

There may be other required permits for construction projects or for other



types of projects. 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, PA 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 our 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 Earth disturbance activities. For information about other permits or how to make comments on this process, please contact the District.

Pike County Conservation District:

556 Route 402, Suite 1
Hawley, PA 18428
Phone: 570-226-8220
Website: www.pikeconservation.org
Email: pikecd@pikepa.org



Pike County Office of Community Planning:

837 Route 6, Unit 3
Shohola, PA 18458
Phone: 57-296-3500
Website: www.pikepa.org/planning.html
Email: planning@pikepa.org



Municipalities:

Please visit: www.pikepa.org/countyinfo.html for a list of municipal contacts.

Opportunities for Public Input on the NPDES Permit Process

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. 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 within Pike County. DEP issues NPDES permits based on the review.

As a part of the NPDES permit process there are specific ways the public can make comments on an Individual NPDES permit application.



Pike County
Conservation District

When and How to Make Comments on a NPDES Permit Application

Before Permit is Submitted To the District

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 the submission of a complete permit application to the District, a notice will be placed 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 this posting. This is your opportunity to submit comments before the permit is issued. During this 30-day period, the public can make written comments to the District. These will be forwarded to DEP.

Comments can be made to the District in the following ways:

- A person can submit a written request to review the permit application.
- A person or group can submit written comments for consideration in the review of the permit. These comments should focus on the components of the 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 NPDES permit. After the permit is issued a public notice will be placed in the PA Bulletin. A 30-day public comment period follows this posting. DEP will accept comments at this time.

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.

