

NEW REQUIREMENTS FOR SMALL CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

Did you know that if your project disturbs *one or more acres of land*, New York State requires you to have a permit for stormwater discharges from the site?

Why?

Excessive amounts of sediment and debris from construction sites are often washed into local waterbodies during a storm. Construction vehicles can leak fuel, oil, and other harmful fluids that can be picked up by stormwater as well.

What to Do?

Under a new regulation, the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) requires that before starting construction, a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) must be developed. The SWPPP is a plan for erosion and sediment control, and for installation of treatment for post-construction runoff.

Before construction activity begins, a Notice of Intent (NOI) must be filed with the DEC affirming that a SWPPP has been prepared and is being implemented.

If you begin construction before filing an NOI and obtaining coverage, you may be subject to a penalty of up to \$37,500 per violation per day.

Think Ahead!

It could take up to sixty (60) business days to get a permit, but often it takes only five (5) business days. The length of time depends on the type of construction site involved. It also depends on the existing levels of pollution in the waterbodies to which stormwater from the site will be discharged.

For More Information

Visit the New York State DEC website: www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dow/mainpage.htm

You can request written material by calling the state at: (518) 402-8265 or call a local DEC office.

Tools Available from the DEC:

Permit - SPDES General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Construction Activity
(GP-02-01)

Guidance - Overview of the SPDES General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from
Construction Activities. Instruction Manual for Stormwater Construction Permit.

Technical Information - NYS Stormwater Management Design Manual
NYS Standards and Specifications for Erosion and Sediment
Control (also known as the Blue Book)
NY Contractor's Erosion and Sediment Control Field Notebook