

EPA Construction General Permit

Important information from: Town of Windham, Community Development Department

EPA 2022 Construction General Permit

Many construction projects undertaken in New Hampshire fall under the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Construction General Permit (CGP). The purpose of the CGP is to minimize the amount of sediment transported from construction sites through stormwater runoff. Sediment has the potential to contain pollutants such as phosphorus or nitrogen.

As stormwater runoff from rain or snowmelt flows over a construction site, it can pick up sediment, debris, and chemicals, and transport them directly into a waterbody or to Windham's storm drains which flow untreated into nearby waterbodies and can degrade water quality. These pollutants harm fish and wildlife, make our water unsafe to drink, and can limit the recreational uses of a waterbody.

The latest version of the CGP was released in 2022 and contains several important changes that operators of construction sites should be aware of. An online version of the 2022 CGP can be found on EPA's website at <https://www.epa.gov/npdes/2022-construction-general-permit-cgp>

Important Information about the 2022 Construction General Permit

Certified Inspector Training:

- Any inspections conducted for projects that received coverage on or after February 17, 2023 must be conducted by a qualified inspector who is trained in accordance with the 2022 CGP.
- To be considered a qualified inspector, one must complete the EPA's construction inspector training course developed for the CGP 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.

- The EPA's inspector training course and exam is **free**, takes six to seven hours to complete, and can be completed at your own pace.
- There are also a variety of non-EPA inspector trainings and certification programs offered by states and third-party entities listed on the EPA CGP website.
- For more information about becoming a qualified inspector, visit <https://www.epa.gov/npdes/construction-general-permit-inspector-training>

Notice of Intent (NOI):

- All operators associated with the construction site must submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) to EPA *before construction can begin on a project*.
- It is important to plan ahead when submitting a NOI since it takes a minimum of two weeks for the NOI to be approved by EPA. Submitting NOIs ahead of time will help prevent delays in the project timeline.
- A Notice of Termination (NOT) must be submitted upon completion of the construction project.
- You must use EPA's NPDES eReporting Tool (NET) to electronically prepare and submit both your NOIs and NOTs. To access NET, go to <https://cdx.epa.gov/cdx>.

Federal, State, and Local Requirements

2022 CGP Additional Requirements:

- Additional information regarding the 2022 EPA CGP can be found on EPA's website at <https://www.epa.gov/npdes/2022-construction-general-permit-cgp>
Additional questions regarding permit requirements for the EPA 2022 CGP can be sent to:
Meridith Finegan
Finegan.Meridith@epa.gov
(617) 915-1533

New Hampshire Construction Related Requirements:

- Information regarding the New Hampshire Alteration of Terrain requirements can be found on the NHDES website at <https://www.des.nh.gov/land/land-development>
- Information regarding the New Hampshire Wetland permitting requirements can be found on the NHDES website at <https://www.des.nh.gov/water/wetlands>

Town of Windham's Construction Requirements:

- Information regarding Windham's construction regulations and requirements can be found at <https://www.windhamnh.gov/176/Community-Development>

