



Massachusetts
Department
of
ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION

f a c t s h e e t

Revised Sewer Regulations and Operation and Maintenance Regulations

On April 25, 2014, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) amended its regulations governing sewers (314 CMR 7.00) to streamline state approval requirements for sewer extensions and sanitary and industrial wastewater sewer connections. In addition, the Operation and Maintenance regulations (314 CMR 12.00) were modified to require municipalities to maintain an infiltration and inflow identification and mitigation program, among other things. The changes are described in more detail below

Regulations Affected

- 314 CMR 7.00, Sewer Extension and Connection Permits
- 314 CMR 12.00, Operation & Maintenance Standards for Wastewater Treatment Plants

Sewer Connections - 314 CMR 7.00 Sewer Extension and Connection Permits

- MassDEP will retain the existing permit requirements for certain industrial facilities by SIC code (see list below) that discharge greater than 25,000 gallons per day to a treatment facility that does not have an approved industrial pretreatment program.
- MassDEP will retain its ability to require a permit where the Department determines that the discharge will, or has the potential to, pass through the treatment facility, cause water quality violations in the receiving water, or by-pass treatment.
- MassDEP will no longer issue permits for sewer extensions or connections for discharges that do not meet the thresholds for state permitting described above.

New connections to sanitary sewers, increases in flow to existing sanitary sewers, and discharges from businesses that are not considered to be “industrial wastewater” (i.e., the business is not one of the types listed in 314 CMR 7.17(2)c or the table on page 2 of this fact sheet) are subject to state requirements based on their expected discharge volume:

SIC/NAICS Code	Facility Type
1000-1399	Metal Mining, Coal Mining, Oil and Gas Exploration
1474-1499	Chemical/Fertilizer Mining, Nonmetallic Minerals
2000-3999	Manufacturing
4231	Maintenance Facilities for Motor Freight Transport
4581	Airports, Flying Fields and Airport Terminal Service
4911-4939	Electric and Gas Production
4953	Refuse Systems
7216	Dry-cleaning (except rug cleaning)
7217	Carpet and Upholstery Cleaning
7218	Industrial Laundries
7384	Photofinishing Laboratories
7532-7539	Automotive Repair Shops and Paint Shops

7549	Automotive Services
7819	Motion Picture Developing/Printing/Film Processing
8062-8069	Hospitals
8071	Medical Laboratories
8731	Commercial Physical and Biological Research
Remedial discharges under M.G.L. c. 21E at any active or inactive facility in one or more of the above SIC Code categories	
An Industrial User with a discharge to the sewer system and which is NOT in one of the above SIC codes and which generates hazardous industrial wastewater	

Operation & Maintenance Standards - 314 CMR 12.00 Operation & Maintenance Standards for Wastewater Treatment Plants

- Sewer system authorities must develop and implement an I/I identification and elimination program as part of municipal operation and maintenance procedures by December 31, 2017.
- Sewer system authorities with existing I/I identification and elimination programs may submit those I/I programs to MassDEP to satisfy the I/I program requirement. MassDEP may require modifications to those programs if the sewer system causes public health or environmental impacts, for example, through chronic Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSO's).
- Sewer system authorities must conduct sewer system evaluations to identify areas of limited capacity in the collection system that could lead to sanitary sewer overflows.
- Sewer System Authorities must develop offset programs for systems or portions of systems that experience chronic overflows or where evaluation identifies a potential problem area.
- Flexibility is provided for authorities to establish a higher or lower offset requirement than the standard 4:1 offset ratio for systems or portions of systems that experience chronic overflows or where evaluation identifies a potential problem area.
- The requirements for inspecting pump stations have been adjusted so that stations discharging greater than 100,000 gpd shall be inspected daily, and weekly inspections are required for stations pumping less than 100,000 gpd. Owners of pump stations may request less frequent inspection schedules on an individual basis.
- The pretreatment standards for industrial discharges, and the sanitary sewer overflow reporting requirements (originally in the sewer regulations) are included in the O&M regulations as proposed.
- Sewer system authorities maintain updated local sewer use rules and regulations that must but not limited to: control the discharge of fats, oil, and grease to the sewer system, requirements for a permitting or approval process for connections and extensions and where needed offset requirements. These only do not need to be submitted to MassDEP, unless MassDEP requests this submission.

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