



***STATE OF WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES***

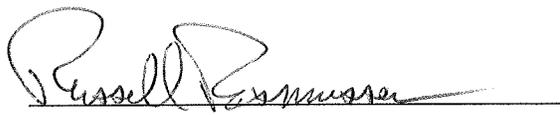
**GENERAL PERMIT TO DISCHARGE UNDER THE
WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM**

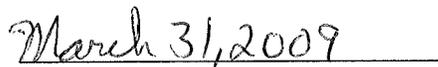
In compliance with the provisions of Chapter 283, Wisconsin Statutes, any facility that meets the applicability criteria listed in Part 1 of this permit is authorized to discharge

**WASTEWATER FROM THE OUTSIDE WASHING OF VEHICLES,
EQUIPMENT AND OTHER OBJECTS**

to Wisconsin surface waters, groundwater, or both in accordance with the effluent limitations, monitoring requirements, and other conditions set forth in this permit.

State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
For the Secretary

By 
Russell Rasmussen, Director
Bureau of Watershed Management


Date Permit Signed/Issued

Permit Effective April 1, 2009

Permit Expires March 31, 2014

1. APPLICABILITY CRITERIA

Any outside washing activity that meets the applicability criteria of this permit is required to comply with the conditions of this permit. Facilities that can be covered by this permit do not need Department approval prior to discharge.

1.1. Activities covered:

- Vehicle washing, except occasional vehicle washing done as a not-for-profit fund raising event and noncommercial washing of vehicles at individual residences,
- Equipment washing,
- Washing of hauling compartments containing inert (i.e. dirt, sand, gravel, or concrete) or readily biodegradable materials,
- Washing of recreational and lawn equipment (such as golf carts, boats, and lawn mowers), except for the rinsing in-place of boats, trailers, and other aquatic equipment to control exotic species,
- Nonemergency steam or high pressure water degreasing of an average of one or less engines or oily pieces of equipment per month at a site in any 6 month period,
- Emergency degreasing associated with equipment malfunction,
- Commercial washing of the exterior of buildings, or
- Washing activities similar in nature to above activities.

1.2. Activities not covered:

- Washing activities that are covered under an individual permit or another general permit that contain requirements for the washing of vehicles or equipment,
- Nonemergency steam or high pressure water degreasing of an average of more than one engine or oily piece of equipment per month at a given site in any given 6 month period,
- Vehicle washing within permanent structures on a commercial basis,
- Degreasing operations using degreasing agents containing halogenated hydrocarbons, or
- Washing activities where:
 - ◆ The discharge will be to a wetland unless the Department has determined that the discharge of pollutants will meet the requirements of ch. NR 103, Wis. Adm. Code.
 - ◆ The discharge will be to an outstanding resource water, as defined in s. NR 102.10, Wis.

Adm. Code, or will lower the water quality of a downstream outstanding resource water.

- ◆ The discharge will be to an exceptional resource water, as defined in s. NR 102.11, Wis. Adm. Code, or will lower the water quality of a downstream exceptional resource water.
- ◆ The discharge will contain pollutants, other than those specified in this permit, in quantities that must be limited to prevent harm to animal, plant, or aquatic life, or would violate the surface water quality standards in chs. NR 102, NR 105, NR 106, and NR 207, Wis. Adm. Code, or groundwater quality standards in ch. NR 140, Wis. Adm. Code.

1.3. Department Coverage Determination

All facilities discharging under this permit shall have a record of Department concurrence with regulation of the facility under the Outside Washing Vehicles and Equipment WPDES Permit.

2. BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMPs)

Activities covered by this permit shall implement applicable BMPs listed below to minimize or eliminate the discharge of contaminants to groundwater and/or surface waters. The Department may require by letter that the permittee maintain a copy of BMPs at the site where washing is being performed.

2.1. Total Suspended Solids (TSS): TSS in discharges to surface waters shall not exceed 40 mg/L. The permittee may attain this limit by implementing one or more of the following BMPs:

2.1.1. Washing activities shall occur on grass, soil, or gravel areas to the extent possible and infiltration of washwater shall be maximized.

2.1.2. Washing activities that occur primarily on impervious surfaces shall;

2.1.2.1. Direct washwater to a settling basin, tank, or other settling device to remove suspended solids and particulates prior to discharge to surface waters or an infiltration area,

2.1.2.2. Temporarily block, barricade, or plug areas of channeled flow to surface waters, such as storm sewers, and allow suspended solids and particulate matter to settle prior to discharge to a surface water or an infiltration area or,

2.1.2.3. Direct washwater to grass, soil, or gravel areas where the water and accompanying material can infiltrate.

2.1.3. Washing activities that produce solids or particulate matter such as dirt, paint, and other particles that may contain toxic substances from the washing of buildings shall:

2.1.3.1. To the maximum extent feasible, prevent direct discharges to surface waters (diverting this washwater to the sanitary sewers is an approved disposal practice), and

2.1.3.2. To the maximum extent feasible, separate and/or collect the solids from the washwater at the site of the washing activity and properly dispose of the solids as a solid waste.

2.1.4. Solids and particulate matter collected in a settling device or area shall be periodically removed and properly managed to prevent discharge of this material to surface waters.

2.2. Detergents: Detergents in discharges to surface waters shall not be present in amounts that cause visible foam in other than trace amounts by implementing one or more of the following BMPs:

2.2.1. Only biodegradable soaps and detergents shall be used; the quantity of soaps and detergents used shall be limited to the minimum amount needed to clean the object.

2.2.2. Only low (less than 0.5%) phosphate or nonphosphate soaps and detergents shall be used if the wastewater discharges directly to surface waters.

2.3. Degreasing chemicals: Degreasing chemicals that contain halogenated hydrocarbons shall not be added to washing solutions.

2.4. Chemical brighteners/cleaners: Any such materials, such as hydrofluoric acid on stainless steel, shall be limited to maintain the pH of the washwater discharge between 6.0 and 9.0 standard units, inclusive.

2.5. Oil and grease: Oil and grease in discharges shall not exceed 15 mg/L (NOTE: A visible oil sheen indicates the level of oil and grease has exceeded 15 mg/L). The permittee may attain this limit by implementing one or more of the following BMPs:

2.5.1. Nonemergency steam or high-pressure water degreasing of engines or oily pieces of equipment shall occur on an impermeable surface (concrete, asphalt, or other impermeable barrier such as thick plastic sheeting). Washwater shall be retained and treated with an oil/water separator or oil absorbent material prior to discharge,

2.5.2. Emergency degreasing of engines or oily pieces of equipment associated with equipment malfunction shall occur on an impervious surface (concrete, asphalt, or other barrier such as thick plastic sheeting) to the maximum extent feasible. Washwater retained shall be treated with an oil/water separator or oil absorbent material prior to discharge, and/or

2.5.3. Grease and oil from other objects shall be physically removed to the maximum extent feasible and disposed of as a solid waste or recycled.

2.6. Road deicing agents: Deicing agents that have accumulated on vehicles and equipment associated with road deicing activities shall be physically removed to the extent practical and disposed as solid waste or returned to material storage. The number of vehicles and equipment containing significant amounts of these materials and washed at a site shall be limited to the maximum extent practicable.

2.7. Requirements for Discharges to Impaired Surface Waters & to Surface Waters With Total Maximum Daily Load Allocations

2.7.1 "Pollutant(s) of concern" means a pollutant that is contributing to the impairment of a water body.

2.7.2 By February 15th of each calendar year, the permittee shall perform an **annual check** to determine whether its facility discharges a pollutant of concern to an **impaired water body** listed in accordance with Section 303(d)(1) of the federal Clean Water Act, 33 USC §1313(d)(1)(C), and the implementing regulation of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 40 CFR

§130.7(c)(1). Impaired waters are those listed as not meeting applicable water quality standards.

Note: The section 303(d) list of Wisconsin impaired water bodies may be obtained by contacting the Department or by searching for the section 303(d) list on the Department's Internet site. The Department updates the section 303(d) list approximately every two years. The updated list is effective upon approval by EPA. The current link to the section 303(d) list is:

<http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/wm/wqs/303d/>.

2.7.3 A permittee that discharges a pollutant of concern to an impaired water body shall, **within 180 days of the impaired water annual check, evaluate** the wastewater discharge from the facility to determine whether additional management practices and treatment enhancements can be implemented to minimize, with the goal of eliminating, the discharge of pollutant(s) of concern that contribute to the impairment of a water body.

2.7.4 The permittee may not establish a **new** pollutant of concern discharge to an impaired water body or **significantly increase** the discharge of a pollutant of concern to an **impaired water body** unless the new or increased discharge does not contribute to the receiving water impairment, or the new discharge is consistent with a State and Federal Approved Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) allocation for the impaired water body.

2.7.5 By **February 15th each calendar year**, the permittee shall perform an **annual check** to determine whether its facility discharges process wastewater to a water body included in a **State and Federal Approved TMDL**. If so, the permittee shall assess whether the TMDL wasteload allocation for the facility's discharge is being met through the existing pollutant controls or whether additional control measures are necessary and feasible. The assessment of the feasibility of additional control measures shall focus on improvements in the prevention of pollutant transfer to the wastewater and improvements to the process wastewater treatment effectiveness.

Note: State and Federal Approved TMDLs can be identified by contacting the Department, or by searching for the State and Federal Approved TMDL list on the Department Internet site. The current link to identify the list of State and Federal Approved Final TMDLs is:

[http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/wm/wqs/303d/Approved TMDLs.html](http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/wm/wqs/303d/Approved_TMDLs.html)

2.7.6 **Within 180 days of the annual check** for discharge to a TMDL allocated water body, a permittee that is included in a State and Federal Approved TMDL shall **submit** to the Department a **proposed TMDL implementation plan** for the facility's wastewater discharges that meets the requirements of the State and Federal Approved TMDL wasteload allocation for the facility. The proposed TMDL implementation plan shall specify any feasible additional management practices, pollution prevention activities, and wastewater treatment improvements that can be implemented. The TMDL implementation plan shall also specify a time schedule for implementation of the additional pollutant controls needed to meet the wasteload allocation.

3. OTHER PERMIT REQUIREMENTS

3.1. Discharge monitoring and reporting: Monitoring and reporting is not required by this permit.

3.2. Requirements for Discharges to Impaired Water Bodies:

3.2.1 Within 36 months after April 1, 2009, the permittee shall come into compliance with Sections 3.2.2 through 3.2.3 of this permit. Outside washing operations requesting coverage under this permit after April 1, 2012 shall be in compliance with Sections 3.2.2 through 3.2.4 of this permit upon the start of permit coverage.

3.2.2 The permittee shall determine whether any part of its facility discharges to an impaired water body listed in accordance with Section 303(d)(1) of the federal Clean Water Act, 33 USC §1313(d)(1)(C), and the implementing regulation of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 40 CFR §130.7(c)(1). Impaired waters are those listed as not meeting applicable water quality standards.

Note: The 303(d) list of Wisconsin impaired water bodies may be identified by contacting the Department or by searching for the 303(d)list on the Department's Internet site. The current link to the 303(d) list is: <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/wm/wqs/303d/>

3.2.3 The permittee may not establish a new pollutant of concern discharge to an impaired water body or significantly increase the discharge of a pollutant of concern to an impaired water body unless the new or increased discharge does not contribute to the receiving water impairment, or the new discharge is consistent with a Department approved total maximum daily load (TMDL) allocation for the impaired water body. "Pollutant(s) of concern" means a pollutant that is causing impairment of a water body.

4. STANDARD REQUIREMENTS

NR 205, Wisconsin Administrative Code: The conditions in ss. NR 205.07(1) and NR 205.07(3), Wis. Adm. Code, are included by reference in this permit. The permittee shall comply with all of these requirements, except for s. NR 205.07(1)(n), which does not apply to facilities covered under general permits. Selected NR 205.07 requirements are listed below for convenience.

4.1. Spill Reporting for Hazardous Substances: The permittee shall immediately notify the Department of an accidental release or spill of any hazardous substance to the environment as specified in ch. NR 706 and s. NR 205.07(3) b, Wis. Adm. Code. The Department shall be notified via the 24-hour toll free spills hotline (1-800-943-0003).

4.2. Duty to Halt or Reduce Activity: Upon failure or impairment of treatment facility operation, the permittee shall as required in NR 205.07(3)(e) and to the extent necessary to maintain compliance with its permit, curtail production or wastewater discharges or both until the treatment facility operations are restored or an alternative method of treatment is provided.

4.3. Inspection and Entry: The permittee shall allow an authorized representative of the Department, upon the presentation of credentials, to enter the permittee's premises, have access to records, and inspect and monitor the discharge as described in s. NR 205.07(1)(d).

4.4. Authorized Signature: Reports, records, and monitoring results required by this permit shall be signed by the permittee's authorized representative or, in his or her absence, as specified in s. NR 205.07(1)(g).

4.5. Retention and Submittal of Reports, Records, and Monitoring Results: The permittee shall retain records of all monitoring required by this permit and report monitoring results as set forth in secs. NR 205.07(1)(f) and (r). Reports, records, and monitoring results required by this permit shall be retained by the permittee for the duration of this permit or three years after this data is generated, whichever is longer.

4.6. Planned Changes: The permittee shall report to the Department any facility expansion, production increase or process modifications which will result in new, different or

increased discharges of pollutants as set forth in s. NR 205.07(3)(c).

4.7. Continuation of an Expired General Permit: As provided in s. NR 205.08(9), the terms and conditions of this general permit shall continue to apply until this general permit is reissued or revoked or until an individual permit is issued for the discharge to which the general permit applied.

4.8. Enforcement: Any violation of this permit is enforceable under ss. 283.89 and 283.91, Wisconsin Statutes.

4.9. Severability: The provisions of this permit are severable, and if any provisions of this permit or the application of any provision of this permit to any circumstance is held invalid the remainder of this permit shall not be affected thereby.