

Wastewater Discharge Permit Fees

The Washington State Department of Ecology proposes to adopt amendments to Chapter 173-224 WAC, Wastewater Discharge Permit Fees. The rule proposal will be published in the Washington State Register on August 5, 2015.

What is the purpose of this rule proposal?

The purpose of this rule proposal is increase annual fees by:

5.41% for State Fiscal Year 2016 (July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016) and 5.27% for State Fiscal Year 2017 (July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017) for the following fee types: Aluminum Alloys, Aluminum & Magnesium Reduction Mills, Aluminum Forming, Aggregate Production - Individual and General Permits, Aquatic Pest Control, Boatyards - Individual and General Permits, Coal Mining and Preparation, Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations, Dairies, Iron and Steel, Metal Finishing, Nonferrous Metals Forming, Ore Mining, Private and State Owned Facilities, Shipyards, Stormwater Construction - Individual and General Permits, Stormwater Industrial - Individual and General Permits, and Stormwater Municipal Phase 1 and 2 Permits.

and by

3.25% for State Fiscal Year 2016 (July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016) and 3.21% for State Fiscal Year 2017 (July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017) for the following fee types: Aquaculture, Combined Industrial Waste Treatment, Combined Food Processing Waste Treatment, Combined Sewer Overflow System, Commercial Laundry, Crop Preparing - Individual and General Permits, Facilities Not Otherwise Classified - Individual and General Permits, Flavor Extraction, Food Processing, Fuel and Chemical Storage, Hazardous Waste Cleanup Sites, Ink Formulation and Printing, Inorganic Chemical Manufacturing, Noncontact Cooling Water With Additives - Individual and General Permits, Noncontact Cooling Water Without Additives - Individual and General Permits, Organic Chemical Manufacturing, Petroleum Refining, Photofinishers, Power and/or Steam Plants, Pulp, Paper and Paperboard, Radioactive Effluents and Discharges, RCRA Corrective Action Sites, Seafood Processing, Solid Waste Sites, Textile Mills, Timber Products, Vegetable/Bulb Washing Facilities, Vehicle Maintenance and Freight Transfer,

PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULE

Ecology will hold a public hearing via video-conference on August 31, 2015, beginning at 1:30 p.m. at the following locations:

Bellevue

Department of Ecology
3190 - 160th Avenue SE
Room 1C

Lacey

Department of Ecology
Headquarters Building
300 Desmond Drive
Room ROA-36

Spokane

Department of Ecology
Eastern Regional Office
4601 N Monroe Street
Room 1-NW-18

Union Gap

Department of Ecology
Central Regional Office
1250 W Alder Street
Room 102-A-VC

Special assistance for persons with disabilities:

Please contact Ecology by August 12, 2015.

If you need this document in a format for the visually impaired, call the Water Quality Program at (360) 407-6600.

Persons with hearing loss, call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with a speech disability, call 877-833-6341.

Water Plants – Individual and General Permits, and Wineries – Individual Permits. Ecology is also adding three new fee categories that will include Bridge Washing, In-water Vessel Deconstruction, and Wineries – General Permits.

King County DNR Wastewater Treatment will have fees increased by 4.22% for State Fiscal Year 2016 and 4.19% for State Fiscal Year 2017.

What documents are available for review and comment?

The following documents are now available for review and comment:

- Proposed rule language.
- Small Business Economic Impact Statement (SBEIS).
- Preliminary Cost-Benefit and Least Burdensome Alternative Analyses.

To download these documents visit:

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/ruledev/wac173224/1502ov.html>

Public Comment period

You can submit comments on this proposal through September 9, 2015.

You can give us your official comments in the following ways:

1. Testify or submit written comments at public hearings.
2. Email comments electronically to bev.poston@ecy.wa.gov.
3. Fax your comments to Bev Poston at (360) 407-7151.
4. Mail comments to:

Department of Ecology
Bev Poston, Water Quality Program
PO Box 47600
Olympia, WA 98504-7600

Ecology's response to your comments

All of the comments Ecology receives will become part of the official record. Ecology will publish responses to comments in a document called a Concise Explanatory Statement (CES). The CES is required by the Administrative Procedure Act (RCW 34.05) and is available after the rule is adopted. You will find your name listed in the document with a reference to where, in the document, Ecology responded your comments.

Expected adoption date

Ecology expects to adopt this rule no earlier than November 18, 2015.

