

New 2022 Construction General Permit

Important information from: the Town of Salem Municipal Services Department

New Version of the Construction General Permit

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released a new version of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Construction General Permit (CGP) which became effective on February 17, 2022. The new version of the CGP is known as the 2022 CGP. The purpose of the 2022 CGP is to reduce the amount of sediment that is transported off construction sites by stormwater. Sediment has the potential to contain pollutants such as nutrients or oils and greases. Stormwater runoff from rain or snowmelt picks up this sediment, and the

pollutants it contains, and transports them directly, or indirectly through the Town of Salem's storm drains which flow untreated into nearby waterbodies and degrade water quality. These pollutants harm fish and wildlife, make our water unsafe to drink, and can impact recreational use of waters.

The new 2022 CGP contains several important changes that operators of construction sites should know. An online version of the 2022 CGP and FAQs can be found on EPA's website at:

<https://www.epa.gov/npdes/2022-construction-general-permit-cgp>



New and Updated Changes to the 2022 Construction General Permit

New and Updated Changes:

- Perimeter control installation and maintenance (must be wildlife friendly)
- Pollution prevention/storage requirements for any size chemical container
- Construction dewatering requirements
- Site stabilization photos
- Turbidity benchmark monitoring for sensitive waters
- Certified inspectors
- A recording of a webinar, presented by EPA on February 24, 2022, explaining the changes to the 2022 CGP can be found at:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9-FfqalYICI>

Certified Inspector Training:

- Inspections conducted for all projects that require coverage on, or after, February 17, 2023, must be conducted by a qualified inspector who is trained in accordance with Part 6.3.b of the 2022 CGP.
- A qualified inspector must complete the EPA construction inspection training course developed for this permit and pass the exam, **or**, hold a current valid certification or license from a non-EPA training program that covers the minimum topics listed in Part 6.3.b of the 2022 CGP.

- EPA will be releasing a free virtual training and exam for all inspectors looking to become certified (anticipated during the summer of 2022).
- There are a variety of non-EPA inspector trainings and certification programs offered by states and third party entities.
- For more information about becoming a qualified inspector visit this link
<https://www.epa.gov/npdes/construction-general-permit-inspector-training>.

Obtaining Coverage Under the 2022 CGP and Permit Requirements

Projects that Require Coverage:

- Construction projects that require coverage under the 2022 CGP are any projects or activities that disturb one, or more, acres of land. This also includes construction activities that are part of a larger common plan that would cumulatively disturb one, or more, acres of land as well.

Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP):

- A Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) must be submitted for each construction project or activity by the project operator. A SWPPP contains all of the Best Management Practices (BMPs) and plans you will have in place during construction to minimize the amount of sediment and other pollutants that could be discharged in stormwater. A SWPPP template can be found at:
<https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2022-01/swppp-template.docx>

Notice of Intent (NOI):

- All operators (including some owners) associated with the construction site must submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) to EPA before construction can begin on a project. You must use EPA's NPDES eReporting Tool (NET) to electronically prepare and submit your NOI. To access NET, go to <https://cdx.epa.gov/cdx>. More information on the NOI process can be found at:
<https://www.epa.gov/npdes/submitting-notice-intent-noi-notice-termination-not-or-low-erosivity-waiver-low-under#submit>



As part of the USEPA's 2017 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination Systems (NPDES) general Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4) in New Hampshire, Salem is required to educate construction operators on pollution prevention. This fact sheet is intended to fulfill permit requirements.