

STORMWATER OUTREACH & GUIDANCE FOR

# THE CONSTRUCTION SITE

#### A CONSTRUCTION SITE OPERATOR'S GUIDE TO THE STORMWATER PERMIT PROGRAM

**STORMWATER** is a leading cause of poor water quality. Rain or melted snow runs off of paved surfaces, carrying dirt, oil and other pollutants to our waterways. Polluted runoff causes erosion and degrades plant and wildlife. Left unchecked, untreated stormwater can contaminate drinking water sources.

### Why should we be concerned about stormwater runoff?

As stormwater runs over your site, it picks up contaminants. Because most storm drains do not provide any treatment, preventing the initial contamination of stormwater is crucial.

### How do we reduce pollution from construction activities?

Under the Clean Water Act, new regulations require many construction sites to obtain National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit coverage for stormwater runoff. These permits require operators of these sites to implement steps to prevent sediment and other pollutants from washing into nearby bodies of water.

### What activities need storwater permit coverage?

All land-disturbing activities (including clearing, grading, and excavation) of 1 or more acres of land are required to be covered under a NPDES construction stormwater permit *prior* to land disturbance. Small construction activities that disturb less than 1 acre but are part of a larger common plan of development or sale, such as a single lot within a larger subdivision, are also required to obtain permit coverage.

#### I need a permit... What do I need to do?

- 1) Read the Construction General Permit (CGP) Check in with the Planning Office, located at 6 Village Green.
- 2) Develop a Construction Best Management Practice Plan (CBMPP)

The CBMPP is a plan for how you will control storm water runoff from your construction site and helps assure compliance with the terms and conditions of the CGP. It is more detailed than a typical erosion and sediment control plan, and it must be certified by a Qualified Credentialed Professional (QCP). The CBMPP must be completed before you file an NOI to apply for coverage under the NPDES construction permit and must be available on-site once permit coverage is obtained.

#### 3) File a Notice of Intent (NOI)

The "operator" must submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) form before beginning any land disturbance on the site. The operator is the entity that has operational control over the construction plans or day-to-day activities that are necessary to implement the CBMPP. On some sites, several entities may meet the definition of operator and all must file NOIs. Operators may include companies, owners, general contractors, and subcontractors.

#### **IMPORTANT LOCAL CONTACT INFORMATION**

# **JEFF GOWAN** *PLANNING DIRECTOR*

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### 4) Implement and Maintain all Best Management Practices (BMPs) outlined in your CBMPP

Remember to follow your CBMPP. It is the responsibility of the operator(s) to implement and maintain all BMPs during each stage of the project. BMPs are the techniques (buffers, silt fences, detention ponds, swales, etc.), schedules of activities, prohibitions of practices, and maintenance procedures to prevent or reduce the discharge of pollutants. All BMPs must be inspected, maintained regularly and repaired when necessary, and the plan must be updated as site conditions and BMPs change. Specific inspection requirements, and who must conduct the inspections, can be found in the General Permit. Remember to keep records of maintenance activities, inspections and any CBMPP modifications.

#### 5) File a Notice of Termination (NOT)

You should terminate permit coverage when your project is completed and the property has been stabilized or when another operator has assumed control over the site (new operators will need to file a NOI and meet the requirements of NHDES permit). The NOT form informs NHDES your construction project is complete and ends your responsibilities under the permit.

CONSTRUCTION SITES THAT
DISCHARGE UNPERMITTED
STORMWATER ARE IN VIOLATION
OF THE CLEAN WATER ACT
AND MAY BE SUBJECT
TO FINES.



# REMEMBER.

All construction sites disturbing 1 or more acres (with few exceptions) need stormwater permit coverage.

# RESOURCES...

Pelham, NH Stormwater Management Plan

https://www.pelhamweb.com/sites/pelhamnh/files/uploads/9205\_pelham\_swmp\_2019-0827\_certified.pdf

How Do I Get Stormwater Permit Coverage for My Construction Site?

A Construction Site Operator's Guide to EPA's Stormwater Permit Program

EPA 833-F-04-002

The Role of Local Governments in Implementing the NPDES Stormwater

Program for Construction Sites EPA 833-F-06-0022

Stormwater and the Construction Industry Poster EPA 833-H-03-001