

WHAT IS SWP3?

An SWP3 (Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan) documents the measures you take to minimize the discharge of pollutants from your site. This document **is more than just a sediment and erosion control plan**. The SWP3 must identify and address all potential sources of pollution at the site, and describe and ensure implementation practices that will be used to reduce pollutants in stormwater discharges from the site. The plan requires several parts, including but not limited to:

- a site and project description (including each major phase of planned activity and maps);
- roles and responsibilities of contractors and subcontractors;
- a description of discharges that do not involve stormwater;
- a description of best management practices, structural controls, and permanent stormwater controls;
- inspection schedules and logs (findings);
- maintenance schedules.

* The SWP3 is a **LIVING DOCUMENT** and it **must** reflect the changes in the site. Any modifications in the site ***must be*** documented in the SWP3 throughout the life of the project.



Stormwater Permit Construction Sites



Who Needs a Permit to Discharge Stormwater?

The TPDES permit separates construction sites into two categories: **large construction sites** that will disturb (alone or as part of a common plan of development) 5 or more acres of land; and **small construction sites** that will disturb (alone or as part of a common plan of development) between 1 and 5 acres of land.



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How Do I Apply?

To apply for the permit, **large construction sites**:

- **Must** develop and implement a **Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWP3)** for the construction site before submitting the Notice of Intent (NOI). A list of the names and addresses of all MS4 operators receiving a copy must be included in the SWP3.
- **Must** submit to the TCEQ a Notice of Intent (NOI) at least 7 days prior to commencing construction activities. Electronic submissions are granted immediate coverage and receive a discounted fee. Paper submissions will get permit coverage seven days from the date of post mark;
- **Must** post a copy of the NOI and the TCEQ Large Construction Site Notice at the construction site for public viewing and;
- **Must** provide a copy of the NOI to the City of Texarkana, Texas (MS4 Operator), at least 7 days prior to commencing construction activities.

To obtain permit coverage, **small construction sites**:

- **Must** develop and implement a **Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWP3)**;
- **Must** post a signed copy of the TCEQ Construction Site Notice at the construction site for public viewing and;
- **Must** provide a copy of the signed Construction Site Notice to the City of Texarkana, Texas, at least 2 days prior to commencing construction activities;

Small construction sites are **not** required to submit a NOI nor pay the fee.



Erosion and Pollution Controls

Control measures such as silt fences, inlet protection, etc., **must** be working properly. Not all devices will work everywhere.

You are responsible for cleaning and replacing any device as necessary. Inlet protection must be inspected regularly and cleaned when sediment has covered the fabric. Silt fences that have fallen or are damaged in any other way must be replaced immediately.

Using only qualified personnel to install your control measures will save you trouble in the long run.

You are responsible for all the waste generated at your construction site. **All** waste must be placed in a trash container at all times. If your waste is deposited or blown into a creek or any other area outside your site, you are responsible for cleaning it immediately. Both on-site and off-site material storage areas and appropriate housekeeping practices must be included in your SWP3. If you are using a nearby lot for storage of materials, you are responsible for maintaining the sediment controls in that lot, even if the lot is not your own.

You are required to minimize off site vehicle tracking of sediments and the generation of dust, including that caused by your contractors and suppliers.

Preserve existing vegetation when possible, and **must** stabilize any disturbed area where construction activity has temporarily or permanently ceased. The stabilization must take place within 14 days of the end of activities unless construction will resume within 21 days. You have several options to accomplish temporary stabilization including re-vegetation, sod stabilization, mulching, geotextile fabric and others. You must make sure that the method you are using is effective.