

What federal, state, or local permits do I need for my construction project?

Does the project disturb 1 acre or more (incl. materials storage, construction staging areas, and road access) or is the project part of a common plan of development or sale that will disturb 1 acre or more in the future?

Yes

Apply for EPA's Construction General Permit (CGP). Read the permit, develop a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), and submit a Notice of Intent (NOI).

For questions contact:

puleo.shelley@epa.gov, 617-918-1545

Submit EPA NOI online at: <https://cdxnodengn.epa.gov/oeca-cgp-web/action/login>

No

No CGP needed*.

Always check with the town's Conservation Commission for any applicable wetlands or required local permits for your project.

Does the project also have the potential to discharge into a Massachusetts Outstanding Resource Water (ORW; defined within [314 CMR 4.06](#))?

No

Yes

Apply for EPA's Construction General Permit (CGP) and prepare required WM15 documents for MassDEP:

- Complete copy of EPA's NOI
- Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP)
- [Best Management Practice/Stormwater Control Measure Checklist](#)

Send required submittals to:

Dept. Environmental Protection, Surface Water Discharge Permit Program

One Winter Street, 5th floor, Boston, MA 02108

ATTN: Laura Schifman – WM15

Submit [Mass DEP transmittal form](#) and application fee payment (unless exempt) to:

Department of Environmental Protection, PO Box 4062, Boston, MA 02211

Always check with the town's Conservation Commission for any applicable wetlands or required local permits for your project.

*If a project does not meet the threshold for a CGP but dewatering is anticipated, coverage under the Dewatering General Permit (DGP: <https://www.epa.gov/npdes-permits/dewatering-general-permit-dgp-massachusetts-new-hampshire>) or Remediation General Permit (RGP: <https://www.epa.gov/npdes-permits/remediation-general-permit-rgp-massachusetts-new-hampshire>) may be required.

Appendix A. List of BMPs and SCMs for construction sites.

Potential Pollutant	Appropriate SCM	Example Site Activity
Bacteria, Pathogens	Lined Basin and on-site treatment/ appropriate disposal	Vehicle and equipment maintenance, loading and unloading operations, installation of foundations, concrete pours, and washout, washing of vehicles or equipment, dewatering ¹
	Proprietary BMPs, e.g. Filtrexx/Envirosoxx, SiltSoxx ²	Non-industrial/sanitary waste, perimeter controls
Erosion, Sediment	Construction Road Stabilization	Vehicle tracking, sediment track out, construction site entrance, unstabilized areas
	Flume, paved	Vehicle and equipment maintenance, loading and unloading operations, installation of foundations, concrete pours, and washout, washing of vehicles or equipment, fire hydrant flushing, high velocity flow discharges
	Gabions	Fire hydrant flushing, high velocity flow discharges, unstabilized areas, site stabilization
	Geotextiles	Vehicle and equipment maintenance, loading and unloading operations, installation of foundations, concrete pours, and washout, washing of vehicles or equipment
	Land Grading and Stabilization	Initial clearing and grubbing, excavation, final site stabilization, unstabilized areas
	Level Spreader	Fire hydrant flushing, external building wash-down (no soaps/solvents; external surfaces do not contain hazardous substances), uncontaminated, non-turbid discharges of groundwater or spring water, potable/uncontaminated water line flushing, uncontaminated air conditioning or compressor condensate, dust control
	Preserving Natural Vegetation/ Minimize vegetative removal	Initial clearing and grubbing, excavation, final site stabilization
	Sand Dune and Sandblow Stabilization/ Minimize vegetative removal	Initial clearing and grubbing, excavation, final site stabilization
	Seeding, permanent	Vehicle tracking, sediment track out, construction site entrance, unstabilized areas, stockpiling

¹ Dewatering of uncontaminated water is covered under the Construction General Permit (<https://www.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater-discharges-construction-activities#cgp>), however, if water is contaminated coverage under the Remediation General Permit (<https://www.epa.gov/npdes-permits/remediation-general-permit-rgp-massachusetts-new-hampshire>) is required. The RGP specifies which discharges are covered under the permit. For more information regarding this matter, contact Shauna Little (little.shauna@epa.gov, 617-918-1989)

² Reference in this document to any specific commercial product, process, or service, or the use of any trade, firm or corporation name is for the information and convenience of the public, and does not constitute endorsement, recommendation, or favoring by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection.

Potential Pollutant	Appropriate SCM	Example Site Activity
	Seeding, temporary	Vehicle tracking, sediment track out, construction site entrance, unstabilized areas, stockpiling
	Stream Crossing, temporary	Vehicle tracking, sediment track out, construction site entrance
Erosion, Sediment	Subsurface Drain	Fire hydrant flushing, external building wash-down (no soaps/solvents; external surfaces do not contain hazardous substances), uncontaminated, non-turbid discharges of groundwater or spring water, potable/uncontaminated water line flushing, uncontaminated air conditioning or compressor condensate, dust control
	Surface Roughening	Initial clearing and grubbing, excavation, final site stabilization, unstabilized areas
	Topsoiling	Initial clearing and grubbing, excavation, final site stabilization, unstabilized areas
	Water Bar flow diversion	Fire hydrant flushing, external building wash-down (no soaps/solvents; external surfaces do not contain hazardous substances), uncontaminated, non-turbid discharges of groundwater or spring water, potable/uncontaminated water line flushing, uncontaminated air conditioning or compressor condensate, dust control
	Disposal or discharge procedures	Appropriate procedures should be followed for disposal discharge of excavated/dredged soils/sediments/fill and may require an individual 401 Water Quality Certification application. Refer to 314 CMR 9.03 and 314 CMR 9.04 to determine whether an individual 401 Water Quality Certification is required.
Erosion, Sediment, Trash, Debris, Solids	Onsite Waste Management Procedures	Demolition debris and disposal, hazardous waste storage
	Brush Barrier	Initial clearing and grubbing, excavation, final site stabilization, unstabilized areas, perimeter control
	Buffer Zones, Stream Corridors, Riparian Areas. Development along riverfronts and riparian areas shall comply with 310 CMR 10.58.	Initial clearing and grubbing, excavation, final site stabilization, unstabilized areas, perimeter control
	Check Dam	Initial clearing and grubbing, excavation, final site stabilization, unstabilized areas
	Construction Entrance	Vehicle tracking, sediment track out, construction site entrance, unstabilized areas
	Overland flow diversion, permanent	Fire hydrant flushing, high velocity discharges, external building wash-down (no soaps/solvents; external surfaces do not contain hazardous substances), uncontaminated, non-turbid discharges of groundwater or spring water, potable/uncontaminated water line flushing, uncontaminated air conditioning or compressor condensate, dust control

Potential Pollutant	Appropriate SCM	Example Site Activity
	Overland flow diversion, temporary	Fire hydrant flushing, high velocity discharges, external building wash-down (no soaps/solvents; external surfaces do not contain hazardous substances), uncontaminated, non-turbid discharges of groundwater or spring water, potable/uncontaminated water line flushing, uncontaminated air conditioning or compressor condensate, dust control
	Filter Berm	Initial clearing and grubbing, excavation, final site stabilization, unstabilized areas
	Filter Strip, vegetated	Initial clearing and grubbing, excavation, final site stabilization, unstabilized areas, perimeter control
Erosion, Sediment, Trash, Debris, Solids	Grade Stabilization Structure	Initial clearing and grubbing, excavation, final site stabilization, unstabilized areas
	Inlet Protection (this should not act as a primary BMP)	Initial clearing and grubbing, excavation, final site stabilization, unstabilized areas
	Mulch and Netting	Initial clearing and grubbing, excavation, final site stabilization, unstabilized areas
	Outlet Protection and Stabilization	Initial clearing and grubbing, excavation, final site stabilization, unstabilized areas
	Proprietary BMPs, e.g. Filtrexx/Envirosoxx, SiltSoxx ²	Vehicle and equipment maintenance, loading and unloading operations, installation of foundations, concrete pours, and washout, washing of vehicles or equipment, stockpiling, perimeter controls
	Riprap	Initial clearing and grubbing, excavation, final site stabilization, unstabilized areas
	Rock Dam	Initial clearing and grubbing, excavation, final site stabilization, unstabilized areas
	Sand/Silt Fence	Vehicle and equipment maintenance, loading and unloading operations, installation of foundations, concrete pours, and washout, washing of vehicles or equipment, stockpiling, perimeter controls
	Sediment Basin	Initial clearing and grubbing, excavation, final site stabilization, unstabilized areas
	Sediment Fence	Vehicle and equipment maintenance, loading and unloading operations, installation of foundations, concrete pours, and washout, washing of vehicles or equipment, stockpiling, perimeter controls
	Sediment Trap	Vehicle and equipment maintenance, loading and unloading operations, installation of foundations, concrete pours, washout, washing of vehicles or equipment, stockpiling, perimeter controls
	Slope Drain, temporary	Initial clearing and grubbing, excavation, final site stabilization, unstabilized areas
Sodding	Vehicle tracking, sediment track out, construction site entrance, unstabilized areas, stockpiling	

Potential Pollutant	Appropriate SCM	Example Site Activity
	Straw or Hay Bale Barrier	Vehicle and equipment maintenance, loading and unloading operations, installation of foundations, concrete pours, and washout, washing of vehicles or equipment, stockpiling
	Streambank Protection and Stabilization	Initial clearing and grubbing, excavation, final site stabilization, unstabilized areas
	Terrace	Initial clearing and grubbing, excavation, final site stabilization, unstabilized areas
	Tree and Shrub Planting	Initial clearing and grubbing, excavation, final site stabilization, unstabilized areas
	Vegetated Swale	Initial clearing and grubbing, excavation, final site stabilization, unstabilized areas
	Waterway, grassed	Initial clearing and grubbing, excavation, final site stabilization, unstabilized areas
	Waterway, lined	Initial clearing and grubbing, excavation, final site stabilization, unstabilized areas
	Stockpiling	Initial clearing and grubbing, excavation, final site stabilization, unstabilized areas
Heavy Metals (sorbed to solids)	Geotextiles	Vehicle and equipment maintenance, loading and unloading operations, installation of foundations, concrete pours, and washout, washing of vehicles or equipment
Heavy Metals	Proprietary BMPs, e.g. Filtrexx/Envirosoxx, SiltSoxx ²	Vehicle and equipment maintenance, loading and unloading operations, installation of foundations, concrete pours, and washout, washing of vehicles or equipment, dewatering ¹
	Weatherproof container or shed	Outdoor storage activity, Non-industrial/sanitary waste, hazardous waste storage
	Lined Basin and on-site treatment/appropriate disposal	Vehicle and equipment maintenance, loading and unloading operations, installation of foundations, concrete pours, and washout, washing of vehicles or equipment, dewatering ¹
	On-site storage in holding tank and appropriate on-site treatment/appropriate disposal	Non-industrial/sanitary waste, hazardous waste
Nutrients	Weatherproof container or shed for storage	Outdoor storage activity, Non-industrial/sanitary waste, hazardous waste storage
	Stream buffers, vegetated buffers	Initial clearing and grubbing, final site stabilization
	Proprietary BMPs, e.g. Filtrexx/Envirosoxx, SiltSoxx ²	Final stabilization, landscape irrigation, loading and unloading
	Application of fertilizers, herbicides, pesticides shall comply with 333 CMR 12.00, 333 CMR 13.00, and 330 CMR 31.00.	Final stabilization, landscape irrigation, loading and unloading

Potential Pollutant	Appropriate SCM	Example Site Activity
pH (liquid or solids)	On-site storage in holding tank and appropriate on-site treatment/appropriate disposal	Non-industrial/sanitary waste, hazardous waste
	Lined Basin and on-site treatment	Vehicle and equipment maintenance, loading and unloading operations, installation of foundations, concrete pours, and washout, washing of vehicles or equipment, dewatering ¹
	Weatherproof container or shed for storage	Outdoor storage activity, Non-industrial/sanitary waste, hazardous waste storage
pH (washout)	Proprietary BMPs, e.g. Filtrexx/Envirosoxx, SiltSoxx ² or similar with media capable to adjust pH	Vehicle and equipment maintenance, loading and unloading operations, installation of foundations, concrete pours, and washout, washing of vehicles or equipment, dewatering ¹
Surfactants, Solvents, Oils, Fuels (sorbed to solids)	Geotextiles	Vehicle and equipment maintenance, loading and unloading operations, installation of foundations, concrete pours, and washout, washing of vehicles or equipment
Surfactants, Solvents, Oils, Fuels	Proprietary BMPs, e.g. Filtrexx/Envirosoxx, SiltSoxx ²	Vehicle and equipment maintenance, loading and unloading operations, installation of foundations, concrete pours, and washout, washing of vehicles or equipment, dewatering ¹
	Weatherproof container or shed	Outdoor storage activity, Non-industrial/sanitary waste, hazardous waste storage
Surfactants, Solvents, Oils, Fuels	Lined Basin and on-site treatment/appropriate disposal	Vehicle and equipment maintenance, loading and unloading operations, installation of foundations, concrete pours, and washout, washing of vehicles or equipment, dewatering ¹
	On-site storage in holding tank and appropriate on-site treatment/appropriate disposal	Non-industrial/sanitary waste, hazardous waste