

Other agencies or a municipality issue permits for activities in Pike County. These can include building, zoning, or road access permits for projects.

These permits and requirements may be regulated by municipalities, PA Department of Transportation, DEP, or other agencies based on the activity.

If you are planning a project, be sure to check with the District to determine which permits you may need. If you have concerns about potential impacts to your water resources from any earth disturbance activity, contact the District.

This brochure is designed only as a simple guide on what opportunities the public has for making public comments in regard to Individual NPDES permits for discharges of stormwater associated with construction activities. For information about other permits or how to make comments on this process, please contact the District.



Pike County Conservation District:

570-226-8220
556 Route 402
Hawley, PA 18428
pikecd@pikepa.org
www.pikeconservation.org

Pike County Office of Community Planning:

570-296-3500
506 Broad Street
Milford, PA 18337
planning@pikepa.org
[https://www.pikepa.org/
living working/community planning/
index.php](https://www.pikepa.org/living-working/community_planning/index.php)

Municipalities:

Please visit [https://www.pikepa.org/
how do i/contact us/index.php](https://www.pikepa.org/how-do-i/contact-us/index.php) for a list of municipal contacts.



Opportunities for Public Input on the Individual NPDES



Any time humans disturb the land, it has the potential to cause water pollution. The Environmental Protection Agency developed the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) to try to limit pollution to our waterways. This permit system regulates and requires permits for large land disturbance projects over one acre or part of a common plan of development. NPDES also regulates point source discharges of potential pollution sources to waterways.

The Pike County Conservation District (District) along with PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) reviews NPDES permit applications for discharges of stormwater associated with construction activities within Pike County. DEP issues Individual NPDES permits based on the review.

As a part of the permitting process, there are opportunities for the public to make comments on an Individual NPDES permit application.

There may be other required permits for construction projects or for other types of projects.

When and How to Make Comments on an Individual NPDES Permit Application

Before Permit is Submitted

Comments to the District:

The project applicant may schedule a pre-application meeting with the District and DEP which includes an overall conceptual plan for the project.

- Prior to submission of the permit, the District's knowledge of the project is limited.
- Comments about the project can be made but are more appropriate during the permit review.

Comments to other Agencies:

Thirty days before submitting a permit, the applicant must inform the municipality and the Pike County Office of Community Planning of the project.

- Contact your municipality to find out when and how you can make comment.
- Comments in regard to how a project fits with the County's Comprehensive Plan, Municipal Comprehensive Plan, or other long-range plans should be submitted to Pike County Office of Community Planning and the municipal governing board.

During Review of Permit Application



After a technical review of the application is completed by the District/DEP, a draft NPDES permit will be published in the PA Bulletin. The PA Bulletin is the Commonwealth's official gazette for information and rulemaking. It can be found at www.pabulletin.com/index.asp.

A 30-day public comment period follows the posting of the draft NPDES permit. This is your opportunity to submit comments before a final decision is made. A person can also submit a written request to review the permit application. During this 30-day period, the public can submit written comments to DEP through www.dep.pa.gov/CWPpublicNotice.



Comments can be made to DEP in the following ways:

- A person or group can submit written comments for consideration in the final action of the permit. These comments should focus on the components of the Individual NPDES permit application.
- A person or group can submit a written request to hold a public hearing about the permit. DEP may schedule this meeting if there is significant interest.

DEP and the District will consider all comments in the final determination regarding the application. The review considers if the plan meets the requirements of state environmental regulations.

After Permit has Been Issued

DEP will issue the Individual NPDES permit. After the permit is issued, a public notice will be placed in the PA Bulletin and can be found at www.pabulletin.com/index.asp

The District is responsible for inspection of the project during construction to be sure environmental regulations related to the NPDES permit are followed.

The public can make a formal complaint to the District if sediment pollution or erosion is noticed.

Complaints may be made by phone, in person or in writing to the Conservation District office.

