Understanding the Industrial Stormwater Multi-Sector General Permit (MSGP)

What is the MSGP?

The Industrial Stormwater Multi-Sector General Permit (MSGP) is a permit issued by the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) to control and reduce pollution from industrial facilities. It is designed to help protect our water resources by ensuring that industries monitor, manage, and treat their stormwater runoff.

Why is the MSGP important?

When it rains, stormwater can pick up pollutants like chemicals, oils, and debris from industrial sites. If not properly managed, this polluted water can flow into rivers, lakes, and other water bodies, harming wildlife, plants, and even our drinking water supply. The MSGP helps prevent this by setting rules and guidelines for industries to follow.

Who needs coverage under the MSGP?

Many types of industrial facilities need to get coverage under the MSGP, including:

- Manufacturing plants
- Transportation facilities
- Mining operations
- Metal scrap facilities
- Warehousing and storage sites

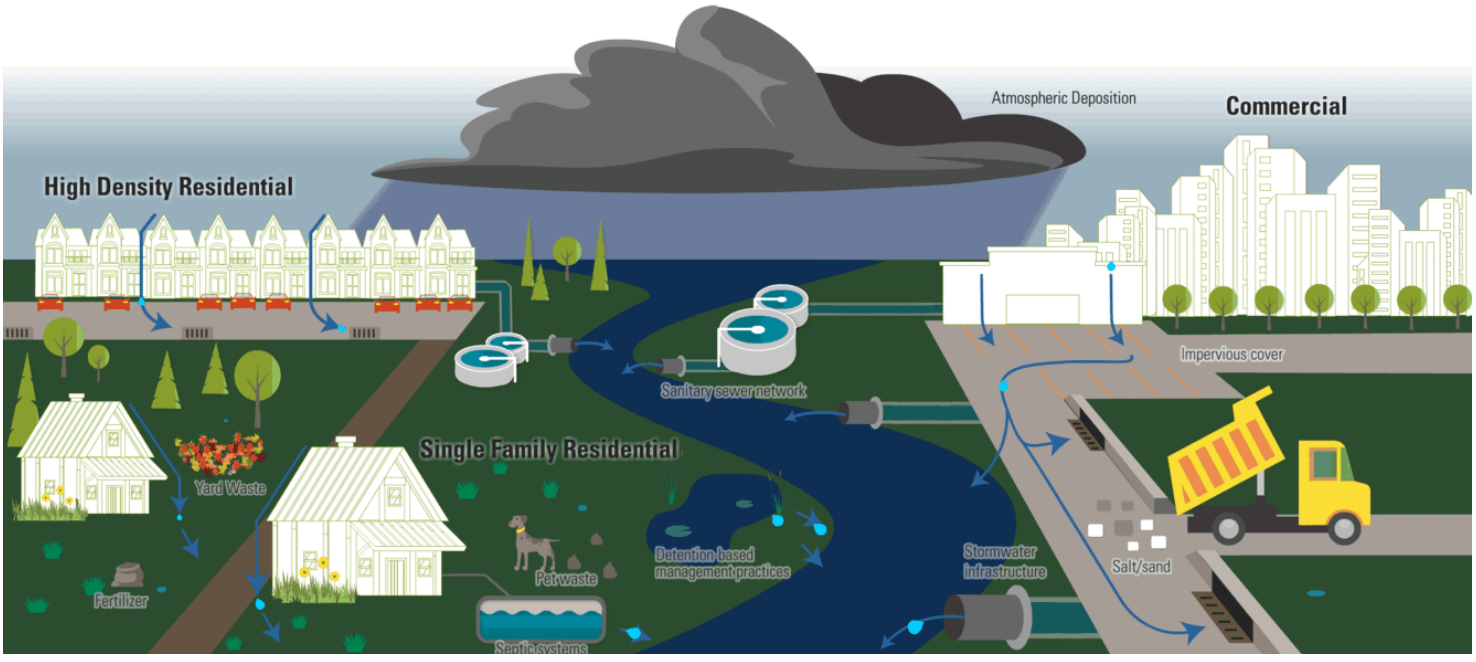
What does the MSGP require industries to do?

Industries covered by the MSGP must:

1. Develop a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP): This plan outlines the steps the facility will take to prevent stormwater pollution.
2. Implement Best Management Practices (BMPs): These are specific actions or tools used to reduce pollutants in stormwater, such as installing stormwater ponds or covering materials that could be washed away by rain.
3. Monitor and Report: Facilities must regularly check their stormwater runoff for pollutants and report their findings to DNREC.
4. Correct Problems: If monitoring shows that pollution levels are above standards or that stormwater controls are not sufficient, the facility must take steps to fix the problem.

Benefits of the MSGP:

- Cleaner Water: Reducing industrial pollution helps keep our rivers, lakes, and streams clean.
- Healthier Ecosystem: Protecting water quality supports wildlife and plant life.
- Public Health: Clean water is essential for drinking, recreation, and overall community well-being.



Rowan Johnson, USGS

Stormwater Technical Support and Resources

DNREC and other organizations offer technical and financial assistance to Delaware communities in stormwater management planning and implementation, flood mitigation and coastal hazards planning.

MSGP Permit Program

DNREC staff provide technical assistance and support to Industrial Users in permit compliance.

MS4 Permit Program

DNREC staff provide technical assistance and support to MS4 operators in permit compliance, outreach and plan development.

Delaware Pollution Control Revolving Fund

The Fund, commonly known as the Clean Water State Revolving Fund is made available to municipalities, private organizations, nonprofit organizations and private individuals in the form of low-interest loans, as well as grants to promote water quality improvement projects. Eligible projects include but are not limited to municipal wastewater treatment projects; nonpoint source pollution abatement projects; watershed protection, restoration, and estuary management projects.

Chesapeake Bay Trust Fund

The Trust's grant-making strategies are shaped by three core objectives: environmental education, demonstration-based restoration, and community engagement. The Trust awards more than $10 million in grant funding each year throughout the Chesapeake Bay region.

Coastal Resilient Communities Program

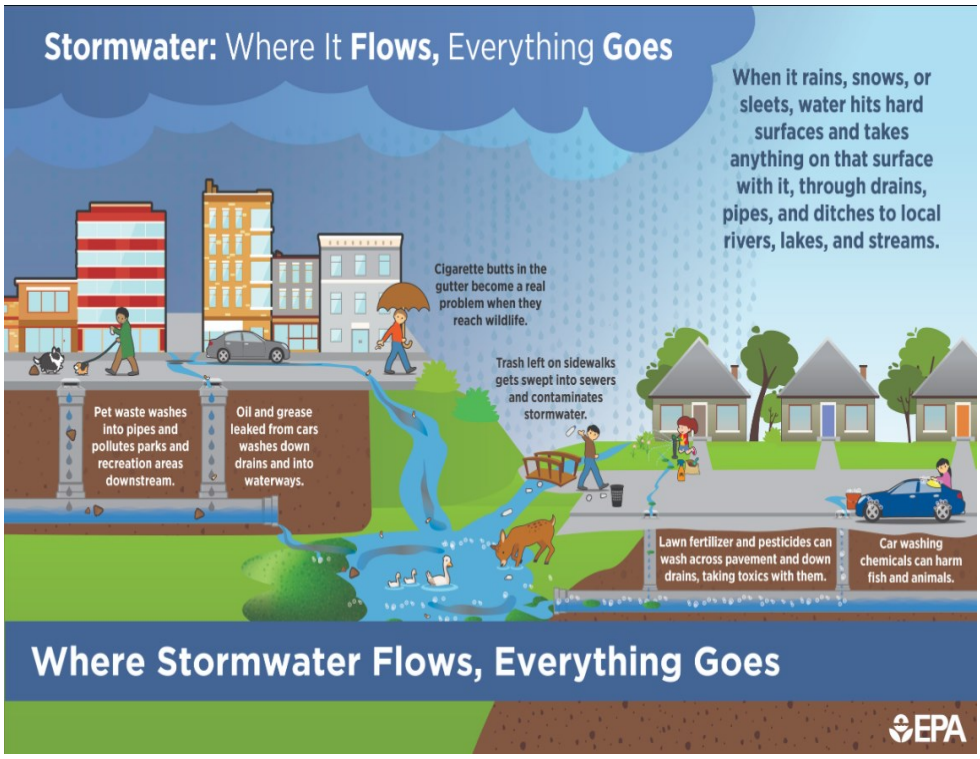
The Resilient Community Partnership program provides technical assistance and potential funding to plan for and reduce the impacts of coastal hazards related to flooding from sea level rise, coastal storms and climate change through the development of planning strategies at the local level.

How can you help?

Even if you don't work in an industry, you can help support clean water by:

- Reporting any signs of pollution or illegal dumping to local authorities, public works, or the DNREC Emergency Response Line at 800-662-8802.
- Properly disposing of hazardous materials like oil and chemicals.
- Supporting businesses and policies that prioritize environmental protection.

We can all play a part in protection our natural water resources for future generations.



Contact the Industrial Stormwater Runoff program for more information on stormwater management for your industrial facility at DNREC_ISW@delaware.gov or 302 739-9945.

dnrec.delaware.gov/water/commercial-government/npdes/industrial-stormwater/

DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL