

Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation
General Aquatic Resource Alteration Permit for the
Alteration of Wet Weather Conveyances



Effective Date: April 7, 2015

Expiration Date: April 6, 2020

Activities Covered by this Permit

This general permit authorizes alterations to wet weather conveyances. Wet weather conveyances are defined in the Tennessee Water Quality Control Act of 1977 (Act) (T.C.A. 69-3-103(43)) as "man-made or natural watercourses, including natural watercourses that have been modified by channelization, that flow only in direct response to precipitation runoff in their immediate locality, whose channels are above the groundwater table, and in which hydrological and biological analyses indicate that, under normal weather conditions, due to naturally occurring ephemeral or low flow there is not sufficient water to support fish, or multiple populations of lotic aquatic organisms whose life cycle includes an aquatic phase of at least two months." More details on wet weather conveyances, and the rules and guidance related to the identification and delineation of these features may be found at http://www.state.tn.us/environment/water/water-quality_training.shtml

In accordance with the Act (T.C.A. 69-3-108(q)), alterations to wet weather conveyances do not require submittal of an application or written authorization prior to commencement of work provided the alteration is performed in accordance with the terms and conditions listed below. Activities authorized and conducted in accordance with the conditions in this general permit shall be considered *de minimis*.

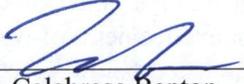
General Conditions

1. The activity may not result in the discharge of waste or other substances that may be harmful to humans or wildlife.
2. Material may not be placed in a location or manner so as to impair surface water flow into or out of any wetland area.
3. Sediment shall be prevented from entering other waters of the state.
4. Erosion and sediment controls shall be designed according to the size and slope of disturbed or drainage areas to detain runoff and trap sediment and shall be properly selected, installed, and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications and good engineering practices.
5. Erosion and sediment control measures shall be in place and functional before earth moving operations begin, and shall be constructed and maintained throughout the construction period. Temporary measures may be removed at the beginning of the work day, but shall be replaced at the end of the work day.
6. Checkdams shall be utilized where runoff is concentrated. Clean rock, log, or sandbag checkdams shall be properly constructed to detain runoff and trap sediment. Checkdams or other erosion control devices are not to be constructed in jurisdictional streams. Clean rock can be of various type and size, depending on the application. Clean rock shall not contain fines, soils or other wastes or contaminants.
7. Appropriate steps shall be taken to ensure that petroleum products or other chemical pollutants are prevented from entering waters of the state. All spills shall be reported to the appropriate emergency

management agency and to the division. In the event of a spill, measures shall be taken immediately to prevent pollution of waters of the state, including groundwater.

8. Work shall not commence until the permittee has obtained all necessary authorizations pursuant to applicable provisions of §10 of The Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899; §404 of The Clean Water Act and §26a of The Tennessee Valley Authority Act, as well as any other federal, state or local laws.
9. This permit does not authorize impacts to cultural, historic or archaeological features or sites.
10. This permit does not authorize access to private property. Arrangements concerning the use of private property shall be made with the landowner.
11. This permit does not authorize adverse impact to formally listed state or federal threatened or endangered species or their critical habitat.
12. The permittee is responsible for obtaining coverage under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) *General Permit for Storm Water Discharges from Construction Activities* where clearing, grading or excavation results in an area of disturbance of one or more acres, or activities that result in the disturbance of less than one acre if it is part of a larger common plan of development or sale.

APPROVED: _____


Tisha Calabrese Benton
Director, Division of Water Resources

DATE: 7/22/15