



THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
Colleges of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences & Family and Consumer Sciences

NPDES Permits for Poultry Operations

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Poultry House Construction

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division requires construction activities causing land disturbance of 1 acre or more to be covered by an NPDES (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) permit and be in compliance with storm water control best management practices. The purpose of the NPDES permit is to control storm water discharges from construction sites as required by the Georgia Water Quality Control Act and Federal law.

What Is Needed for Compliance

- Complete and submit a Notice of Intent (NOI)
- Develop an Erosion, Sedimentation and Pollution Control Plan (i.e., Best Management Practices, inspections, water sampling)
- Submit a Notice of Termination (NOT) upon completion of site restoration.

Before Construction Starts

- Complete and submit a Notice of Intent form. Send the NOI by certified mail (return receipt requested) to the appropriate EPD District Office at least 14 days before construction begins. A listing of EPD district offices is attached to the NOI form.
- Develop an Erosion, Sedimentation and Pollution Control Plan for poultry house construction. A template is available through your poultry company, the Georgia Poultry Federation and the Department of Poultry Science at the University of Georgia. The plan must be certified by a qualified design professional such as a local county engineer, landscape architect, geologist, land surveyor, etc., or by a Certified Professional in Erosion and Sedimentation Control with a current certification by Certified Professional in Erosion and Sedimentation Control, Inc.
- Local county engineers can be found by contacting the Georgia Secretary of State's office. Certified Professionals in Erosion and Sedimentation Control can be found at <http://www.cpesc.net>. Choose "Georgia" from the drop down menu.

- ❑ Erosion control plans also require a site map, which Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) personnel can provide.
- ❑ Mail a copy of the previously submitted erosion control plan and a copy of the NOI by certified mail (return receipt requested) to the Georgia Environmental Protection Division, 4220 International Parkway, Suite 101, Atlanta, GA 30354.
- ❑ Send a copy of the NOI and the Erosion, Sedimentation and Pollution Control Plan to the appropriate local Soil and Water Conservation District Office for their records.
- ❑ Complete the General Permit Fee Form. There is a fee associated with each disturbed acre. Check the General Permit Fee Form for the current fee schedule. Mail the fees and the Fee Form to EPD Lockbox, EPD Construction Land Disturbance Fees, P.O. Box 932858, Atlanta, GA 31193-2858.

During Construction

- ❑ Implement the erosion control plan. Conduct inspections of the erosion control plan's Best Management Practices (BMPs) as required by the permit. Daily, weekly and monthly inspections are required to ensure the BMPs are in place and working properly. Permit holders should refer to the General Permit (GAR100001) to determine how these inspections should be conducted.
- ❑ Individuals qualified in Erosion, Sedimentation and Pollution Control plan BMPs can conduct the inspections. Your poultry company may be able to help identify someone qualified to conduct site inspections. The Soil and Water Conservation Commission sponsors trainings that can qualify you to conduct your own site inspections.
- ❑ The permit requires monitoring the construction site for daily rainfall and sampling for water turbidity associated with rainfall events. The General Permit details the sampling procedures and requirements for these events.
- ❑ Maintain all records on-site (e.g., plans, inspections, rainfall events, analysis, etc.).

Once Construction Is Completed

Complete the Notice of Termination (NOT) form and submit it when all construction is completed and the disturbed areas have undergone final stabilization. Send the NOT by certified mail (return receipt requested) to the appropriate EPD District Office as indicated on the NOT form.

Confined Animal Feeding Operations

Georgia EPD requires Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) poultry operators with liquid and dry manure handling systems to obtain Land Application System (LAS) or NPDES permits.

Liquid Manure Handling Systems (LAS or NPDES Permit)

The LAS permit is required for smaller poultry operations using a liquid manure handling system and includes the following:

- Anyone with more than 9,000 but fewer than 30,000 layers or broilers with a liquid manure handling system, or 30,000 laying hens or broilers with a continuous overflow watering system. (Operators with 30,000 or more layers or broilers using a liquid manure handling system must apply for an NPDES permit.)
- Certified operators.
- Continuing education units of 4 hours every 2 years.
- Submit Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP) to EPD.
- An annual report to EPD (forms available at <http://www.agp2.org/>).

Operators under the NPDES permit must meet the same requirements as those listed for the LAS permit.

Dry Manure Handling Systems

Owners of large, dry manure poultry operations are required under the CAFO regulations to apply for an NPDES permit. The following rules apply:

- Operations with 125,000 or more chickens or broilers, or 82,000 or more laying hens at any given time.
- The CNMP must include a phosphorus risk assessment. County Extension agents can help you develop a CNMP and the phosphorus risk assessment.
- New or expanding operations should apply for a permit 180 days prior to operation. A CNMP is required and should be implemented concurrently with the beginning of the operation.
- Operators are not required to be certified, and the CNMPs do not have to be submitted to EPD. CNMPs must, however, be available upon request.
- Operators are required to have an annual manure analysis for nitrogen and phosphorus.
- Operators are required to submit an annual report to EPD (forms available at <http://www.agp2.org/aware>).
- Applications for the CAFO permit requires EPD form 2B. Mail the form to Georgia Department of Agriculture, Livestock/Poultry Section, 19 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, Room 112, Atlanta, GA 30334.

For More Information

Georgia Environmental Protection Division

404-675-6240 <http://www.dnr.state.ga.us/dnr/environ>

Georgia Pollution Prevention Assistance Division

404-651-5120 <http://www.agp2.org>

Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission

706-542-3065 <http://www.gaswcc.org>

University of Georgia Department of Poultry Science

706-542-1325 <http://www.poultry.uga.edu>

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