

How Do I Know If I Need a Storm Water Discharge Permit?

Industrial and commercial activities that have “storm water discharge associated with industrial activity” and that fall within specifically listed Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes are required to obtain permit coverage. A SIC code is a four digit number for classifying establishments by their type of economic activity. Visit the OSHA website site at <https://www.osha.gov/data/sic-search> for help in determining your facilities SIC code.

A more complete definition of “Storm Water Discharge Associated with Industrial Activity” can be found in 40 CFR 122.26(b) (14). A summary of the types of industrial facilities and activities subject to the regulations are provided below:

1. Facilities subject to storm water effluent limitation guidelines, new source performance standards, or toxic pollutant effluent standards under 40 CFR subchapter N except facilities with toxic pollutant effluent standards which are exempted under category (10) of this definition.
2. Facilities classified as:
 - SIC 24 Lumber and wood products except Furniture (except 2434)
 - SIC 26 Paper and Allied Products (except 265 and 267)
 - SIC 28 Chemicals and Allied Products (except 283 and 285)
 - SIC 29 Petroleum Refining and Related Industries
 - SIC 311 Leather Tanning and Finishing
 - SIC 32 Stone, Clay, Glass and Concrete Products (except 323)
 - SIC 33 Primary Metal Industries
 - SIC 3441 Fabricated Structural Metal Products
 - SIC 373 Ship and Boat Building and Repairing
3. Facilities classified as SIC 10 through 14 (mineral industry) including active or inactive mining operations and oil and gas exploration, production, processing, or treatment operations, or transmission facilities that discharge storm water contaminated by contact with or that has come in contact with, any overburden, raw material, intermediate products, finished products, by products or waste products located on the site of such operations:
 - SIC 10 Metal Mining
 - SIC 13 Oil and Gas Extraction
 - SIC 12 Coal Mining
 - SIC 14 Mining and Quarrying of Nonmetallic Minerals, fuels
4. Hazardous waste treatment, storage, or disposal facilities, including those that are operating under interim status or a permit under subtitle C of RCRA.
5. Landfills, land application sites, and open dumps that receive or have received any industrial wastes (wastes from any of the facilities described under this definition including those that are subject to regulation under subtitle D of RCRA).
6. Facilities involved in the recycling of materials which are classified as:
 - SIC 5015 Motor Vehicle Parts, Used
 - SIC 5093 Scrap and Waste Materials.
7. Steam electric power generating facilities, including coal handling sites.

8. Those portion of transportation facilities that are either involved with vehicle maintenance, equipment cleaning operations, or airport deicing operations, or which are otherwise identified as industrial activities in other sections of this definition.
 - SIC 40 Railroad Transportation
 - SIC 41 Local and Suburban Transit and Interurban Highway Passenger Transportation
 - SIC 42 Motor Freight Transportation and Warehousing (except 4221-4225)
 - SIC 43 U.S. Postal Service
 - SIC 44 Water Transportation
 - SIC 45 Transportation by Air
 - SIC 5171 Petroleum Bulk Stations and Terminals
9. Treatment works treating domestic sewage or other sewage sludge with a design flow of 1.0 MGD or more, or that are required to have an approved treatment program under 40 CFR Part 403.
10. Construction activity including cleaning, grading and excavation activities except operations that result in the disturbance of less than one acre of total land area which are not part of a larger common plan or development or sale.
11. Facilities where material handling equipment or activities, raw materials, intermediate products, final products, waste materials, byproducts or industrial machinery are exposed to storm water.
 - SIC 20 Food and Kindred Products
 - SIC 21 Tobacco Products
 - SIC 22 Textile Mill Products
 - SIC 23 Apparel and Other Finished Products Made From Fabrics and Similar Materials
 - SIC 2434 Wood Kitchen Cabinets
 - SIC 25 Furniture and Fixtures
 - SIC 265 Paperboard Containers and Boxes
 - SIC 267 Converted Paper Except Containers and Boxes
 - SIC 27 Printing, Publishing and Allied Industries
 - SIC 283 Drugs SIC 285 Paint, Varnishes, Lacquers, Enamels, and Allied Products
 - SIC 30 Rubber and Miscellaneous Plastic Products
 - SIC 323 Glass Products, Made from Purchased Glass
 - SIC 34 Fabricated Metal Products, Except Machinery and Transportation Equipment (except 3441)
 - SIC 35 Industrial and Commercial Machinery and Computer Equipment
 - SIC 31 Leather and Leather Products (except 311)
 - SIC 36 Electronic and Other Electrical Equipment and Components, Except Computer Equipment
 - SIC 37 Transportation Equipment (except 373)
 - SIC 38 Measuring, Analyzing, and Controlling Instruments; Photographic, Medial and Optical Goods; Watches and Clocks
 - SIC 39 Miscellaneous Manufacturing Industries
 - SIC 4221 Farm Product Warehousing and Storage
 - SIC 4222 Refrigerated Warehousing and Storage
 - SIC 4225 General Warehousing and Storage

IDNR's paper application forms and information may be found at <https://www.iowadnr.gov/Environmental-Protection/Water-Quality/NPDES-Storm-Water/Permits-Guidance-Forms>. To apply for coverage under General Permit No. 1, General Permit No. 2 or General Permit No. 3 online, please use IDNR's Online Storm Water General Permit Application here: <https://programs.iowadnr.gov/stormwater/pages/eAppIntro>