [EPA NPDES](#)
- **NPDES Stormwater Permit Program in New England:** [EPA Region 1 - SW](#)
- **National Menu of BMPs:** [National SW BMPs](#)
- **Stormwater Webcasts:** [EPA SW Webinars](#)

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