

**GENERAL WATER POLLUTION CONTROL FACILITIES PERMIT**

Department of Environmental Quality  
811 Southwest Sixth Avenue  
Portland, OR 97204

**Issued pursuant to ORS 468B.050**

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**ISSUED TO:**

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**SOURCES COVERED BY THIS PERMIT:**

This permit covers vehicle, equipment, building, and pavement cleaning activities that discharge wash water by means of evaporation, seepage and/or irrigation. This permit covers discharges from fixed washing operations and mobile washing operations.

This general permit does not cover the following: hydroblasting (See Schedule D for definition) or the use of abrasives to remove paint or oxidized metal; and washing the inside of trailers, railroad cars, and other large commodity-carrying containers. This permit also does not cover discharges from boat washing activities.

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Lauri Aunan, Administrator  
Water Quality Division

November 7, 2007  
Effective Date

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**PERMITTED ACTIVITIES**

Until this permit expires or is modified or revoked, the permittee is authorized to construct, install, modify, or operate a wastewater collection, treatment, control and disposal system in conformance with all the requirements, limitations, and conditions set forth in the attached schedules as follows:

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Unless specifically authorized by this permit, by another NPDES or WPCF permit, or by Oregon Administrative Rule, any other direct or indirect discharge to waters of the state is prohibited, including discharge to an underground injection control system.

## HOW TO APPLY FOR COVERAGE UNDER THIS GENERAL PERMIT

### **New Permit Application Requirements**

1. Person seeking coverage under this 1700-B General Permit (2007-2017) for the first time and persons registered for coverage under the 1700-B General Permit issued in 1998 who did not submit a renewal application prior to the expiration date of the permit must do the following:
  - a. Applicants must complete an application. Applicants may obtain an Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) application form by:
    - i. Mail or in person from the DEQ regional offices provided below, or
    - ii. Downloading the application from the DEQ website.
  - b. Applicants must submit a completed application to any of the DEQ offices provided below, requesting coverage under this permit at least 30 days prior to the planned activity. DEQ may accept applications filed less than 30 days from the planned activity on a case by case basis.
  - c. Applicants must submit all applicable fees with the application.
  - d. DEQ will review the application information and will take one of the following actions:
    - i. Issue written notice of approval.
    - ii. Request additional information.
    - iii. Deny coverage under this permit. The applicant will be notified if the applicant's operation cannot be approved for coverage under the General Permit, and that the applicant may need to obtain an individual permit.

### **Permit Renewal Requirements**

1. Permittees registered under this General Permit can operate until the expiration date provided on the cover page (unless terminated or extended under Other Applicable Conditions, below). Persons requiring renewal of this General Permit must submit a complete renewal application form to DEQ no later than September 1, 2017, 60 days prior to the expiration date of this permit indicated on the cover page. The DEQ Director may grant permission to submit the application less than 60 days in advance but no later than the permit expiration date.
2. DEQ will review the application and will take one of the following actions:
  - a. Issue written notice of approval.
  - b. Request additional information.
  - c. Deny coverage under this permit. The applicant will be notified if the applicant's operation cannot be approved for coverage under the General Permit, and that the applicant may need to obtain an individual permit.

### **Other Application Conditions**

1. Coverage under this permit will continue for a permittee after the expiration date if the permittee submits a complete renewal application as described above.
2. If DEQ does not receive a renewal application as described above, coverage under this General Permit is no longer valid and the operation must cease.
3. Any person not wishing to be covered or limited by this General Permit may apply for an individual permit in accordance with the procedures in OAR 340-045-0030.

DEQ Regional Office Locations

Northwest Region  
2020 SW 4th Avenue, Suite 400  
Portland, OR 97201  
Tel. No. (503) 229-5263

Western Region  
750 Front Street NE, Suite 120  
Salem, OR 97301-1039  
Tel. No. (503) 378-8240

Eastern Region  
700 SE Emigrant, Suite 330  
Pendleton, OR 97801  
Tel. No. (541) 276-4063

## SCHEDULE A

### Exempted Activities

1. Any facility that **collects, treats, and recycles ALL wastewater with no discharge** to dry wells, surface waters or groundwater may operate without a permit from the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ).
2. Any facility that **collects ALL wastewater and discharges to a municipal sanitary sewerage system** (see schedule D for definition) may operate without a permit from the DEQ. This includes those facilities that may collect and hold wastewater for later disposal to the municipal sewerage system. A permit for discharge to sanitary sewer may be required by the local city or county.
3. The following washing activities are considered to have a **de-minimis** impact on the environment and are allowed without obtaining a permit. However, any facility found to be adversely affecting water quality will be required to obtain a permit. Such a facility would then be subject to all terms and conditions of this permit.
  - a) *ACTIVITIES WITH NO DISCHARGE TO SURFACE WATERS, STORM SEWERS OR DRY WELLS* - The use of acids, bases, metal brighteners, steam, or heated water is prohibited. The use of biodegradable, phosphate-free cleaners with cold water is allowed. However, cleaning only with cold water is recommended. Chemicals, soaps or detergents must be used sparingly.
    - i) The washing of **buildings** is permitted provided there is no runoff off-site or discharge to surface waters, storm sewer or dry wells.
    - ii) The washing of **roads, parking lots, sidewalks, and other paved surfaces** is permitted provided surfaces are swept prior to washing and there is no runoff off-site or discharge to surface waters, storm sewer or dry wells.
    - iii) The rinsing of the chute and exterior of **ready-mix concrete trucks** at the construction site is permitted provided there is no runoff off-site or discharge to surface waters, storm sewer or dry wells.
    - iv) The washing of **construction equipment and vehicles** at construction sites, **logging equipment and vehicles** at the logging site, or **farming equipment and vehicles** at the agricultural or silvicultural site for the removal of accumulated dirt is permitted provided there is no runoff off-site or discharge to surface waters, storm sewer or dry wells. Washing must be restricted to the exterior of the vehicle or equipment (no engines, transmissions, undercarriages, or interior surfaces of pesticide containers or spray solution tanks).
    - v) The washing of **golf carts and mowing machines** is permitted provided there is no runoff off-site or discharge to surface waters, storm sewer or dry wells.
    - vi) The washing of **new or used vehicles or equipment** awaiting **sale, lease or delivery** is permitted provided washing is restricted to the exterior of the vehicle or piece of equipment (no engines, transmissions, or undercarriages) and there is no runoff off-site or discharge to surface waters, storm sewer or dry wells. Rental vehicles and rented equipment are not included in this exemption.
    - vii) **Businesses** that wash **less than eight** vehicles or pieces of equipment per week provided there is no runoff off-site or discharge to surface waters, storm sewer or dry wells. Washing is

restricted to the exterior of the vehicle or equipment (no engines, transmissions, or undercarriages). When washing large trucks, the tractor and trailer are counted as separate pieces.

DEQ may allow eight or more vehicles or pieces of equipment per week to be washed if the operator demonstrates that this activity will not adversely impact soils and the groundwater at the site. This approval must be obtained in writing from DEQ.

- b) *NON-PROFIT ACTIVITIES* - Vehicle washing by private citizens and fund-raising groups such as schools, churches, boy scouts, girl scouts, etc. is permitted. Fund-raising groups must employ the best management practices outlined in DEQ's fact sheet on non-profit activities

**Discharge Limitations**

- 4. Prohibitions - The use of organic solvents or non-biodegradable chemicals, soaps and detergents is prohibited for all washing activities covered by this permit, including activities in Condition 3 above. All chemicals, soaps or detergents used must be phosphate-free. The use of chemicals to maintain proper operation of treatment facilities is allowed.
- 5. Construction and Use of Dry Wells - **The construction of new dry wells for disposal of wash water is prohibited.** The use of existing dry wells is allowed provided written approval is obtained from DEQ. Prior to discharge to an approved dry well, the wash water must comply with the limitations established in Condition 9. The use of any chemicals, soaps, detergents, steam, or hot water is *prohibited* when discharging to existing dry wells.
- 6. On-Site Treatment/Disposal Systems - **The construction of new on-site treatment and disposal systems (i.e. septic tank & drain fields) for disposal of wash water is prohibited.** The use of approved systems that have been designed and constructed specifically to treat wash water is allowed provided the system is functioning properly.
- 7. Lagoons/Ponds - An artificial liner may be required in a pond or lagoon if groundwater could be adversely affected in areas of shallow groundwater or highly permeable soils.
- 8. Groundwater Protection - No activities shall be conducted that could adversely impact groundwater quality. If adverse impacts to groundwater quality are suspected from a facility covered by this permit, DEQ may require the permittee to perform a groundwater investigation.
- 9. Limits for all washing activities covered by this permit- Wash water must be collected and treated prior to disposal by seepage or land irrigation. The treated wash water must comply with the following limitations:

Parameters	Limitations (Daily Maximum)
Oil & Grease	15 mg/l
pH	Must be within 6.0 - 9.0 range

- 10. Engine Washing, Acid/Caustic/Metal Brightener Washing, or Steam/Heated Water Washing Activities. Facilities that conduct engine washing, acid/caustic/metal brightener washing, or steam/heated water washing must conduct these operations on an **impermeable** surface.
- 11. When disposing of wash water by means of evaporation, seepage and/or irrigation, the permittee must do so in a manner to prevent the following:
  - a) Surface runoff or subsurface drainage through drainage tile.

- b) The creation of odors, fly and mosquito breeding or other nuisance conditions.
- c) The overloading of land with nutrients or organics
- d) Contamination of the soil and/or ground water.

**SCHEDULE B**

**Monitoring Requirements**

- 1. All washing operations covered by this permit must monitor their discharge in accordance with the following frequency:

For the first year of operation and until compliance is attained\*:

Parameters	Frequency	Sample Type
Oil and Grease	1/month	Grab
pH**	1/month	Grab

After the first year of operation if compliance is attained\*:

Parameters	Frequency	Sample Type
Oil and Grease	1/quarterly	Grab
pH**	1/month	Grab

\* Compliance will be based on consistently meeting effluent limits over a six-month period.  
\*\* pH paper that has the capability of determining pH to one-tenths (0.1) standard units or a properly calibrated portable pH meter may be used to make field measurement of pH.

**Reporting Requirements**

- 2. Monitoring reports must be submitted to DEQ by January 15 each year for washing activities conducted during the previous calendar year. Once a facility has attained compliance (as defined above) with the effluent limits in the permit, the permittee must notify DEQ in its annual monitoring report that compliance with effluent limits has been achieved and the facility is monitoring at the reduced frequency.

**SCHEDULE D**

**Special Conditions**

- 1. The permittee must implement whenever practicable the best management practices listed in the DEQ's guidance document titled *Recommended Best Management Practices for Washing Activities*
- 2. Changing any vehicle fluids is prohibited in wash bay areas.
- 3. Catch basins and sediment traps must be cleaned on a routine basis to prevent concentration of pollutants and re-contamination of the discharge.

4. Solids removed in any cleaning process must be collected and disposed of in accordance with methods approved by the local city or county.
5. Washing operations must not cause erosion at the site.
6. The Director may revoke registration under a general and require the registrant to apply for and obtain an individual NPDES or WPCF permit if:
  - a) The permittee is not in compliance with the terms and conditions of this general permit; or
  - b) Conditions or standards have changed so that the source or activity no longer qualifies for a general permit.
7. Any permittee not wishing to be covered or limited by this general permit may make application for an individual WPCF or NPDES permit in accordance with WPCF or NPDES procedures in OAR 340-45-0030.
8. Definitions:

*Hydroblasting* - The use of high pressure to remove paint or oxidized metals from a surface. Typically, pressures of 2000 psi and greater are used to remove paint or oxidized metal, however, lower pressures may also remove paint or oxidized metal. This permit does not allow hydroblasting.

*Storm sewer* - A system that collects water runoff from rainfall, snowmelt, and discharges from human activities (i.e., wash water). This water is typically discharged to nearby waterways with little or no treatment.

*Sanitary sewer* - A system that collects wastewater from residential, commercial and industrial sources. The wastewater is then directed to a sewage treatment plant for treatment and subsequent discharge.

*Impermeable surface* - A surface that prevents water from seeping into the ground and allows water to be collected. Examples of impermeable surfaces include paved areas using asphalt, concrete, or cement, and synthetic materials such as plastics.

## **SCHEDULE F WPCF GENERAL CONDITIONS**

### **SECTION A. STANDARD CONDITIONS**

#### **1. Duty to Comply with Permit**

The permittee must comply with all conditions of this permit. Failure to comply with any permit condition is a violation of Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) 468B.025 and grounds for an enforcement action. Failure to comply is also grounds for the Department to modify, revoke, or deny renewal of a permit.

#### **2. Property Rights and Other Legal Requirements**

Issuance of this permit does not convey any property rights of any sort, or any exclusive privilege, or authorize any injury to persons or property or invasion of any other rights, or any infringement of federal, tribal, state, or local laws or regulations.

3. Liability

The Department of Environmental Quality or its officers, agents, or employees may not sustain any liability on account of the issuance of this permit or on account of the construction or maintenance of facilities or systems because of this permit.

4. Permit Actions

After notice by the Department, this permit may be modified, suspended, or revoked in whole or in part during its term for cause including but not limited to the following:

- a. Violation of any term or condition of this permit, any applicable rule or statute, or any order of the Commission;
- b. Obtaining this permit by misrepresentation or failure to disclose fully all relevant facts.

5. Transfer of Permit

This permit may not be transferred to a third party without prior written approval from the Department. The Department may approve transfers where the transferee acquires a property interest in the permitted activity and agrees in writing to fully comply with all the terms and conditions of this permit and the rules of the Commission. A transfer application and filing fee must be submitted to the Department.

6. Permit Fees

The permittee must pay the fees required by Oregon Administrative Rules 340-045-0070, and 340-045-0075.

**SECTION B. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF POLLUTION CONTROLS**

1. Proper Operation and Maintenance

At all times the permittee must maintain in good working order and properly operate as efficiently as possible all treatment or control facilities or systems installed or used by the permittee to comply with the terms and conditions of this permit.

2. Standard Operation and Maintenance

All waste collection, control, treatment, and disposal facilities or systems must be operated in a manner consistent with the following:

- a. At all times, all facilities or systems must be operated as efficiently as possible in a manner that will prevent discharges, health hazards, and nuisance conditions.
- b. All screenings, grit, and sludge must be disposed of in a manner approved by the Department to prevent any pollutant from the materials from reaching waters of the state, creating a public health hazard, or causing a nuisance condition.
- c. Bypassing untreated waste is generally prohibited. Bypassing may not occur without prior written permission from the Department except where unavoidable to prevent loss of life, personal injury, or severe property damage.

### 3. Noncompliance and Notification Procedures

If the permittee is unable to comply with conditions of this permit because of surfacing sewage; a breakdown of equipment, facilities or systems; an accident caused by human error or negligence; or any other cause such as an act of nature, the permittee must:

- a. Immediately take action to stop, contain, and clean up the unauthorized discharges and correct the problem.
- b. Immediately notify the Department's Regional office so that an investigation can be made to evaluate the impact and the corrective actions taken, and to determine any additional action that must be taken.
- c. Within 5 days of the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstances, the permittee must submit to the Department a detailed written report describing the breakdown, the actual quantity and quality of waste discharged, corrective action taken, steps taken to prevent a recurrence, and any other pertinent information.

Compliance with these requirements does not relieve the permittee from responsibility to maintain continuous compliance with the conditions of this permit or liability for failure to comply.

### 4. Wastewater System Personnel

The permittee must provide an adequate operating staff that is duly qualified to carry out the operation, maintenance, and monitoring requirements to assure continuous compliance with the conditions of this permit.

## **SECTION C. MONITORING AND RECORDS**

### 1. Inspection and Entry

The permittee must at all reasonable times allow authorized representatives of the Department to:

- a. Enter upon the permittee's premises where a waste source or disposal system is located or where any records are required to be kept under the terms and conditions of this permit;
- b. Have access to and copy any records required by this permit;
- c. Inspect any treatment or disposal system, practices, operations, monitoring equipment, or monitoring method regulated or required by this permit; or
- d. Sample or monitor any substances or permit parameters at any location at reasonable times for the purpose of assuring permit compliance or as otherwise authorized by state law.

### 2. Averaging of Measurements

Calculations of averages of measurements required for all parameters except bacteria must use an arithmetic mean; bacteria must be averaged as specified in the permit.

### 3. Monitoring Procedures

Monitoring must be conducted according to test procedures specified in the most recent edition of **Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater**, unless other test procedures have been approved in writing by the Department and specified in this permit.

#### 4. Retention of Records

The permittee must retain records of all monitoring and maintenance information, including all calibrations, copies of all reports required by this permit, and records of all data used to complete the application for this permit, for a period of at least 3 years from the date of the sample, measurement, report or application. The Department may extend this period at any time.

### **SECTION D. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

#### 1. Plan Submittal

Pursuant to Oregon Revised Statute 468B.055, unless specifically exempted by rule, construction, installation, or modification of disposal systems, treatment works, or sewerage systems may not commence until plans and specifications are submitted to and approved in writing by the Department. All construction, installation, or modification shall be in strict conformance with the Department's written approval of the plans.

#### 2. Change in Discharge

Whenever a facility expansion, production increase, or process modification is expected to result in a change in the character of pollutants to be discharged or in a new or increased discharge that will exceed the conditions of this permit, a new application must be submitted together with the necessary reports, plans, and specifications for the proposed changes. A change may not be made until plans have been approved and a new permit or permit modification has been issued.

#### 3. Signatory Requirements

All applications, reports, or information submitted to the Department must be signed and certified by the official applicant of record (owner) or authorized designee.

### **SECTION E. DEFINITIONS**

1. *BOD<sub>5</sub>* means five-day biochemical oxygen demand.
2. *TSS* means total suspended solids.
3. *FC* means fecal coliform bacteria.
4. *NH<sub>3</sub>-N* means Ammonia Nitrogen.
5. *NO<sub>3</sub>-N* means Nitrate Nitrogen.
6. *NO<sub>2</sub>-N* means Nitrite Nitrogen.
7. *TKN* means Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen.
8. *Cl* means Chloride.
9. *TN* means Total Nitrogen.
10. "*Bacteria*" includes but is not limited to fecal coliform bacteria, total coliform bacteria, and *E. coli* bacteria.
11. *Total residual chlorine* means combined chlorine forms plus free residual chlorine.
12. *mg/l* means milligrams per liter.
13. *ug/l* means micrograms per liter.
14. *kg* means kilograms.
15. *GPD* means gallons per day.

16. *MGD* means million gallons per day.
17. *Grab sample* means an individual discrete sample collected over a period of time not to exceed 15 minutes.
18. *Composite sample* means a combination of samples collected, generally at equal intervals over a 24-hour period, and based on either time or flow.
19. *Week* means a calendar week of Sunday through Saturday.
20. *Month* means a calendar month.
21. *Quarter* means January through March, April through June, July through September, or October through December.