

**INSTRUCTION PACKAGE
FOR SUBMITTING AN APPLICATION FOR A
GENERAL PERMIT FOR THE DISCHARGE OF
MINOR PHOTOGRAPHIC PROCESSING
WASTEWATERS**

(DISCHARGES TO MUNICIPAL SANITARY SEWERS ONLY)

Revision 6/10/97

Fee Increase Effective August 21, 2003

Please note: effective August 21, 2003, the fee associated with this general permit has increased; the registration fee is now \$100.00. For municipalities, the 50% discount applies. The appropriate fee must be submitted with the registration form. A registration shall not be deemed complete and no activity shall be authorized by this general permit unless the registration fee has been paid in full.

HOW TO OBTAIN A GENERAL PERMIT FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION FOR THE DISCHARGE OF MINOR PHOTOGRAPHIC PROCESSING WASTEWATERS

Mail submittals to: CT DEP/Bureau of Water Management, Attn.: Permit Coordinator
79 Elm Street, 2nd Floor, Hartford, CT 06106-5127.

STEP 1 SUBMITTAL OF APPLICATION FOR A GENERAL PERMIT

Submit the following items (Items 1-4 are included in the Application Package)

- (1) Application Form, Completed and signed
- (2) Certification Form GPH1, completed and signed
- (3) Approval for Connection to Municipal Sanitary Sewer Form, completed and signed
- (4) Permit Application Transmittal Form
- (5) Application Fee Payment of \$100.00 per site, check payable to "Dept. Of Environmental Protection"

(\$50.00 each site for any municipality) For multiple sites, submit one copy each of items 1-3 for each site which is to be covered by the General Permit. One transmittal form and a check for the total amount can be submitted. Do NOT submit Certification Form GPH2 at this point in the process (see STEP 4 below).

STEP 2 RECEIPT OF APPROVAL/PERMIT FROM DEP

Upon receipt of a complete application as described in STEP 1 above, the DEP will mail you an Approval/Permit, which is a document containing an Approval letter and a General Permit.

The Approval authorizes construction of treatment facilities (the silver recovery system and associated appurtenances). For discharges with an average daily flow greater than 100 gallons per day, a Professional Engineer licensed in the state of Connecticut must certify that the facilities have been installed properly, and should be contacted BEFORE starting construction.

The General Permit you receive at this point is your permit to discharge, **but the discharge is not authorized at this point in the application process.** Applicant is authorized to discharge only after completion of all the steps in the application process (see STEP 5 below).

STEP 3 INSTALLATION OF TREATMENT FACILITIES

Treatment facilities may be installed only after the Approval/Permit has been received by the Applicant.

STEP 4 SUBMITTAL OF CERTIFICATION FORM GPH2

This form certifies that the treatment facilities have been installed properly. It must be signed by a Professional Engineer licensed in Connecticut if the average daily flow of the discharge is greater than 100 gallons per day.

STEP 5 COMMENCEMENT OF DISCHARGE

Upon receipt of a completed form GPH2, the DEP will stamp it and return it to the applicant. Applicant is authorized to discharge at a site only after receipt of Certification Form GPH2 bearing the DEP Authorization stamp.

EXPLANATION OF APPLICATION PROCESS

Photographic processing facilities discharging to sanitary sewerage systems with flows no greater than 5,000 gallons per day may qualify for a general permit. Facilities with discharges to groundwaters, storm sewers, surface waters, or with flows greater than 5,000 gallons per day must apply for an individual permit. The sanitary sewer is the only permissible discharge location under the general permit category, and is the preferred discharge location since it provides the best treatment of the various chemicals used and wastewaters generated in photographic processing.

A discharge permit is not required if the wastewaters are collected in a holding tank which is pumped regularly by a waste hauler. Holding tanks must have provisions for containment of leaks and spills, such as a containment berm or secondary tank, and a high level alarm to indicate when the tank must be pumped out.

A treatment system for silver recovery must be installed. Silver is usually removed either by electrolytic recovery, or by ion exchange precipitation/filtration with iron using systems ranging from simple canisters to more sophisticated ion exchange columns. The most suitable form of pretreatment will depend on the type of photographic processing involved (i.e. black and white film processing, color film processing, X-ray film processing, etc.) and the discharge flow. Total silver concentration in the influent and pretreated effluent must be monitored (i.e. silver test paper, portable silver test kit, etc.) at least once per month to ensure the treatment system is adequately removing silver from the discharge. Maintenance records of the silver recovery system must be maintained at the facility.

The silver recovery system must be rated by the manufacturer to remove 90% of silver at an influent silver concentration of 50.0 mg/l and the effluent silver concentration may not be greater than 5.0 mg/l. Spent silver recovery cartridges and other silver bearing components may exhibit the characteristics of EP toxicity for silver if not properly washed, which would classify it as a hazardous material. Instructions for proper washing and handling instructions should be obtained from the silver recovery equipment supplier and/or a precious metal refiner. It is the applicant's responsibility to determine whether or not the silver contained in the recovery system is hazardous. Collection, handling, and disposal of hazardous materials must be in accordance with all Connecticut DEP and US EPA requirements.

Some photographic processes involve the use of chromate bleach solutions, which usually contain the hexavalent form of chromium, which is a toxic metal pollutant. Chromate bleach solutions are not permitted to be discharged to any sanitary sewer, storm sewer, surface water body, or the ground. Any process employing a chromate bleach must segregate that process wastewater for collection and disposal by a Connecticut licensed waste transporter.

Under Connecticut law, an APPROVAL must be obtained from the DEP before installation of the silver recovery system, and a PERMIT must be obtained from the DEP before discharging.

Staff engineers can be reached at (860) 424-3018 from 8:30 a.m to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday to answer any questions.

COMPLIANCE WITH WATER DISCHARGE REGULATIONS

COPY OF CERTIFICATION FORM GPH1

- 1) THE ONLY DISCHARGE TO THE SANITARY SEWER FROM THIS FACILITY (EXCEPT DOMESTIC SEWAGE INCIDENTAL TO THE OCCUPANCY OF THE BUILDING) WILL BE NO MORE THAN 5,000 GALLONS PER DAY OF PHOTOGRAPHIC PROCESSING WASTEWATER, UNLESS THIS DEPARTMENT HAS ISSUED A PERMIT FOR OTHER DISCHARGES AT THIS FACILITY.
- 2) ONLY MINOR PHOTOGRAPHIC PROCESSING WASTEWATER WILL DISCHARGE TO THE SANITARY SEWER VIA THE SILVER RECOVERY SYSTEM.
- 3) NO CHROMATE BLEACH SOLUTIONS SHALL BE DISCHARGED TO ANY SANITARY SEWER STORM SEWER SURFACE WATER BODY, OR TO THE GROUND.
- 4) THE SILVER RECOVERY SYSTEM IS RATED BY THE MANUFACTURER TO REMOVE 90% OF SILVER AT AN INFLUENT CONCENTRATION OF 50.0 MG/L, AND THE SILVER CONCENTRATION IN THE EFFLUENT WILL NOT BE GREATER THAN 5.0 MG/L. THE EFFICIENCY OF THE SILVER RECOVERY SYSTEM WILL BE DETERMINED BY MONITORING (I.E. BY SILVER TEST PAPER OR A PORTABLE SILVER TEST KIT) AND RECORDING THE IN-FLUENT AND EFFLUENT SILVER CONCENTRATIONS AT A MINIMUM OF ONCE PER MONTH. MONITORING RECORDS SHALL BE MAINTAINED AT THE FACILITY.
- 5) SPENT SILVER RECOVERY CARTRIDGES AND SILVER BEARING COMPONENTS WHICH ARE NOT PROPERLY WASHED AND EXHIBIT THE CHARACTERISTICS OF TCLP FOR SILVER, AND CHROMATE BLEACH SOLUTIONS SHALL BE STORED IN APPROPRIATE CONTAINERS AND DISPOSED OF BY A WASTE HAULER LICENSED FOR THAT PURPOSE UNDER THE CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES.
- 6) ANY SPILLS OF PHOTOGRAPHIC PROCESSING CHEMICALS WILL BE CLEANED UP AND DISPOSED OF IN ACCORDANCE WITH FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS.
- 7) SECONDARY CONTAINMENT CAPABLE OF HOLDING THE ENTIRE VOLUME OF THE LARGEST STORAGE VESSEL CONTAINED THEREIN PLUS TEN PERCENT, WILL BE PROVIDED FOR BULK PHOTOGRAPHIC PROCESSING SOLUTIONS WHICH ARE STORED IN CONTAINERS OF AT LEAST 50 GALLONS CAPACITY OR WHEN DEEMED NECESSARY BY THE MUNICIPALITY OR STATE

**APPLICATION PACKAGE
FOR OBTAINING A GENERAL PERMIT
FOR THE DISCHARGE OF
MINOR PHOTOGRAPHIC PROCESSING
WASTEWATER**

Revision 6/10/97

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
WATER MANAGEMENT BUREAU**

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| <p style="text-align: center;">AGENCY USE ONLY</p> Application No. _____ DEP/WPC No. _____ Permit No. GPH _____ | <p>Complete Application Form and Submit with A. Certification of Compliance Form GPH1 B. Municipality Approval Form C. Application Fee Payment of \$100.00 (\$50.00 for any municipality)</p> <p>To: CT DEP/Water Management Bureau 79 Elm Street, Hartford CT 06106</p> |
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**GENERAL PERMIT APPLICATION FOR
MINOR PHOTOGRAPHIC PROCESSING WASTEWATERS**

1. PURPOSE OF FORM:

Application for General Permit [] Additional Facility []

2. APPLICANT

NAME _____ TELEPHONE _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

TOWN _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

LOCATION ADDRESS _____

TOWN _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

3. FACILITY INFORMATION:

NAME _____ TELEPHONE _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

TOWN _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

LOCATION ADDRESS _____

TOWN _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

4. FACILITY OWNER INFORMATION:

NAME _____ TELEPHONE _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

TOWN _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

LOCATION ADDRESS _____

TOWN _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

5. FACILITY OPERATOR INFORMATION:

NAME _____ TELEPHONE _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

TOWN _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

LOCATION ADDRESS _____

TOWN _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

6. OPERATOR'S STATUS:

Federal **State** **Public** **Private** **Other**

7. DISCHARGE INFORMATION:

AVERAGE DAILY FLOW _____ (IN GALLONS PER DAY)

TOTAL HOURS DISCHARGE WILL OCCUR PER DAY: _____

DATE DISCHARGE BEGAN OR WILL BEGIN:(Mo/Day.Yr): ____ / ____ / ____

8. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PERSON CONTRACTED FOR THE RECOVERY OF SILVER

NAME _____ TELEPHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

TOWN _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

9. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER LICENSED IN CONNECTICUT: (For Discharges Not Exceeding an Average Flow of Up to 100 Gallons per Day, Skip to Section 10)

NAME _____ TELEPHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

TOWN _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

10. COASTAL BOUNDARY/INDIAN LANDS: Is the facility located:

Within the **coastal boundary** as defined by section 22a-94 of the Connecticut General Statutes as amended? No Yes

On Indian lands as defined by section 47-63 of the Connecticut General Statutes as amended? No Yes

11. THE APPLICANT SHALL MAKE THE FOLLOWING CERTIFICATION:

"I CERTIFY UNDER PENALTY OF LAW THAT THIS DOCUMENT AND ALL ATTACHMENTS WERE PREPARED UNDER MY DIRECTION OR SUPERVISION IN ACCORDANCE WITH A SYSTEM DESIGNED TO ASSURE THAT QUALIFIED PERSONNEL PROPERLY GATHER AND EVALUATE THE INFORMATION SUBMITTED. BASED ON MY INQUIRY OF THE PERSON OR PERSONS WHO MANAGE THE SYSTEM, OR THOSE PERSONS DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR GATHERING THE INFORMATION, THE INFORMATION IS, TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, TRUE, ACCURATE AND COMPLETE. I AM AWARE THAT THERE ARE SIGNIFICANT PENALTIES FOR SUBMITTING FALSE INFORMATION, INCLUDING THE POSSIBILITY OF FINE AND IMPRISONMENT FOR KNOWING VIOLATIONS."

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT _____ **DATE** _____

The application must be signed by: a. For a corporation -by a responsible corporate officer, b. For a partnership - by a general partner, c. For a sole proprietorship - by the proprietor, d. For a municipality, State, Federal, or other public agency - by either a principal executive officer or a ranking elected official.

APPROVAL FOR CONNECTION TO MUNICIPAL SANITARY SEWER

(Type or Print Clearly)

1) APPLICANT COMPLETES THIS SECTION

Applicant: _____

Address: _____

Facility: _____

Address : _____

2) MUNICIPALITY COMPLETES THIS SECTION

City/Town/Borough of _____

Department/Office of _____

Address: _____

THE APPLICANT IS HEREBY TENTATIVELY APPROVED FOR CONNECTION TO THE MUNICIPAL SANITARY SEWERAGE SYSTEM, AT THE FACILITY LOCATION REFERENCED ABOVE, FOR THE DISCHARGE OF UP TO 5,000 GALLONS PER DAY OF MINOR PHOTOGRAPHIC WASTEWATER.

FINAL APPROVAL MAY BE CONTINGENT UPON RECEIVING AN APPROVAL/PERMIT FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND/OR OTHER APPROVALS OR PERMITS REQUIRED BY THE MUNICIPALITY.

Signature of Duly Authorized Municipal Official

Name of Duly Authorized Municipal Official

Title of Duly Authorized Municipal Official

Date

FINAL CERTIFICATION FORM

CERTIFYING INSTALLATION OF

MINOR PHOTOGRAPHIC PROCESSING

WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITIES

DO NOT SUBMIT THIS FORM WITH THE APPLICATION

**SUBMIT THIS FORM ONLY AFTER RECEIPT OF APPROVAL LETTER
FROM DEP AND AFTER INSTALLATION OF TREATMENT FACILITIES**

Revision 6/10/97

CERTIFICATION FORM GPH2

Submit After Installation of Treatment Facilities

Facility Name & Address: _____

Application No: _____ (See Approval/Permit)

I HEREBY CERTIFY, UNDER PENALTY OF LAW, THAT THE COLLECTION AND TREATMENT FACILITIES HAVE BEEN INSTALLED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE APPLICATION TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AFTER REASONABLE INVESTIGATION.

I AM AWARE THAT THERE ARE SIGNIFICANT PENALTIES FOR IMPROPER INSTALLATION OF THESE FACILITIES AND FOR SUBMITTING FALSE INFORMATION, INCLUDING THE POSSIBILITY OF FINE AND IMPRISONMENT FOR KNOWING VIOLATIONS.

Signature of Applicant

Date

Print Name of Applicant

A PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER LICENSED IN CONNECTICUT MUST COMPLETE BELOW FOR DISCHARGES WITH AN AVERAGE DAILY FLOW GREATER THAN 100 GALLONS PER DAY:

Signature of Professional Engineer

Date

Print Name of Professional Engineer

Professional Engineer's Stamp

AGENCY USE ONLY

Return to: CT Department of Environmental Protection
Water Management Bureau, PERD
79 Elm Street, 2nd Floor
Hartford, CT 06106-5127

DISCHARGE OF MINOR PHOTOGRAPHIC PROCESSING WASTEWATERS FROM THE ABOVE SITE IS AUTHORIZED UPON RECEIPT OF THIS CERTIFICATION FORM BEARING THE DEP AUTHORIZATION STAMP.