

Rule Adoption Notice: Water Quality Permit Fees

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) has adopted amendments to Chapter 173-224 WAC – Water Quality Permit Fees. The purpose of the rule is to establish a fee system for state waste discharge and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits issued by Ecology pursuant to RCW 90.48.160, 90.48.162, or 90.48.260.

<p>Rule Adopted: June 26, 2019</p> <p>Rule Effective: July 27, 2019</p> <p>Water Quality Permit Fee rulemaking web page: https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulation-s-Permits/Laws-rules-rulemaking/Rulemaking/WAC-173-224</p> <p>Adopted rule language: https://ecology.wa.gov/1801AdoptLanguage</p> <p>Adoption filing (CR-103 form): https://ecology.wa.gov/1801AdoptNotice</p> <p>More information Charles Gilman 800-633-6193 Option 2 wqfee_unit@ecy.wa.gov</p> <p>Special accommodations To request materials in a format for the visually impaired, visit https://ecology.wa.gov/accessibility call Ecology at 360-407-6600, Relay Service 711, or TTY 877-833-6341.</p>	Description of changes for Underpaying Fee Categories		
	<p>SFY 2020 (July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020)</p>	<p>4.62%</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aluminum Alloys Aluminum Forming Aquatic Pest Control Boatyards (Individual and General Permits) Coal Mining and Preparation Commercial Laundry Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Dairies Iron and Steel Metal Finishing Municipal Wastewater - >250,000 Residential Equivalents Nonferrous Metals Forming Ore Mining Private and Govt. Owned Wastewater Facilities Shipyards Stormwater Construction (Individual and General Permits) Stormwater Industrial (Individual and General Permits) Stormwater Municipal Phase 1 and 2 Permits Vessel Deconstruction.
	<p>SFY 2021 (July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021)</p>	<p>5.43%</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aluminum and Magnesium Reduction Mills Aquaculture Combined Industrial Waste Treatment Combined Food Processing Waste Treatment Combined Sewer Overflow System Facilities Not Otherwise Classified (Individual and General Permits) Flavor Extraction Food Processing Fruit Packing (Individual and General Permit) Fuel and Chemical Storage Hazardous Waste Cleanup Sites Ink Formulation and Printing Inorganic Chemicals Manufacturing Noncontact Cooling Water With Additives (Individual and General Permits) Noncontact Cooling Water Without Additives (Individual and General Permits) Organic Chemical Manufacturing Petroleum Refining Photofinishers Power and/or Steam Plants Pulp, Paper, and Paperboard Radioactive Effluents and Discharges RCRA Corrective Action Sites Sand & Gravel (Individual and General Permits) Seafood Processing Solid Waste Sites Textile Mills Timber Products Vegetable/Bulb Washing Facilities Vehicle Maintenance and Freight Transfer Water Plants (Individual and General Permits) Wineries (Individual and General Permits).
	Description of changes for Overpaying Fee Categories		
	<p>SFY 2020 (July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020)</p>	<p>0%</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aluminum and Magnesium Reduction Mills Aquaculture Combined Industrial Waste Treatment Combined Food Processing Waste Treatment Combined Sewer Overflow System Facilities Not Otherwise Classified (Individual and General Permits) Flavor Extraction Food Processing Fruit Packing (Individual and General Permit) Fuel and Chemical Storage Hazardous Waste Cleanup Sites Ink Formulation and Printing Inorganic Chemicals Manufacturing Noncontact Cooling Water With Additives (Individual and General Permits) Noncontact Cooling Water Without Additives (Individual and General Permits) Organic Chemical Manufacturing Petroleum Refining Photofinishers Power and/or Steam Plants Pulp, Paper, and Paperboard Radioactive Effluents and Discharges RCRA Corrective Action Sites Sand & Gravel (Individual and General Permits) Seafood Processing Solid Waste Sites Textile Mills Timber Products Vegetable/Bulb Washing Facilities Vehicle Maintenance and Freight Transfer Water Plants (Individual and General Permits) Wineries (Individual and General Permits).
	<p>SFY 2021 (July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021)</p>	<p>0%</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aluminum and Magnesium Reduction Mills Aquaculture Combined Industrial Waste Treatment Combined Food Processing Waste Treatment Combined Sewer Overflow System Facilities Not Otherwise Classified (Individual and General Permits) Flavor Extraction Food Processing Fruit Packing (Individual and General Permit) Fuel and Chemical Storage Hazardous Waste Cleanup Sites Ink Formulation and Printing Inorganic Chemicals Manufacturing Noncontact Cooling Water With Additives (Individual and General Permits) Noncontact Cooling Water Without Additives (Individual and General Permits) Organic Chemical Manufacturing Petroleum Refining Photofinishers Power and/or Steam Plants Pulp, Paper, and Paperboard Radioactive Effluents and Discharges RCRA Corrective Action Sites Sand & Gravel (Individual and General Permits) Seafood Processing Solid Waste Sites Textile Mills Timber Products Vegetable/Bulb Washing Facilities Vehicle Maintenance and Freight Transfer Water Plants (Individual and General Permits) Wineries (Individual and General Permits).

Purpose of the adopted rule changes

RCW 90.48.465 requires Ecology to establish, by rule, annual fees that fund the wastewater and stormwater permit programs. Ecology adopted Chapter 173-224 WAC – Water Quality Permit Fees in response to this law.

This rule amendment allows Ecology to continue recovering expenses in operating and managing the permit programs. Ecology has adopted increased fees for Fiscal Years 2020 and 2021 in order to collect the revenue needed to recover the costs of administering the wastewater and stormwater programs next biennium and move closer to payment equity between fee categories. Ecology also updated rule language to account for changes in current business practices relating to electronic payment options, collection processes, and data collection. We also added fees for the winery general permit and created a market research and development reduction (MRDR). During this rulemaking, Ecology’s initial MRDR proposal was clarified to more closely align eligibility criteria with the potential to reduce wastewater discharge pollutants, permitting complexity, and the associated costs Ecology is required to recover.

Response to comments we received

The response to comments we received during the public comment period is available for download at:

<https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/SummaryPages/1910025.html>

Those that may be affected by the rule

Current permitted and future permit applicants who fall into the fee categories listed in table will be affected by the rule amendments.

Appeal procedures

This adoption can be appealed under procedures described in the Administrative Procedure Act (RCW 34.05.330).

Stay informed

Sign up for our emailing list to stay informed on our permit fee rulemaking in the future at:

<http://listserv.ecology.wa.gov/scripts/wa-ECOLOGY.exe?A0=ECOLOGY-WATER-QUALITY-INFO>

- El Departamento de Ecología adoptó enmiendas a Capitulo 173-224 WAC Tarifas de Permiso de Calidad de Agua (Water Quality Permit Fees). Esta propuesta aumenta las tarifas para el bienio 2019-2021 para garantizar que recaudemos los ingresos necesarios para cubrir el costo de administrar el programa. Para más información, por favor llame a Charles Gilman al 360-407-6425 para pedir un intérprete.
- 주환경부는 주법 Chapter173-224 WAC Title 에 관련된 법령이 개정후채택 발효 되었다 상세내용은 Charles Gilman at 360-407-6425 에게 문의하거나 통역 요청
- 華⊠⊠⊠⊠⊠⊠⊠⊠⊠⊠ WAC 173 第 224 章“水質許可證費” (Water Quality Permit Fees) 的修訂案。該規則提案將增加 2019-2021 兩年期的費用，以確保我們收取的收入可支付管理該計劃的費用。如需要關更多信息，請聯繫 Charles Gilman · 電話 360-407-6425 · 您可要求口譯員。
- Bộ Môi Sinh đã phê chuẩn phần thay đổi cho Chương 173-224 WAC Phí Giấy Phép Chất Lượng Nước (Water Quality Permit Fees). Đạo luật này đề xuất tăng phí cho hai năm 2019-2021 để bảo đảm doanh thu cần thiết để trang trải chi phí quản lý chương trình. Để biết thêm thông tin hoặc cần thông dịch viên, xin liên hệ Charles Gilman tại số (360) 407-6425.