

NPDES Stormwater Permit Fees

Fees are authorized in NCGS 143-215.3D

IMPORTANT UPDATE: Many permit fees have changed for applications received on or after October 3, 2023. North Carolina's 2023 Appropriations Act [Session Law 2023-134](#) includes fee adjustments for 28 Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) programs, including Stormwater.

Permit Service	Major Individual NPDES SW Permit ⁵	Minor Individual NPDES SW Permit ⁶	General Permit NPDES SW COC
New Industrial Permit ¹	N/A	\$1,200	\$120
New MS4 Permit ¹	\$4,200	\$1,000	N/A
Annual Fee ²	Equal to New Permit Fee	Equal to New Permit Fee	Equal to New Permit Fee
Major Modification (Industrial Permit) ³	N/A	\$360	\$36
Major Modification (MS4 Permit) ³	\$1,260	\$300	N/A
Minor Modification ⁴	\$0	\$0	\$0
Rescission	\$0	\$0	\$0
Renewal	\$0	\$0	\$0
No Exposure Exclusion ⁷	N/A	N/A	\$250

¹ The application fee for a new permit is nonrefundable even if the application is denied.

² *Annual fee* means a fee collected on an annual basis beginning one year after initial permit issuance.

³ *Major modification* means any modification of a permit that is not a minor modification. Major modifications include, but are not limited to: changes to compliance schedules, changes to benchmarks, material and substantial alterations to the permitted facility or on-site activity, etc. The fee for a major modification is nonrefundable even if the application is denied.

⁴ *Minor modification* is defined in 40 CFR 122.63 (e.g., correct typographical errors, increase monitoring frequency, name/ownership change, outfall removal in certain circumstances, etc.)

⁵ *Major Individual NPDES Stormwater (SW) permits* are for medium/large municipalities (with populations greater than 100,000) that have an MS4, such as Phase I NPDES municipalities. NCDOT's statewide stormwater permit is also considered a Major individual NPDES stormwater permit.

⁶ *Minor Individual NPDES Stormwater (SW) permits* are for small MS4s that do not qualify for a Major individual stormwater permit and industrial facilities that are not eligible for coverage under one of NC's NPDES stormwater general permits.

⁷ *No Exposure Exclusion* fee is for the first year only. No fee is required after the first year.