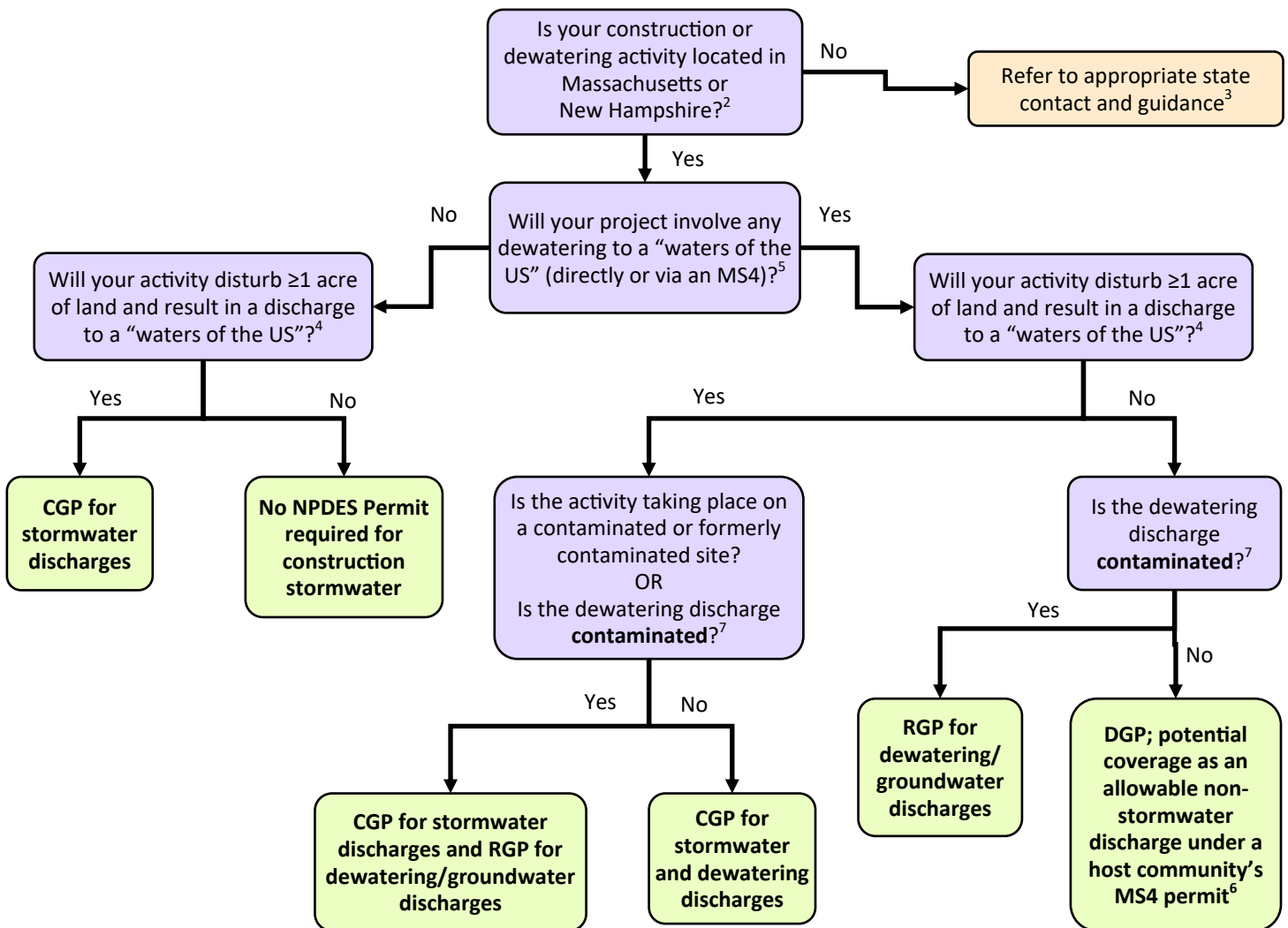


# Do I need an NPDES permit for discharges related to my construction or dewatering activity?<sup>1</sup>



## Notes:

- <sup>1</sup> EPA has made several general permits available for operators seeking to discharge stormwater and non-stormwater. Each general permit has its own eligibility criteria; where criteria cannot be satisfied, an operator may need to seek coverage under an alternative general permit or an individual permit.
- <sup>2</sup> EPA is also the permitting authority for federal facilities located in Vermont and Indian Country located in Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island.
- <sup>3</sup> Connecticut: [http://www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp?a=2721&q=325690&deepNav\\_GID=1654](http://www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp?a=2721&q=325690&deepNav_GID=1654)  
 Maine: <http://www.maine.gov/dep/water/wd/gp.html>  
 Rhode Island: <http://www.dem.ri.gov/programs/water/permits/ripdes/>  
 Vermont: <http://dec.vermont.gov/watershed/wastewater/discharge-permits>
- <sup>4</sup> Land disturbance does not include routine maintenance that is performed to maintain the original line and grade, hydraulic capacity, or original purpose of the site (e.g., daily cover for landfills, maintenance of gravel roads or parking areas, landscape maintenance, etc.).
- <sup>5</sup> Dewatering is defined as the pumping or draining of groundwater or stormwater accumulation from an excavation, sump, or other subsurface reservoir; excluding any normally free-flowing portion of a municipal, perimeter, yard or similar drain.
- <sup>6</sup> If the discharge is eligible for the DGP, contact the MS4 Operator receiving the proposed discharge to seek alternate authorization under its MS4 permit as a non-stormwater discharge.
- <sup>7</sup> "Contaminated" discharges include discharges that contain pollutants besides those authorized under the CGP or DGP, unless naturally occurring (eligible metals; see Page 2). In addition, in NH contaminated dewatering discharges not covered under the CGP include all discharges within 1000 feet of groundwater contamination.

**Disclaimer: This information is guidance only and does not establish or affect legal rights or obligations.**

Generally, parameters must be non-detect above the minimum levels (MLs) listed in the Remediation General Permit to be considered uncontaminated. Naturally-occurring metals detected below RGP water quality limits without considering dilution may be excepted from this designation.

| Parameter               | Sample Result Must Be <                                   | Commonly Used Test Method(s) from 40 C.F.R. Part 136 that Generally Achieves the ML noted |
|-------------------------|---|---|
| Chloride                | 230 mg/L  | SM 4110 B; 300.0  |
| Total Residual Chlorine | 50 µg/L   | SM 4500-Cl G and E  |
| Total Suspended Solids  | 30 mg/L   | SM 2540 D   |
| Antimony                | 206 µg/L  | 200.8 and 200.9   |
| Arsenic                 | FW= 10 µg/L<br>SW= 36 µg/L                                | 200.8 and 200.9 in FW<br>200.7, 200.8 and 200.9 in SW                                     |
| Cadmium                 | FW= 0.25 µg/L<br>SW= 8.8 µg/L in MA<br>SW= 9.3 µg/L in NH | 200.8 in FW<br>200.8 and 200.9 in SW  |
| Chromium III            | FW= 74 µg/L<br>SW= 100 µg/L                               | 200.7, 200.8 and 200.9  |
| Chromium VI             | FW= 11 µg/L<br>SW= 50 µg/L                                | 218.6   |
| Copper                  | FW= 9 µg/L<br>SW= 3.1 µg/L                                | 200.8 and 200.9   |
| Iron                    | FW = 1,000 µg/L   | 200.7 and 200.8   |
| Lead                    | FW= 2.5 µg/L<br>SW= 8.1 µg/L                              | 200.8 and 200.9   |
| Mercury                 | FW= 0.77 µg/L<br>SW= 0.739 µg/L                           | 245.1, 245.7 and 1631E  |
| Nickel                  | FW= 52 µg/L<br>SW= 8.2 µg/L                               | 200.8 and 200.9   |
| Silver                  | FW= 3.2 µg/L<br>SW= 1.9 µg/L                              | 200.8   |
| Zinc                    | FW= 120 µg/L<br>SW= 81 µg/L                               | 200.7 and 200.8   |