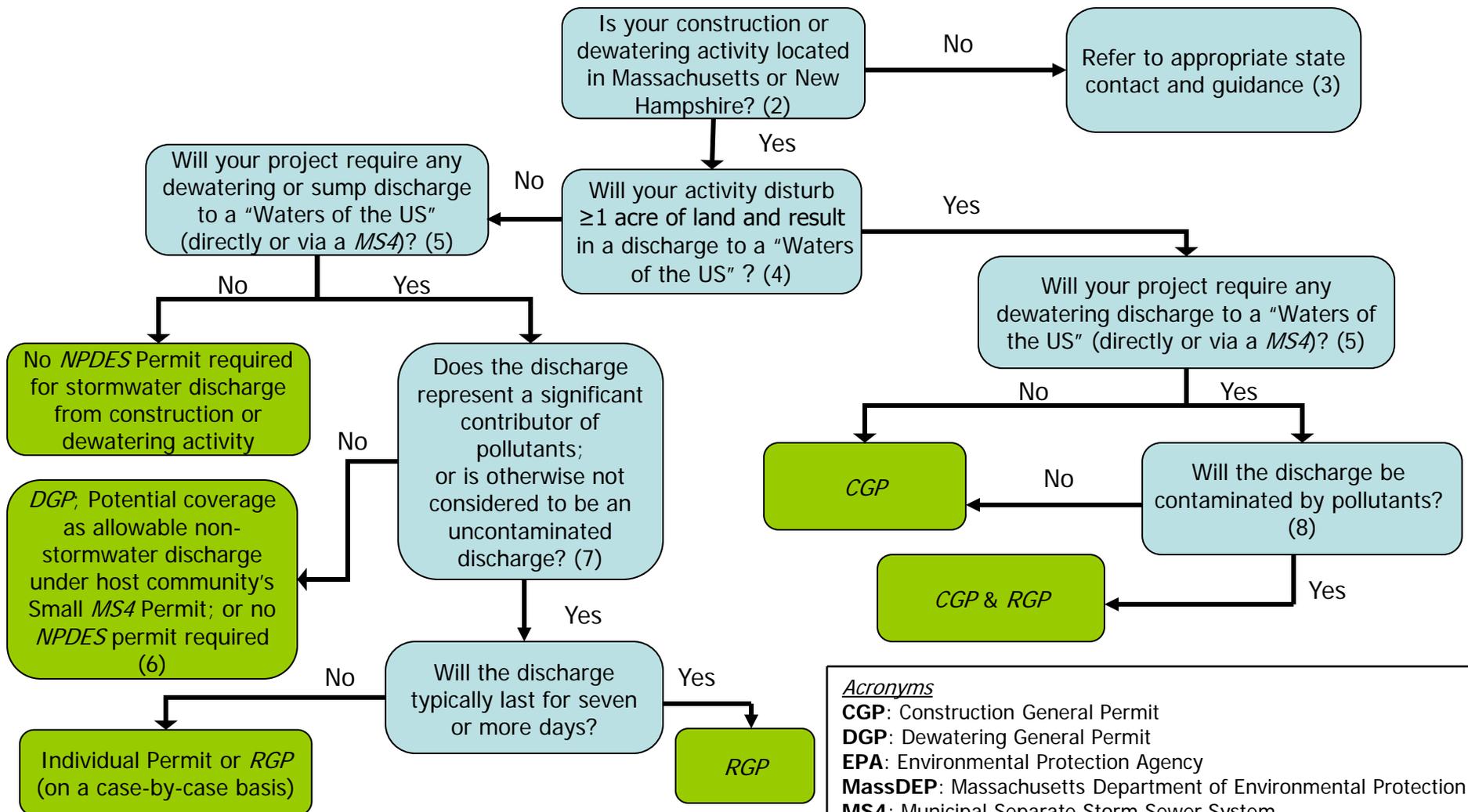


Do I need NPDES Permit Coverage for Discharges Related to my Construction or Dewatering Activity and Which General Permits are Available?⁽¹⁾



Acronyms
CGP: Construction General Permit
DGP: Dewatering General Permit
EPA: Environmental Protection Agency
MassDEP: Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
MS4: Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System
NHDES: New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services
NPDES: National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
RGP: Remediation General Permit

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 Available at: <http://www.epa.gov/region1/npdes/stormwater/index.html>
 Updated as of: 12/22/11

Do I need NPDES Permit Coverage for Discharges Related to my Construction Activity and Which General Permits are Available?

(Footnotes to Flow Chart)

- 1) EPA has made general permits available for operators seeking NPDES authorization to discharge stormwater and non-stormwater to a "Waters of the US" (term defined at: [40 CFR §122.2](#)). Each general permit has its own eligibility criteria. Where criteria cannot be satisfied, an operator may need to seek coverage under an alternative general permit or an individual permit.
- 2) EPA is also the permitting authority for Federal facilities located in Vermont and Indian Country in Maine.
- 3) State Contacts & Web Reference:
 - Connecticut: [Chris Stone](mailto:chris.stone@po.state.ct.us) (chris.stone@po.state.ct.us), 860-424-3850 [web](#)
 - Maine: [David Ladd](mailto:david.ladd@state.me.us) (david.ladd@state.me.us), 207-287-5404 [web](#)
 - Rhode Island: [Margarita Chatterton](mailto:mchatterton@dem.state.ri.us) (mchatterton@dem.state.ri.us), 401-222-4700 x 7605 [web](#)
 - Vermont: [Peter LaFlamme](mailto:petel@dec.anr.state.us.vt) (petel@dec.anr.state.us.vt), 802-241-3765 [web](#)
- 4) Land Disturbance does not include routine maintenance that is performed to maintain the original line and grade, hydraulic capacity, or original purpose of the site. (e.g., daily cover for landfills, maintenance of gravel roads or parking areas, landscape maintenance, etc.).
- 5) Dewatering is defined as the pumping or draining of groundwater or stormwater accumulation from an excavation, sump or other subsurface reservoir; excluding any normally free flowing portion of a municipal, perimeter, yard or similar drain.
- 6) First, determine eligibility under DGP where the discharge meets the DGP's definition of "uncontaminated". If eligible for DGP coverage, notify the MS4 Operator receiving the proposed discharge to confirm alternate authorization under its Small MS4 Permit as an allowable non-stormwater discharge. No NPDES permit coverage is required where the discharge is in a community not covered by the Small MS4 Permit and the discharge is not a source of pollutants.
- 7) A significant contributor of pollutants as determined by a host-community MS4 Operator, EPA, MassDEP, or NHDES; uncontaminated discharge as defined in the DGP.
- 8) Discharges contaminated by pollutants include discharges from contaminated or formerly contaminated sites and/or discharges that contain pollutants not authorized for discharge by the DGP or CGP and those that have the reasonable potential to violate surface water quality standards.
 - CGP <http://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater/cgp.cfm>
 - DGP <http://www.epa.gov/region1/npdes/dewatering.html>
 - RGP <http://www.epa.gov/region1/npdes/rgp.html>
 - 2003 Small MS4 General Permit http://www.epa.gov/region1/npdes/permits/permit_final_ms4.pdf

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