

Winery General Permit Applicability Decision Tree

Use this decision tree to determine if you must apply for coverage under the Winery General Permit

Directions

1. Start at the green box in the top center of the diagram.
2. Answer the question, “Does my winery discharge winery process wastewater?”
 - a. If your winery does **not** discharge winery process wastewater, you do **not** need to apply for coverage under the Winery General Permit.
 - b. If your winery discharges winery process wastewater, go to bullet 3.
3. Answer the question, “Where does the wastewater go when it leaves my facility?”
 - a. If the wastewater is discharged to a wastewater treatment plant, go to bullet 3.a.i.
 - i. Answer the question, “Is the wastewater treatment plant delegated or a Listed WWTP?”. A list of Washington’s delegated municipal wastewater treatment plants is available on Ecology’s webpage (www.ecology.wa.gov/winerypermit). The names of Listed WWTPs are included in Appendix C of the Winery General Permit.
 - A. If wastewater is discharged to a delegated municipal wastewater treatment plant, you do **not** need to apply for coverage under the Winery General Permit.
 - B. If wastewater is discharged to a Listed WWTP, you do **not** need to apply for coverage under the Winery General Permit.
 - C. If wastewater is discharged to a wastewater treatment plant that is **not** delegated and is **not** a Listed WWTP, go to bullet 4.
 - b. If the wastewater is treated and then discharged to an infiltration basin, go to bullet 4.
 - c. If the wastewater is discharged to a land treatment system, go to bullet 4.
 - d. If the wastewater is used to control road dust, go to bullet 4.
 - e. If the wastewater is discharged to a subsurface infiltration system, go to bullet 4.
 - f. If the wastewater is discharged to a lagoon, go to bullet 3.f.i.
 - i. Answer the question, “Is the lagoon double lined and has a leak detection system?”
 - A. If wastewater is discharged to a lagoon that is double lined and has a leak detection system, you do **not** need to apply for coverage under the Winery General Permit.
 - B. If wastewater is discharged to a lagoon that is **not** double lined and does **not** have a leak detection system, go to bullet 4.
 4. Answer the question, “Does my facility discharge more than 53,505 gallons of wastewater per year?”
 - a. If your facility does **not** discharge more than 53,505 gallons of wastewater per year, you do **not** need to apply for coverage under the Winery General Permit.
 - b. If your facility discharge more than 53,505 gallons of wastewater per year, you are required to apply for coverage under the Winery General Permit.

Notes

1. Winery process wastewater = Also referred to as “wastewater”. It is the waste generated during the processing of wine. Wastewater is primarily generated during the cleaning of winemaking equipment and facilities. Examples include bottle and barrel rinse water, equipment/floor wash water, lees, and byproducts of the winemaking process. Winery waste does **not** include waste produced by agricultural operations associated with the growing of fruit or domestic sewage.
2. Land treatment system = Also referred to as “discharged as irrigation to managed vegetation”. It is the controlled application of wastewater to irrigation lands for treatment. Irrigation to managed vegetation includes discharging to crops, landscaped areas, or other vegetated areas as long as the vegetation is healthy and maintained.
3. Subsurface infiltration system = An onsite system that treats wastewater (winery process wastewater) before discharging it to a drainfield where additional treatment occurs. The subsurface infiltration system includes the system that treats the wastewater and the drainfield. A subsurface infiltration system constructed before the effective date of the general permit may be designed to treat wastewater (winery process wastewater) or may **not** be (an example is a septic system designed to treat domestic sewage).
4. Delegated = A municipal wastewater treatment plant which has been granted permitting approval by Ecology because they administer a pretreatment program that meets the criteria established in 40 CFR, parts 403.8 and 403.9. Permittees that discharge to a delegated municipal wastewater treatment plant do **not** need a permit from Ecology for those discharges, but will be permitted by the actual municipal wastewater treatment plant.
5. Listed WWTP = A wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) that was approved by Ecology so that winemaking facilities that discharge to it are **not** required to be covered by the Winery General Permit.
6. A winery may **not** be required to apply for coverage under the Winery General Permit if they discharge less than 53,505 gallons of wastewater per year. A winery that does **not** know how much wastewater they discharge in a year, may use their production volume. A winery may **not** be required to apply for coverage under the Winery General Permit if they produce less than 7,500 cases of wine/juice per year (17,835 gallons of wine/juice per year) or per year.
7. If Ecology determines that a winemaking facility is a Significant Contributor of Pollutants or a Significant Industrial User, then Ecology may require them to apply for coverage under the Winery General Permit.
8. The Winery General Permit does **not** apply to:
 - The home manufacturing of alcoholic beverages.
 - A facility that exclusively produces mead or hard cider.
 - A facility that does **not** discharge winery process wastewater. Domestic sewage from tasting rooms or restaurants does **not** constitute process wastewater.

