

Focus on: Fresh Fruit Packing General Permit



Purpose Of The Permit

The permit addresses various legal requirements and responsibilities, and regulates the discharge of pollutants to protect water quality in Washington State. The permit authorizes the discharge of wastewater associated with the Fresh Fruit Packing Industry in Washington State. The permit is a combined National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit and State Waste Discharge Permit that limits the discharge of pollutants to surface waters under the authority of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C 1251). The permit also limits the discharge of pollutants to groundwater under the authority of the State Water Pollution Control Act (90.48 RCW).

Who Receives Coverage

We issue the Fresh Fruit Packing General Permit to any facility in the state that wash and pack fresh fruit for people to eat. Our permit outlines the conditions, treatment, and disposal methods for the facility's wastewater. This wastewater could

contain potential pollution from bacteria, herbicide or pesticide residues, and conventional wastewater pollutants.

The combined State Waste Discharge Permit and NPDES Permit provides assurance that fruit packers are protecting nearby lakes, rivers, and groundwater when managing the wastewater coming from their facilities.

What is Required with the Permit

Regular laboratory monitoring of the wastewater and regular reporting to Ecology of laboratory results. Permitted facilities may be inspected by Ecology staff on a regular basis. Facilities must meet best management practices (BMP's) outlined in the permit and keep pollution control and road management plans up-to-date.

Additional Helpful Information

ecology.wa.gov/FreshFruitPack



Marcia Porter

Marcia.Porter@ecy.wa.gov

509-454-7864



To request an ADA accommodation, contact Ecology by phone at 360-407-6600 or email at Marcia.Porter@ecy.wa.gov, or visit <https://ecology.wa.gov/accessibility>. For Relay Service or TTY call 711 or 877-833-6341.