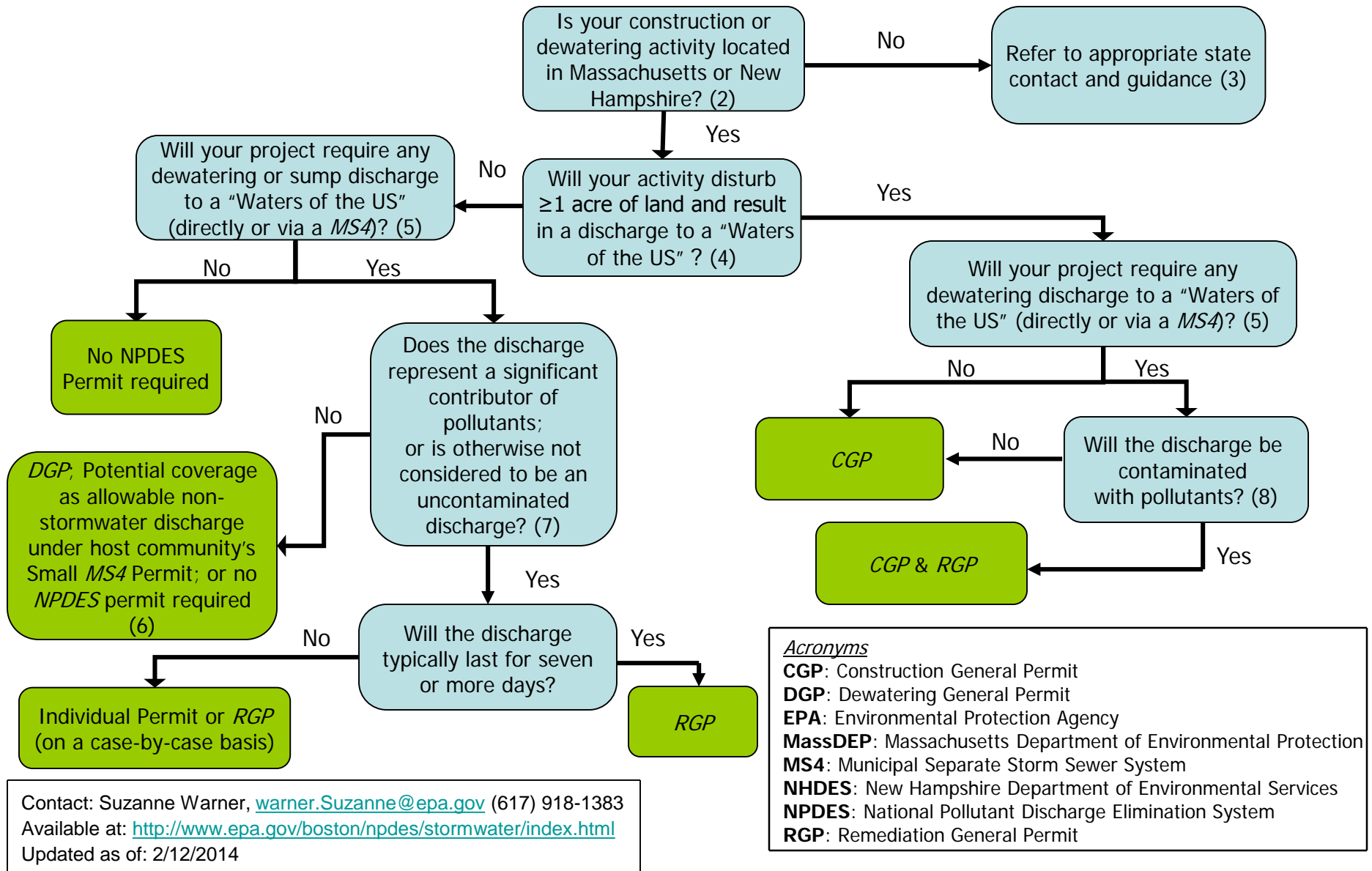


# Do I need NPDES Permit Coverage for Discharges Related to my Construction or Dewatering Activity and Which General Permits are Available?<sup>(1)</sup>



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 Available at: <http://www.epa.gov/boston/npdes/stormwater/index.html>  
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Acronyms  
**CGP**: Construction General Permit  
**DGP**: Dewatering General Permit  
**EPA**: Environmental Protection Agency  
**MassDEP**: Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection  
**MS4**: Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System  
**NHDES**: New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services  
**NPDES**: National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System  
**RGP**: Remediation General Permit

# Do I need NPDES Permit Coverage for Discharges Related to my Construction Activity and Which General Permits are Available?

## (Footnotes to Flow Chart)

- 1) EPA has made general permits available for operators seeking NPDES authorization to discharge stormwater and non-stormwater to a "Waters of the US" (term defined at: [40 CFR §122.2](#)). Each general permit has its own eligibility criteria. Where criteria cannot be satisfied, an operator may need to seek coverage under an alternative general permit or an individual permit.
- 2) EPA is also the permitting authority for Federal facilities located in Vermont and Indian Country in Maine.
- 3) State Contacts & Web Reference:
  - Connecticut: [Chris Stone](mailto:chris.stone@po.state.ct.us) (chris.stone@po.state.ct.us), 860-424-3850 [web](#)
  - Maine: [David Ladd](mailto:david.ladd@state.me.us) (david.ladd@state.me.us), 207-287-5404 [web](#)
  - Rhode Island: [Margarita Chatterton](mailto:mchatterton@dem.state.ri.us) (mchatterton@dem.state.ri.us), 401-222-4700 x 7605 [web](#)
  - Vermont: [Peter LaFlamme](mailto:petel@dec.anr.state.us.vt) (petel@dec.anr.state.us.vt), 802-241-3765 [web](#)
- 4) Land Disturbance does not include routine maintenance that is performed to maintain the original line and grade, hydraulic capacity, or original purpose of the site. (e.g., daily cover for landfills, maintenance of gravel roads or parking areas, landscape maintenance, etc.).
- 5) Dewatering is defined as the pumping or draining of groundwater or stormwater accumulation from an excavation, sump or other subsurface reservoir; excluding any normally free flowing portion of a municipal, perimeter, yard or similar drain.
- 6) First, determine eligibility under DGP where the discharge meets the DGP's definition of "uncontaminated". If eligible for DGP coverage, notify the MS4 Operator receiving the proposed discharge to confirm alternate authorization under its Small MS4 Permit as an allowable non-stormwater discharge.
- 7) A significant contributor of pollutants as determined by a host-community MS4 Operator, EPA, MassDEP, or NHDES; uncontaminated discharge as defined in the DGP.
- 8) Discharges contaminated by pollutants include discharges from contaminated or formerly contaminated sites and/or discharges that contain pollutants not authorized for discharge by the DGP or CGP and those that have the reasonable potential to violate surface water quality standards.
  - CGP <http://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater/cgp.cfm>
  - DGP <http://www.epa.gov/region1/npdes/dewatering.html>
  - RGP <http://www.epa.gov/region1/npdes/rgp.html>

*Disclaimer: This information is guidance only and does not establish or affect legal rights or obligations. Agency decisions in any particular case will be made by applying the law and regulations to the specific facts of the case.*