

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT  
FINAL CALENDAR YEAR 2016  
STANDARD PERMIT APPLICATION TURNAROUND TIMES

As required by Section 1-607(A)(2) of the Environment Article, the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) has established, in consultation with interested parties, the following standard turnaround times for all types of permit applications.

MDE has made the following changes to the 2015 turnaround times for calendar year 2016.

**Radiation Machine Facility Registration: Dental and Veterinary Machines** - Reduced to 60 days from 90 days.

**Radiation Machine Facility Registration: All Other Machines** - Reduced to 4 months from 6 months.

**Sewage Sludge Transportation** - Reduced to 3 months from 4 months.

**UST Technician/Remover/Inspector** - Reduced to 30 days from 40 days.

**Non-Coal Mining Permit** - Reduced to 4 months from 7 months.

**Non-Coal Mining License** - Reduced to 20 days from 30 days.

**General Discharge (GD) Permit for Animal Feeding Operations (AFOs)** – Establish two categories as follows:

New Construction - 160 days – This is a reduction from the current time of 180 days. The reduction reflects MDE’s commitment to assisting Maryland farmers in obtaining coverage under the GD Permit in an expedited fashion so that the new poultry houses can be placed in production. The Department will give priority to processing the Notices of Intent (NOI) and the required plans for new construction of AFOs.

Coverage Renewals – 36 months – This increase from the current time of six months is proposed for the following reason: Hundreds of requests for coverage renewal under this permit tend to arrive around the same time, and federal law prohibits steps that would allow them to be more evenly spaced. Delays in processing renewals do not generally cause difficulties for farmers because they can continue to operate under the requirements of the previous permit while the renewal is being processed. Very limited staffing means that some of the renewals may require up to three years to be processed.

**General Discharge Permit Registrations (excluding Construction Activities and Animal Feeding Operations)** – Reduced to 100 days from 120 days

**Water Appropriation and Use Permit for less than 10,000 gallons per day** – Reduced to 90 days from 120 days

**Water Appropriation and Use Permit for more than 10,000 gallons per day** – Reduced to 18

months from 24 months

**Nontidal Wetlands and Waterway Construction for minor projects** – Reduced to eight months from ten months

**Nontidal Wetlands and Waterway Construction for stream restoration projects when no public hearing is requested** (new category) – Reduced to 90 days from ten months

**Erosion and Sediment Control – Responsible personnel Certification – Online** – Reduced to one day from two weeks. This is due to the development and implementation of an online version of the training course and exam.

**General Permit for Stormwater Associated with Construction Activities** – Reduced to 45 days for all projects. Previously there were two categories: projects less than three acres with a time of 60 days, and projects between three and 150 acres with a time of 90 days.

MDE reviews and adjusts these turnaround times annually to give permit applicants current information regarding the processing time.

Please note the following important points about these standard times:

- 1) These standards refer to the time between MDE's receipt of a complete permit application and MDE's issuance or denial of the permit, excluding delays caused by factors beyond MDE's control. Many applications are incomplete when they first arrive at MDE. The appropriate MDE permit writer can provide guidance on how to ensure that an application is complete when submitted.
- 2) In most permitting programs, each application has unique characteristics that influence its processing time. For each program listed, the standard time represents the time in which 90% of applications can be processed. Many applications will require less time; a few will require more time due to unusual circumstances.

<b>Program Name</b>	<b>2016 Standard Application Processing Time</b>
<b>Air and Radiation Management Administration</b>	
General Permit to Construct	30 days
Air Quality Permit to Construct	3 months - without expanded public review
	4 months – synthetic minor permits without expanded public review
	6 months - with expanded public review but limited public interest
	11 months - with expanded public review and extensive public interest
New Source Review Approval	12 months
Prevention of Significant [air quality] Deterioration	12 months
Air Quality State Permit to Operate	3 months
Part 70 (Title V) Permit to Operate	18 months for new permits
	12 months for renewals
Asbestos Contractor License	60 days
Asbestos Training Provider Approval	3 months
Incinerator Operator Certification	30 days
Incinerator Training Course Approval	60 days
Fleet Inspection Station License	30 days
Certified Emissions Repair Facility Certification	30 days
Master Certified Emissions Technician Certificate	30 days
Radiation Machine Facility Registration	60 days for dental and veterinary machines
	4 months for all other machines
Certification of Machines Emitting Radiation	6 months
Radioactive Materials License	7 months
	45 days for amendments and terminations
Private Inspector License For Inspecting X-Ray Machines	60 days

<b>Program Name</b>	<b>2016 Standard Application Processing Time</b>
Reciprocal Recognition of Out-of-State Radioactive Material Licenses	21 days

<b>Land Management Administration</b>	
Refuse Disposal Permit	7 months for transfer stations
	9 months for processing facilities
	9 months for processing facilities & transfer stations
	12 months for incinerators
	12 months for land-clearing debris landfills
	24 months for industrial landfills
	36 months for rubble landfills
	36 months for municipal landfills
Groundwater Discharge Permit for Rubble Landfill	18 months
Sewage Sludge Utilization Permit	120 days – research project
	3 months – transportation
	5 months – utilization or disposal at a sanitary landfill, energy generation, or incineration
	6 months – marketing
	10 months – land application
	23 months – treatment, composting, distribution facility, or storage
	36 months – sewage sludge landfill
	24 months – innovative projects
General Discharge Permit for Animal Feeding Operations	160 days for new construction
	36 months for renewal
Natural Wood Waste Recycling Facility Permit	9 months
Natural Wood Waste Recycling Facility General Permit	60 days
Scrap Tire Hauler	60 days
Scrap Tire Collection Facilities (General and Secondary)	60 days

<b>Program Name</b>	<b>2016 Standard Application Processing Time</b>
Scrap Tire Solid Waste Acceptance Facility	7 months
Scrap Tire TDF/Substitute Fuel Facility	7 months
Scrap Tire Primary Collection Facility	9 months
Scrap Tire Recyclers	9 months
Oil Operations Permit	180 days
Oil Operations Permit for Oil-Contaminated Soils	180 days
Oil Transfer License	30 days
General Permits for Oil Control Program Wastewater Discharge Permit	30 days
Surface Water Discharge Permit for Oil Terminals	180 days
Ground Water Discharge Permit for Oil Terminals	180 days
Underground Storage Tank (UST) Technician, Remover, and Inspector Certifications	30 days
Controlled Hazardous Substances Facility Permit	26 months
Hazardous Waste; EPA Identification Number	30 days
Controlled Hazardous Substances Hauler and Vehicle Certifications	60 days
Special Medical Waste (SMW) Hauler and Vehicle Certifications	60 days
Coal Mining Permit	12 months
Surface Coal Mining Blaster Certification	immediately on passing exam
Coal Mining Operator License	30 days
Non-Coal Mining Permit	4 months
Non-Coal Mining License	20 days
Oil and Gas Exploration and Production	5 months
Lead Paint Accreditations	60 days
Lead Paint Training Course Approvals	60 days
Lead Paint Instructor Approvals	60 days
Voluntary Cleanup Program	45 days to determine if application is accepted

<b>Program Name</b>	<b>2016 Standard Application Processing Time</b>
	75 days to review action plan

<b>Water Management Administration</b>	
General Discharge Permit Registrations (excluding Construction Activities and Animal Feeding Operations)	100 days for all general permits
Individual Permit for Wastewater Discharges	12 months for new minor surface facilities
	18 months for new surface major facilities
	24 months for renewal surface discharge facilities
	18 months for new groundwater discharge facilities
	34 months for renewal groundwater discharge facilities
Toxic Materials Permit	45 days
Water and Sewerage Construction Permit	3 months
Water Appropriation and Use Permit	90 days for under 10,000 gallons per day
	18 months for over 10,000 gallons per day
Well Construction Permit	30 days
Drinking Water Laboratory Certification	4 months
Nontidal Wetlands and Waterway Construction (Nontidal Wetlands and Waterways Permits)	8 months for minor projects
	12 months for major projects
	90 days for stream restoration projects when no public hearing is requested
Tidal Wetland Licenses and Permits	90 days for minor projects
	8 months for major projects when no public hearing is requested
	11 months for major projects when a public hearing is requested
Erosion/Sediment Control and Stormwater Management Plan Approvals	6 months
Erosion and Sediment Control - Responsible Personnel Certification - Online	1 day
Erosion and Sediment Control - Responsible Personnel Training Program Approval	4 weeks

<b>Program Name</b>	<b>2016 Standard Application Processing Time</b>
General Permit for Stormwater Associated with Construction Activity	45 days
Individual Permit for Stormwater Associated with Construction Activity	6 months
Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Permit	18 months
Dam Safety Permit	6 months
Waterworks and Waste Systems Operator Certification	30 days for all licenses
Well Driller License	6 months for new licenses
	30 days for renewals