



ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY

NPDES PERMIT PROGRAMS

EPA has authorized the Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment's Division of Environmental Quality to administer the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES). Regulatory requirements for stormwater are managed by three major program areas: **NPDES Construction Stormwater General Permit (CGP)**, **NPDES Stormwater Associated with Industrial Activity General Permit (IGP)**, and **Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4)**.

NPDES CONSTRUCTION STORMWATER GENERAL PERMIT (CGP)

The **CGP authorizes stormwater discharges from large and small construction activities that disturb one or more acres**. Small construction sites (one to five acres) obtain automatic coverage and may discharge without submitting a Notice of Intent (NOI) or Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) to DEQ; large construction sites (five acres or greater) submit the following items at least ten business days prior to commencing construction: an NOI; a completed SWPP and Site Map; and an initial permit fee.

CGP requires a sediment basin for a drainage area of ten acres or more that drains to a common point. The sediment basin is designed to provide storage of 3600 cubic feet per acre or sized based on the runoff volume of a 10-year, 24-hour storm event.

The CGP requires inspections of the site once every seven calendar days or at least once every fourteen calendar days and within 24-hours of the end of a storm event of a quarter inch or greater. These inspections document compliance with the SWPPP requirements and any repairs or updates to the BMPs necessary to control stormwater runoff from construction activity.

NPDES STORMWATER ASSOCIATED WITH INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITY GENERAL PERMIT (IGP)

The **Industrial General Permit (IGP) authorizes stormwater discharges from regulated industrial facilities**. Dischargers are categorized by sector based on the SIC code under which the facility operates. For example, a sawmill with SIC code 2421 would be categorized as Sector A: Timber Products, and subsector A1; these sectors determine the pollutants for which the facility must analyze the stormwater discharge. This general permit requires implementation of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) which may be continuously modified as necessary to ensure that Best Management Practices (BMPs) are appropriate to prevent pollutant discharge to Waters of the State.

MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEMS (MS4)

MS4 is a system of conveyances (including roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, manmade channels, and storm drains) that is not a sewage system and typically owned by governmental entities unless designated by the State—e.g. "storm drains" or "storm sewers" that direct water immediately to receiving streams. Currently there are sixty-four entities, mostly cities, covered by the Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System General Permit and one covered by an individual permit. These permit requirements have similar components to the other general permits, including maintenance or compliance with a Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP), and certain monitoring and reporting requirements to determine effectiveness of the program under the SWMP and water quality monitoring in some locations.