

## Appendix E: Definitions, Abbreviations and Acronyms

**Action Area** – all areas to be affected directly or indirectly by the stormwater discharges, allowable non-stormwater discharges, and stormwater discharge-related activities, and not merely the immediate area involved in these discharges and activities.

**Additive** - waste water treatment chemicals or products added to water prior to discharge, such as polymers or flocculants at a sand and gravel facility. Additives are added to the water so that the discharge water is in compliance with the permit limits.

**Asphalt** - bituminous concrete

**BAT** – Best Available Technology Economically Achievable

**Best Management Practices (BMPs)** – schedules of activities, practices (and prohibitions of practices), structures, vegetation, maintenance procedures, and other management practices to prevent or reduce the discharge of pollutants to waters of the State. BMPs also include treatment requirements, operating procedures, and practices to control plant site runoff, spillage or leaks, sludge or waste disposal, or drainage from raw material storage. See 40 CFR 122.2.

**BPT** – Best Practicable Control Technology Currently Available

**Bypass** - the intentional diversion of wastes from any portion of a treatment facility.

**Cationic Chemical Additive – Additives** that contain an overall positive charge. Among other things, they are used to reduce turbidity in stormwater discharges by chemically bonding to the overall negative charge of suspended silts and other soil materials and causing them to bind together and settle out. Common examples of cationic treatment chemicals are chitosan and cationic PAM.

**CFR** - Code of Federal Regulations

**Chemical Additive** – Refer to Additive definition.

**Co-located Industrial Activities** – Any industrial activities, excluding your primary industrial activity(ies), located on-site that are defined by the stormwater regulations at 122.26(b)(14)(i)-(ix) and (xi). An activity at a facility is not considered co-located if the activity, when considered separately, does not meet the description of a category of industrial activity covered by the stormwater regulations or identified by the SIC code list in Appendix A.

**COMAR** - Code of Maryland Regulations

**Concrete Plant** - a facility at which concrete is mixed for use on or off site, and includes any area where concrete and other related products are made (corresponding to Industrial Sector E in the MSGP for glass, clay, cement, concrete, and gypsum products).

**Concrete Washout** - After concrete is poured at a construction site, the chutes of ready mixed concrete trucks and hoppers of concrete pump trucks are washed out to remove the remaining concrete before it hardens. Equipment such as wheelbarrows and hand tools also are washed down. Additionally, at the end of each work day, drums of concrete trucks, mixer truck barrels or concrete moulds or forms, are washed out. These activities collectively produce process water commonly referred to as concrete washout.

**Control Measure** – refers to any BMP or other method (including narrative effluent limitations) used to prevent or reduce the discharge of pollutants to waters of the State.

**CWA** – Clean Water Act (or the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, 33 U.S.C. §1251 et seq)

**Corrective Action** – for the purposes of the permit, any action taken, or required to be taken, to (1) repair, modify, or replace any stormwater control used at the site; (2) clean up and dispose of spills, releases, or other deposits found on the site; and (3) remedy a permit violation.

**Department** - the Maryland Department of the Environment. Unless stated otherwise, all submissions to the Department shall be directed to the attention of the Wastewater Permits Program.

**Detergent** - a cleaner including surfactants, dispersants, or emulsifiers, designed to act as a wetting agent and made from chemical compounds rather than from fats and lye.

**Dewatering, Mine** - any water that is impounded or that collects in the mine and is pumped, drained or otherwise removed from the mine through the efforts of the mine operator. This term shall also include wet pit overflows caused solely by direct rainfall and ground water seepage. However, if a mine is also used for treatment of process generated waste water, discharges of commingled water from the facilities shall be deemed discharges of process generated waste water.

**Discharge** – when used without qualification, means the "discharge of a pollutant." See 40 CFR 122.2.

**Discharge of a pollutant** – any addition of any "pollutant" or combination of pollutants to "waters of this State" from any "point source," or any addition of any pollutant or combination of pollutants to the waters of the "contiguous zone" or the ocean from any point source other than a vessel or other floating craft which is being used as a means of transportation. This includes additions of pollutants into waters of this State from: surface runoff which is collected or channeled by man; discharges through pipes, sewers, or other conveyances, leading into privately owned treatment works. See 40 CFR 122.2.

**Discharge-related activities** – activities that cause, contribute to, or result in stormwater and allowable non-stormwater point source discharges, and measures such as the siting, construction and operation of BMPs to control, reduce, or prevent pollution in the discharges.

**Dry weather** – Discharges occurring between periods of wet weather, usually associated with ground water or process generated water.

**DMR** – Discharge Monitoring Report, which is a report submitted by a permittee to the Department summarizing the effluent monitoring results obtained by the permittee over periods of time as specified in the permit.

**Effluent limitation** - any restriction or prohibition that:

1. Is established under federal law or a law of this State;
2. Specifies quantities, rates or concentrations of chemical, physical, biological, or other constituents that are discharged into the waters of this State;
3. Includes:
  - a. Parameters for the discharge of toxic and nontoxic substances, and
  - b. Standards of performance for new sources.

**Effluent Limitations Guideline (ELG)** – defined in 40 CFR § 122.2 as a regulation published by the Administrator under section 304(b) of CWA to adopt or revise effluent limitations.

**EPA** – U. S. Environmental Protection Agency

**EPA Approved or Established TMDLs** – "EPA Approved TMDLs" are those that are developed by a State and approved by EPA. "EPA Established TMDLs" are those that are developed by EPA.

**Existing Discharger** – an operator applying for coverage under this permit for discharges authorized previously under an NPDES general or individual permit.

**Facility or Activity** – any NPDES "point source" (including land or appurtenances thereto) that is subject to regulation under the NPDES program. See 40 CFR 122.2.

**Federal Act** - the federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. §1251 et seq.), its amendments, and all rules and regulations adopted under the Act.

**Freeboard** - the height above the water level and below the overflow level of a pond or other structure.

**Grab sample** - an individual sample collected in less than 15 minutes. Grab samples for pH shall be analyzed within 15 minutes of sample collection.

**Groundwater** - underground water in a zone of saturation.

**Hardness Dependent** - refers to benchmark values for some metals that are determined as a function of hardness (in units of mg/L) in water. For these parameters, permittees whose discharges exceed the lowest benchmark level of the metal must determine the hardness of the receiving water, to identify the benchmark value applicable to their facility.

**Hazardous Materials or Hazardous Substances or Hazardous or Toxic Waste** – for the purposes of this permit, any liquid, solid, or contained gas that contain properties that are dangerous or potentially harmful to human health or the environment. See also 40 CFR §261.2.

**Hydrodemolition** – a concrete removal technique which utilizes high-pressure water to remove deteriorated and sound concrete as well as asphalt and grout.

**Immersion-stabilization (i.s.)** - a calibrated device immersed in the effluent stream or other measuring location until the reading is stabilized.

**Impaired Water** (or “**Water Quality Impaired Water**”) – a body of water identified by the Department or EPA pursuant to Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act as not meeting applicable State water quality standards (these waters are called “water quality limited segments” under 40 CFR 30.2(j)). Impaired waters include both waters with approved or established TMDLs, and those for which a TMDL has not yet been approved or established. Impaired waters compilations are included in Maryland’s most current List of Impaired Surface Waters as Category 4a, 4b, 4c or 5 waterbodies.

**Impervious surface** - any surface that does not allow stormwater to infiltrate into the ground, including any area that is paved or used for vehicular storage or traffic, building rooftops, sidewalks, driveways, etc.

**Includes or including** - includes or including by way of illustration and not by way of limitation.

**Industrial Stormwater** – Stormwater Discharges Associated with Industrial Activity.

**Infeasible** – there is a site-specific constraint making it not technologically possible, or not economically practicable and achievable in light of best industry practices, to achieve the required control measures on-site. The burden is on the permittee to demonstrate to the permitting authority that the requirement is infeasible.

**Leachate** – liquid that has passed through or emerged from solid waste and contains soluble, suspended, or miscible materials removed from such waste.

**Measured flow** - any method of liquid volume measurement; the accuracy of which has been previously demonstrated in engineering practice, or for which a relationship to absolute volume has been obtained.

**Mine** - an area of land, surface or underground, actively mined for the production of crushed, broken, and dimension stone, sand, clay, shale, and fill dirt from natural deposits. For the purposes of this permit, mine does not include coal mine facilities regulated by 40 CFR 434.

**Minerals** - any solid material, aggregate, or substance of commercial value, whether consolidated or loose, found in natural deposits on or in the earth, including clay, diatomaceous earth, gravel, marl, metallic ores, sand, shell, soil, and stone. The term does not include coal.

**Minimize** – to reduce and/or eliminate to the extent achievable using control measures (including best management practices) that are technologically available and economically practicable and achievable in light of best industry practice

**Municipal Separate Storm Sewer** – a conveyance or system of conveyances (including roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, man-made channels, or storm drains): 1) Owned or operated by a State, city, town, borough, county, parish, district, association, or other public body (created by or pursuant to State law) having jurisdiction over disposal of sewage, industrial wastes, stormwater, or other wastes, including special districts under State law such as a sewer district, flood control

district or drainage district, or similar entity, or an Indian tribe or an authorized Indian tribal organization, or a designated and approved management agency under section 208 of the CWA that discharges to waters of the United States; 2) Designed or used for collecting or conveying stormwater; 3) Which is not a combined sewer; and 4) Which is not part of a Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW) as defined at 40 CFR 122.2. See 40 CFR 122.26(b)(4) and (b)(7).

**Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4)** – in Maryland we have several MS4 NPDES Permits. The following are a summary of how they are broken down by size. For a full listing and explanation, visit the Department website for “Maryland’s NPDES Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permits” or at this link [http://bit.ly/MDE\\_MS4](http://bit.ly/MDE_MS4).

- Phase I MS4s are for large jurisdictions, which are municipalities with populations of greater than 250,000, and medium jurisdictions, which are municipalities with populations between 100,000 and 250,000. The large Phase I MS4 jurisdictions are Anne Arundel County, Baltimore County, Baltimore City, Montgomery County, and Prince George’s County. The medium Phase I MS4 jurisdictions are Carroll County, Charles County, Frederick County, Harford County, and Howard County. One statewide MS4 under this category has been issued to the State Highway Administration.
- Phase II MS4s include smaller jurisdictions or approximately 60 cities and towns in Maryland with populations greater than 1,000. They also include State and Federal facilities.

**NetDMR** – a nationally-available electronic reporting tool, initially designed by states and later adapted for national use by EPA, which can be used by NPDES-regulated facilities to submit discharge monitoring reports (DMRs) electronically to EPA through a secure Internet application over the National Environmental Information Exchange Network (NEIEN). EPA can then share this information with authorized states, tribes, and territories.

**New Discharger** – a facility from which there is a discharge, that did not commence the discharge at a particular site prior to August 13, 1979, which is not a new source, and which has never received a finally effective NPDES permit for discharges at that site. See 40 CFR 122.2.

**New Source** – any source, the construction of which is commenced after the publication by the EPA of proposed regulations prescribing a standard of performance which will be applicable to the source if the standard is promulgated.

**New Source Performance Standards (NSPS)** – technology-based standards for facilities that qualify as new sources under 40 CFR 122.2 and 40 CFR 122.29.

**No exposure** – all industrial materials or activities are protected by a storm-resistant shelter to prevent exposure to rain, snow, snowmelt, and/or runoff. See 40 CFR 122.26(g).

**Noncoal Mining** - Refers to minerals extracted by surface mining.

**Non-Stormwater Discharges** – discharges that do not originate from storm events.

**NPDES** – National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

**Operator** – any entity with a stormwater discharge associated with industrial activity that meets either of the following two criteria:

1. The entity has operational control over industrial activities, including the ability to make modifications to those activities; or
2. The entity has day-to-day operational control of activities at a facility necessary to ensure compliance with the permit (e.g., the entity is authorized to direct workers at a facility to carry out activities required by the permit).

**Outfall** – locations where collected and concentrated stormwater flows are discharged from the facility, including pipes, ditches, swales, and other structures that transport stormwater.

**Owner** - a person who has a legal interest in the facility or in the property on which the facility is located, or the owner's agent.

**Permittee** - the person holding a permit issued by the Department, or authorized for coverage under a general permit by the department.

**Person** – an individual, association, partnership, corporation, municipality, State or Federal agency, or an agent or employee thereof. See 40 CFR 122.2.

**Pervious** - vegetative area that is not used for the storage of vehicles or heavy equipment and is not open to vehicular traffic.

**Point source** – any discernible, confined and discrete conveyance, including any pipe, ditch, channel, tunnel, conduit, well, discrete fissure, container, rolling stock, large animal feeding operation, concentrated animal feeding operation, or vessel or other floating craft, from which pollutants are, or may be, discharged.

**Pollutant** – dredged spoil, solid waste, incinerator residue, filter backwash, sewage, garbage, sewage sludge, munitions, chemical wastes, biological materials, heat, wrecked or discarded equipment, rock, sand, cellar dirt, and industrial, municipal and agricultural waste discharged into water. See 40 CFR 122.2.

**Pollutant of concern** – A pollutant which causes or contributes to a violation of a water quality standard, including a pollutant which is identified as causing an impairment in a state's 303(d) list.

**Pollution** – means any contamination or other alteration of the physical, chemical, or biological properties of any waters of this State, including a change in temperature, taste, color, turbidity, or odor of the waters or the discharge or deposit of any organic matter, harmful organism, or liquid, gaseous, solid, radioactive, or other substance into any waters of this State that will render the waters harmful, or detrimental, to:

- (a) Public health, safety, or welfare;
- (b) Domestic, commercial, industrial, agricultural, recreational, or other legitimate beneficial uses;
- (c) Livestock, wild animals, birds; or
- (d) Fish or other aquatic life.

**Polymers** – for the purposes of this permit, coagulants and flocculants used to control erosion on soil or to enhance the sediment removal capabilities of sediment traps or basins. Common construction site polymers include polyacrylamide (PAM), chitosan, alum, polyaluminum chloride, and gypsum.

**POTW** – Publicly Owned Treatment Works

**Primary industrial activity** – includes any activities performed on-site which are (1) identified by the facility's primary SIC code; or (2) included in the narrative descriptions of 122.26(b)(14)(i), (iv), (v), or (vii), and (ix). [For co-located activities covered by multiple SIC codes, it is recommended that the primary industrial determination be based on the value of receipts or revenues or, if such information is not available for a particular facility, the number of employees or production rate for each process may be compared. The operation that generates the most revenue or employs the most personnel is the operation in which the facility is primarily engaged. In situations where the vast majority of on-site activity falls within one SIC code, that activity may be the primary industrial activity.] Narrative descriptions in 40 CFR 122.26(b)(14) identified above include: (i) activities subject to stormwater effluent limitations guidelines, new source performance standards, or toxic pollutant effluent standards; (iv) hazardous waste treatment storage, or disposal facilities including those that are operating under interim status or a permit under subtitle C of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA); (v) landfills, land application sites and open dumps that receive or have received industrial wastes; (vii) steam electric power generating facilities; and (ix) sewage treatment works with a design flow of 1.0 mgd or more.

**Process generated wastewater** - any wastewater used in the slurry transport of mined material, dust control, or processing, including product preparation and washing, exclusive of mining. The term shall also include any other water which becomes commingled with such wastewater in a pit, pond, lagoon, mine, or other facility used for treatment of such wastewater.

**Qualified Personnel** – Qualified personnel are those who possess the knowledge and skills to assess conditions and activities that could impact stormwater quality at your facility, and who can also evaluate the effectiveness of control measures.

**RCRA** – Resource Conservation and Recovery Act

**Reportable Quantity Release** – a release of a hazardous substance at or above the established legal threshold that requires emergency notification. Refer to 40 CFR Parts 110, 117, and 302 for complete definitions and reportable quantities for which notification is required.

**Runoff** - that portion of stormwater that, once having fallen to the ground, is in excess of the evaporative or infiltrative capacity of soils, and the retentive capacity of surface features, which flows or will flow off the land by surface runoff to waters of the State.

**Runoff coefficient** – the fraction of total rainfall that will appear at the conveyance as runoff. See 40 CFR 122.26(b)(11).

**Run-on** - water from outside the industrial stormwater area that flows into the area. Run-on includes stormwater from rainfall or the melting of snow or ice that falls directly on the unit, as well as the water that drains from adjoining areas.

**SARA** – Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act

**SDS** – Material Safety Data Sheet

**Section 313 water priority chemical** - a chemical or chemical categories that: 1) are listed at 40 CFR 372.65 pursuant to Section 313 of Title III of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) of 1986, also titled the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act of 1986; 2) are present at or above threshold levels at a facility subject to SARA Title III, Section 313 reporting requirements; and 3) that meet at least one of the following criteria: (i) are listed in Appendix D of 40 CFR 122 on either Table II (organic priority pollutants), Table III (certain metals, cyanides, and phenols) or Table V (certain toxic pollutants and hazardous substances); (ii) are listed as a hazardous substance pursuant to Section 311(b)(2)(A) of the Clean Water Act at 40 CFR 116.4; or (iii) are pollutants for which EPA has published acute or chronic water quality criteria.

**SIC** – Standard Industrial Classification

**Significant materials** – includes, but is not limited to: raw materials; fuels; materials such as solvents, detergents, and plastic pellets; finished materials such as metallic products; raw materials used in food processing or production; hazardous substances designated under section 101(14) of CERCLA, commonly known as Superfund; any chemical the facility is required to report pursuant to section 313 of Title III of SARA; fertilizers; pesticides; and waste products such as ashes, slag and sludge that have the potential to be released with stormwater discharges. See 40 CFR 122.26(b)(12).

**Significant spills** - includes, but is not limited to, releases of oil or hazardous substances in excess of reportable quantities under Section 311 of the Clean Water Act (40 CFR 110.10 and 40 CFR 117.21) or Section 102 of CERCLA (40 CFR 302.4).

**State discharge permit** - the discharge permit issued under the Environment Article, Title 9, Subtitle 3, Annotated Code of Maryland.

**Stormwater** – stormwater runoff, snow melt runoff, and surface runoff and drainage. See 40 CFR 122.26(b)(13).

**Stormwater Discharges Associated with Construction Activity** – a discharge of pollutants in stormwater runoff from areas where soil disturbing activities (e.g., clearing, grading, or excavating), construction materials, or equipment storage or maintenance (e.g., fill piles, concrete truck washout, fueling), or other industrial stormwater directly related to the construction process are located. See 40 CFR 122.26(b)(14)(x) and 40 CFR 122.26(b)(15) .

**Stormwater Discharges Associated with Industrial Activity** – the discharge from any conveyance that is

used for collecting and conveying stormwater and that is directly related to manufacturing, processing or raw materials storage areas at an industrial plant. The term does not include discharges from facilities or activities excluded from the NPDES program under Part 122. For the categories of industries identified in this section, the term includes, but is not limited to, stormwater discharges from industrial plant yards; immediate access roads and rail lines used or traveled by carriers of raw materials, manufactured products, waste material, or by-products used or created by the facility; material handling sites; refuse sites; sites used for the application or disposal of process waste waters; sites used for the storage and maintenance of material handling equipment; sites used for residual treatment, storage, or disposal; shipping and receiving areas; manufacturing buildings; storage areas (including tank farms) for raw materials, and intermediate and final products; and areas where industrial activity has taken place in the past and significant materials remain and are exposed to stormwater. For the purposes of this paragraph, material handling activities include storage, loading and unloading, transportation, or conveyance of any raw material, intermediate product, final product, by-product or waste product. The term excludes areas located on plant lands separate from the plant's industrial activities, such as office buildings and accompanying parking lots as long as the drainage from the excluded areas is not mixed with stormwater drained from the above described areas. Industrial facilities include those that are federally, State, or municipally owned or operated that meet the description of the facilities listed in 40 CFR 122.26(b)(14). The term also includes those facilities designated under the provisions of 40 CFR 122.26(a)(1)(v). See 40 CFR 122.26(b)(14).

**Storm Event** – a precipitation event that results in a measurable amount of precipitation.

**Surface Mining** - means all of the following:

- a. The breaking of the surface soil in order to facilitate or accomplish the extraction or removal of minerals;
- b. Any activity or process constituting all or part of a process for the extraction or removal of minerals from their original location; or
- c. The extraction of sand, gravel, rock, stone, earth, or fill from borrow pits for highway construction purposes or other public facilities.

**Surface waters** - all waters of this State which are not groundwaters.

**Thermal mixing zone** - for streams wider than 50 feet, an area extending 50 feet radially from the point of discharge. The mixing zone may not form a thermal barrier to aquatic life.

**Ten-year frequency 24-hour storm** – For purposes of this permit, the 10-year, 24-hour storm, is defined as a storm resulting in cumulative rain over a 24 hour period, that is equal to the following values based on the location of the facility.

Ten-Year, 24-Hour Storm by County

County	Inches	County	Inches	County	Inches
Allegany	4.5	Dorchester	5.4	Queen Anne's	5.3
Anne Arundel	5.2	Frederick	5.0	St. Mary's	5.4
Baltimore (and City)	5.1	Garrett	4.3	Somerset	5.6
Calvert	5.3	Harford	5.1	Talbot	5.3
Caroline	5.3	Howard	5.1	Washington	4.8
Carroll	5.0	Kent	5.2	Wicomico	5.6
Cecil	5.1	Montgomery	5.1	Worcester	5.6
Charles	5.3	Prince George's	5.3		

**Tier 2 Waters** – For antidegradation purposes, pursuant to 40 CFR 131.12(a)(2), Tier 2 waters are characterized as having water quality that exceeds the levels necessary to support propagation of fish, shellfish, and wildlife and recreation in and on the water.

**Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs)** – A TMDL is a calculation of the maximum amount of a pollutant that a waterbody can receive and still meet water quality standards, and an allocation of that amount to the pollutant's sources. A TMDL includes wasteload allocations (WLAs) for point source discharges; load allocations (LAs) for nonpoint sources and/or natural background, and must include a margin of safety (MOS) and account for seasonal variations. (See section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act and 40 CFR 130.2 and 130.7).

**Upset** - the exceptional incident in which there is unintentional and temporary noncompliance with technology-based permit effluent limitations because of factors beyond the reasonable control of the permittee. An upset does not include noncompliance to the extent caused by operational error, improperly designed treatment facilities, inadequate treatment facilities, lack of preventive maintenance, or careless or improper operation.

**Vehicle Wash Water** - The routine washing of vehicle exteriors to remove sediment and to make them presentable in the public.

**Wastewater** - any:

1. liquid waste substance derived from industrial, commercial, municipal, residential, agricultural, recreational, or other operations or establishments; and
2. other liquid waste substance containing liquid, gaseous or solid matter and having characteristics that will pollute any waters of the State.

**Water Quality Impaired** – See 'Impaired Water'.

**Water Quality Standards** – A water quality standard defines the water quality goals of a water body, or portion thereof, by designating the use or uses to be made of the water and by setting criteria necessary to protect the uses. The Department as promulgated in COMAR 26.08.02 (<http://www.dsd.state.md.us/comar/>) and EPA adopt water quality standards to protect public health or welfare, enhance the quality of water and serve the purposes of the Clean Water Act (See CWA sections 101(a)2 and 303(c)). Water quality standards also include an antidegradation policy. See P.U.D. o. 1 of Jefferson County et al v. Wash Dept of Ecology et al, 511 US 701, 705 (1994).

**Waters of this State** – includes:

1. both surface and underground waters within the boundaries of this State subject to its jurisdiction, including that part of the Atlantic Ocean within the boundaries of this State, the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries, and all ponds, lakes, rivers, streams, tidal and nontidal wetlands, public ditches, tax ditches, and public drainage systems within this State, other than those designed and used to collect, convey, or dispose of sanitary sewage; and
2. the flood plain of free-flowing waters determined by the Department of Natural Resources on the basis of the 100-year flood frequency.

**Wet weather** - the period during which precipitation or melting snow causes visible runoff from the facility that results in discharge from an outfall.