

Rule Adoption Notice

Water Quality Program

July 2017

Chapter 173-224-WAC Wastewater Discharge Permit Fees

What is Chapter 173-224 WAC?

This rule establishes annual fees for holders of wastewater and stormwater discharge permits. These permit fees pay for the Washington State Department of Ecology's (Ecology) management of the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System and State Waste Discharge Permit Program. The state uses wastewater and stormwater permits as primary tools to protect clean water.

Summary of the rule changes adopted on July 13, 2017

After a public process, Ecology has amended fees for wastewater and stormwater permit fee categories.

The fee changes cover state fiscal years:

- 2018 (July 1, 2017, through June 30, 2018).
- 2019 (July 1, 2018, through June 30, 2019).

Response to Comments

Ecology's response to comments received during the public comment period is now available.

You can download a copy of the Concise Explanatory Statement on Ecology's website:
www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/ruledev/wac173224/1611ov.html

Whom does this rule affect?

Ecology will assess permit fee increases based on the following categories. See next page for categories.

WHY IT MATTERS AND MORE INFORMATION

Wastewater/Stormwater
Permit Fee Website:
www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/permits/permit_fees/index.html

Rule Adopted

July 13, 2017

Rule Effective date

August 13, 2017

Contact information

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Special accommodations

If you need this document in format for the visually impaired, call the Water Quality Program at (360) 407-6600.

Persons with hearing loss, call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with a speech disability, call 877-833-6341.

Underpaying Fee Categories		
SFY 2018 (July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018)	6.37%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aluminum Alloys • Aluminum and Magnesium Reduction Mills • Aluminum Forming • Aggregate Production (Individual and General Permits) • Aquatic Pest Control • Boatyards (Individual and General Permits) • Coal Mining and Preparation • Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations • Dairies • Iron and Steel • Metal Finishing • Nonferrous Metals Forming • Ore Mining • Private and State Owned Facilities • Shipyards • Stormwater Construction (Individual and General Permits) • Stormwater Industrial (Individual and General Permits) • Stormwater Municipal Phase 1 and 2 Permits.
SFY 2019 (July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019)	5.58%	
Overpaying Fee Categories		
SFY 2018 (July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018)	5.50%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aquaculture • Combined Industrial Waste Treatment • Combined Food Processing Waste Treatment • Combined Sewer Overflow System • Commercial Laundry • Crop Preparing (Individual and General Permits) • Not Otherwise Classified (Individual and General Permits) • Flavor Extraction • Food Processing • Fuel and Chemical Storage • Hazardous Waste Cleanup Sites • Ink Formulation and Printing • Inorganic Chemicals Manufacturing Noncontact Cooling Water With Additives (Individual and General Permits) • Noncontact Cooling Water Without Additives (Individual and General Permits) • Municipal Wastewater - >250,000 Residential Equivalents • Organic Chemical Manufacturing • Petroleum Refining • Photofinishers • Power and/or Steam Plants • Radioactive Effluents and Discharges • RCRA Corrective Action Sites • Seafood Processing • Solid Waste Sites • Textile Mills • Timber Products • Vegetable/Bulb Washing Facilities • Vehicle Maintenance and Freight Transfer • Water Plants (Individual and General Permits) • Wineries – Individual Permits.
SFY 2019 (July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019)	4.50%	

Ecology is also updating rule language to account for changes in current business practices relating to electronic payment options, collection processes, and data collection. We are also removing the winery general permit fee category for the 2017-19 biennium, as this new permit will not be effective until July 1, 2019.

More information

To get updates on Ecology’s rulemaking activities, sign-up for the WACTrack e-mail list at www.ecy.wa.gov/maillist.html.

Appeal procedures

This adoption can be appealed under procedures described in the Administrative Procedure Act (RCW 34.05.330). For more information about appealing this rule adoption, please contact Bari Schreiner, Agency Rules Coordinator, at bari.schreiner@ecy.wa.gov or (360) 407-6998.

