



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Announcing the Public Comment Period and Hearings for the Draft Boatyard NPDES General Permit and Fact Sheet

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) proposes to re-issue the Boatyard National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System and State Waste Discharge General Permit (permit). The permit was last issued in March 2011 and is scheduled to expire May 31, 2016. The new draft permit and fact sheet, which explains the technical basis for the permit, are available for review and public comment from **March 16, 2016, through April 29, 2016**. Ecology will host two informational workshops and public hearings on the draft permit.

Purpose of the Permit

The permit provides coverage for discharges of treated pressure-wash wastewater and stormwater runoff from certain boatyards to waters of the State. Under Federal and State water quality law (Federal Clean Water Act and State Water Pollution Control Act), a permit is required for the discharge of wastewater and stormwater runoff from certain specified industries, including boatyards. Boatyards must obtain permit authorization for their discharge if they: (1) engage in the construction, repair, or maintenance of small vessels (boats or ships) where 85% of those vessels are 65 feet in length or less; or (2) generate more than 85% of their gross receipts from revenues returned from the construction, repair, or maintenance of those small vessels; and (3) discharge wastewater or stormwater runoff either directly or indirectly to surface water or groundwater.

Applying for Coverage under the Permit

Facilities that are covered under the current permit and have applied for coverage under the new permit will be covered under the new permit. New or unpermitted facilities may obtain coverage under the permit by submitting a complete permit application to Ecology and satisfying all applicable public notice and State Environmental Policy Act requirements ([WAC 173-226-200](#)). Access to the application is available on-line at <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/permits/boatyard/application.html>.

Copies of the Draft Permit and Fact Sheet

The draft permit and fact sheet are available on-line at: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/permits/boatyard/publicinvolvement.html>. You may also request copies from Dena Jaskar at dena.jaskar@ecy.wa.gov or (360) 407-6401.

Submitting Written Comments

Ecology will accept written comments on the draft permit and fact sheet from *March 16, 2016, through April 29, 2016, at 11:59 p.m.* All comments, including those sent by e-mail, must contain the commenter's name and postal address. Comments should reference specific permit text when possible.

Submit written comments to: James M. Maroncelli
Washington State Department of Ecology
P.O. Box 47696
Olympia, WA 98504-7696

Submit comments by e-mail to: boatyardgpcomments@ecy.wa.gov

All comments must be postmarked or received via e-mail no later than *April 29, 2016, at 11:59 p.m.*

Workshops and Hearings

The public hearings and workshops on the permit will be held in Lacey, Everett, and via webinar. At the workshops Ecology will explain the draft permit and answer questions. A hearing will follow each workshop. The hearings will provide the opportunity for formal oral testimony and comments on the proposed permit. The public hearings will begin immediately following the public workshops.

Workshops and Hearings

Tuesday, April 19, 2016 – 1 p.m.

Everett Community College – Corporate & Continuing Education Center
2333 Seaway Boulevard
Everett, WA 98203

April 20, 2016 – 1 p.m.

Via webinar

Please visit <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/permits/boatyard/index.html> to sign-up.

Wednesday, April 20, 2016 – 1 p.m.

Washington State Department of Ecology
300 Desmond Drive
Lacey, WA 98503-1274

Issuing the Permit

After Ecology receives and considers all public comments, it will issue the final permit and a response to comments. Ecology expects to issue the new permit and response to comments in June 2016, with an effective date of the permit of July 2, 2016.