What is a General Permit?

If you are a homeowner or landowner planning to do certain construction projects in or around waterways or wetlands, you may be required, by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, to acquire a General Permit through your local Conservation District.

General Permits ensure certain conditions are met, and best management practices are in place, to protect public health, safety, and the environment. This is required by law under Chapter 105 of the Pennsylvania Code.

It’s best to contact the Conservation District as early as possible when planning projects such as:

- Small Docks and Boat Launch Ramps
- Bank Rehabilitation
- Minor Road Crossings

When completing your online General Permit application, you will be asked to upload the following documents:

1. Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) search
2. Project location map
3. Project drawings showing aerial and side views with dimensions
4. An Erosion and Sediment (E&S) plan

The Pike County Conservation District can provide technical assistance.

E-Permitting Now Available

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) established e-permitting to streamline the General Permit application process.

An Operator User’s Guide and Help Desk Support Line are available through:

dep.pa.gov

To get started, you should:

- Create a GreenPort account at depgreenport.state.pa.us

Financial and other support for this project is provided by the Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts, Inc. through a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection under Section 319 of the Clean Water Act, administered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Pike County Conservation District

Pikecd@pikepa.org
570-226-8220

PikeConservation.org
General Permits Help to Keep Pike County’s Water Clean

Small Docks and Boat Ramps

General Permit #2
If you are planning to install or repair a dock or boat launch ramp, you may need a General Permit #2.

This permit typically applies to structures 750 square feet or less, although other size restrictions may apply in certain cases.

Contact your municipality and community association as early as possible when planning your project to determine whether local ordinances or covenants, in addition to General Permit requirements, apply to your scope of work.

General Permit #3
If you are planning construction or excavation work to maintain or stabilize the bank of a stream, pond or lake, you may need a General Permit #3.

This permit also applies to excavation of gravel deposits or sediment build-up within a stream or creek.

Additional considerations are needed if a wetland is present within your project area.

General Permit #7
If you are planning to install, repair, or remove a bridge or culvert across a stream or wetland, you may need a General Permit #7.

Conditions for this permit include:
- Less than 0.1 acre of wetlands disturbance
- A watershed drainage area of 1.0 square miles or less
- Shall not narrow the existing channel

Contact the Conservation District as early as possible when planning your project.
PikeConservation.org • 570-226-8220