

**PUBLIC NOTICE
OF DRAFT GENERAL PERMIT RENEWAL
FOR STATEWIDE AUTHORIZATION FOR SMALL MUNICIPAL SEPARATE
STORM SEWER SYSTEMS TO DISCHARGE STORM WATER UNDER
THE NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM**

Public Notice No.: July 15, 2020

Public notice is hereby given that the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA), Division of Surface Water is issuing a draft general permit renewal for statewide authorization for small municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s) to discharge storm water under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES). The draft general permit renewal will be issued as a final action after consideration of the record of the public hearing and written comments submitted during the public comment period. Any person may comment at the public hearing and/or submit written comments on the draft general permit renewal for the administrative record.

The draft general permit renewal (Permit No. OHQ000004) is the fourth generation of this general permit and will afford coverage to small MS4s required to obtain NPDES permit coverage to discharge throughout the State of Ohio. The draft general permit renewal identifies who can be covered and how an entity obtains coverage and contains requirements for permittees to develop and implement a Storm Water Management Program (SWMP) to address minimum performance standards. In accordance with Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) 3745-38-02(B)(4)(a), this draft general permit renewal includes all required permit terms and conditions and follows the comprehensive general permitting approach by containing terms and conditions that are expressed in clear, specific and measurable terms.

Copies of this public notice, associated fact sheet and draft general permit renewal maybe inspected on the Ohio EPA Storm Water Program website: epa.ohio.gov/dsw/storm/index

The processing of this draft general permit renewal and associated Notices of Intent for coverage is and will be done, respectively, and when final, in accordance with Ohio's antidegradation rule, Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) 3745-1-05, and NPDES general permit rules, OAC Chapter 3745-38.

An Ohio EPA public hearing to accept comments on the draft general permit renewal has been scheduled for 3:00 PM, September 1, 2020. The hearing will be held virtually. To register for the hearing go to <http://epa.ohio.gov/virtual>. Participants thereafter will be notified through email for the hearing link. The public hearing will end when everyone in attendance has had an opportunity to provide comments related to the draft general permit renewal. In lieu of, or in addition to, attending the public hearing, written comments may be submitted as outlined in the following paragraph.

Interested persons are invited to submit written comments on this draft general permit renewal by email to epa.dswcomments@epa.ohio.gov or by mail to: Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water-Permits Processing Unit, P.O. Box 1049, Columbus, Ohio 43216-1049 no later than 5 pm on September 8, 2020. Comments received after this date may not be considered as part of the administrative record. All comments should include "OHQ000004" in the subject line for email or next to the Ohio EPA address on the envelope and on each page of mailed comments.