



Fact Sheet

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania • Department of Environmental Protection

PENNSYLVANIA STATE PROGRAMMATIC GENERAL PERMIT PASPGP-3

Introduction

PASPGP-3 is a federal Clean Water Act, Section 404 Permit that authorizes the discharge of dredge and fill material into waters of the United States. In most instances, PASPGP-3 can be issued by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) or a county conservation district with approved Chapter 105 water obstruction and encroachment permits. PASPGP-3 eliminates the need for dual and often redundant state and federal reviews, processing and permit issuance procedures.

The PASPGP-3 divides regulated activities into three categories based on the size of the activity and compliance with state and federal permit review standards.

Advantages of PASPGP-3

- Allows single agency review and processing;
- Simplifies the permit review process for the regulated community;
- Eliminates redundant reviews by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA);
- Improves program efficiency;
- Provides special protection for threatened and endangered species; and
- Maintains optimum level of environmental protection for the Commonwealth's natural resources provided under state and federal law.

How PASPGP-3 Works

Permit applications for work in wetlands, rivers, streams and other waters will be reviewed by DEP or the delegated county conservation district. Those applications for projects that have potential significant environmental impacts will be forwarded to the Corps for review. Applications not forwarded to the Corps will be processed entirely by DEP or the delegated county conservation districts.

PASPGP-3 places DEP and designated county conservation districts in the lead for processing approximately 80 percent of the state and federal permits.

Category 1 activities are not forwarded to the Corps for review:

- Activities waived at Chapter 105.12 (except waiver #2); and
- Activities authorized by a general permit (except for the gravel removal portion of the GP-3 and GP-15).

Category 2 activities are published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin for public comments and as notice to the federal agencies:

- Activities impacting less than one acre of wetland and other bodies of water; and
- Activities impacting less than 250 linear feet of stream.

Category 3 activities are forwarded to the Corps for review:

- Activities impacting wetlands within the 14-county range of the bog turtle;
- Activities impacting more than 250 linear feet of streams;
- Activities involving dams, weirs, fill or stream channelization in the Juniata and Susquehanna Rivers; and
- Activities in the Allegheny River from Kinzua Dam to its confluence with the Ohio River, French, LeBoeuf, Muddy, Conneauttee Creeks or Conneaut Outlet.

The Corps District will evaluate the application and either determine that the proposed action qualifies under PASPGP-3 or requires an individual Section 404 permit review.

Activities Related to Residential, Commercial and Institutional Developments (Subdivisions)

Effective July 1, 2007, work requiring a federal authorization in a residential, commercial, or institutional development (subdivision) containing greater than 0.25 acres of additional jurisdictional wetlands present within the project boundary but not proposed to be affected by the permitted work will be processed as a Category 3 activity.

If the permit applicant places a deed restriction or conservation easement on the property, and follows the Corps models for such conservation instruments, the permit may be authorized by DEP without being sent to the Corps as a Category 3 activity.

The following activities do not qualify for authorization under PASPGP-3

- Activities that will impact more than one acre of water or wetlands; and
- Activities in the following waterbodies:

Delaware River	and portions of the:
Beaver River	Schuylkill River
Little Beaver River	Lehigh River
Mahoning River	Youghiogheny River
Monongahela River	Allegheny River
Ohio River	Kiskiminetas River
Lake Erie	Ten Mile Creek

The Corps and DEP will process separate Section 404 and Chapter 105 authorizations in these waters.

For additional information contact:

<u>PERMITTING AND TECHNICAL SERVICES SECTION</u>	<u>COUNTY RESPONSIBILITY</u>	<u>PERMITTING AND TECHNICAL SERVICES SECTION</u>	<u>COUNTY RESPONSIBILITY</u>
Northcentral Regional Office 208 W. Third St., Suite 101 Williamsport, PA 17701 570-327-3574	Bradford, Cameron, Centre, Clearfield, Clinton, Columbia, Lycoming, Montour, Northumberland, Potter, Snyder, Sullivan, Tioga and Union	Southcentral Regional Office 909 Elmerton Ave. Harrisburg, PA 17110 717-705-4700	Adams, Bedford, Berks, Blair, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Fulton, Huntingdon, Juniata, Lancaster, Lebanon, Mifflin, Perry and York
Northeast Regional Office 2 Public Square Wilkes-Barre, PA 18711-0790 570-826-2511	Carbon, Lackawanna, Lehigh, Luzerne, Monroe, Northampton, Pike, Schuylkill, Susquehanna, Wayne and Wyoming	Southeast Regional Office 2 East Main Street Norristown, PA 19401 484-250-5970	Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery and Philadelphia
Northwest Regional Office 230 Chestnut St. Meadeville, PA 16335 814-332-6984	Butler, Clarion, Crawford, Elk, Erie, Forest, Jefferson, Lawrence, McKean, Mercer, Venango and Warren	Southwest Regional Office 400 Waterfront Dr. Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4745 412-442-4000	Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Cambria, Fayette, Greene, Indiana, Somerset, Washington and Westmoreland

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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Susquehanna River Basin
Baltimore District Corps of Engineers
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Fax: 410-962-6024

Ohio River Basin
Pittsburgh District Corps of Engineers
Room 1817 Federal Bldg.
1000 Liberty Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
Phone: 412-395-7152
Fax: 412-644-4211

or

Baltimore District Corps of Engineers
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DEP CENTRAL OFFICE

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For more information, visit DEP's Web site at www.depweb.state.pa.us, Keyword: "Wetlands."