

3.07 WATER AND SEWERAGE CONSTRUCTION PERMIT

- ❑ *Question: Do I plan to install, extend or modify a community water supply and/or sewerage system?*

Why do I need this approval?

The purpose of water and sewerage construction permit is to ensure that infrastructure projects throughout the State are designed on sound engineering principles and comply with State design guidelines to protect water quality and public health. Water and sewerage construction permits are required before installing, extending or modifying community water supply and/or sewerage systems including treatment plants, pumping stations and major water mains and sanitary sewers. These permits ensure conformity with local water and wastewater comprehensive plans and ensure that there is adequate funding for long-term operation. The following major water and sewerage facilities need construction permits:

Major water facilities (A major water supply system, including structures and equipment, treats raw water and distributes potable water to serve 25 or more of the same persons on a day-to-day basis at least six months out of a year, or to serve 15 or more residential connections.):

- Water mains (diameter >15")
- Pumping or booster station
- Elevated tank or storage tank
- Water treatment facilities
- Utilization of well water for public water supply

Major sewerage facilities (A major sewerage system, including structures and equipment, collects, conveys and treats wastewaters generated from domestic, industrial, and commercial establishments.):

- Gravity sewers (diameter >15")
- Pumping station
- Force mains
- Wastewater treatment facilities
- Community or multiuse septic tank system in which a pumping station and a force main are included.

The following minor water and sewerage facilities do not need water/sewerage construction permits:

- Gravity sewers or water mains with diameter 15" or smaller
- Pumping stations with average daily flow 5,000 gpd or less
- Installation of minor items such as a meter, valve or hydrant
- Replacing equipment with new equipment of equal capacity
- Well construction (drilling)

- Construction of conventional septic tank or mound system
- Construction of facilities unrelated to water/wastewater conveyance or treatment at a water/wastewater treatment plant

What laws or regulations give MDE the legal authority to issue this approval?

STATE: Environment Article, Title 9; COMAR 26.03.12.

What is the process to get this approval?

- 1) Submit plans and/or specifications with the permit application.
- 2) The Department acknowledges receipt of plans and/or specifications, determines the permit fee, and assigns a permit number.
- 3) The Department verifies that the project is within the service area of the current county water and sewerage comprehensive plans, and reviews/approves the financial management plan (if applicable) for the project.
- 4) The Department reviews the specifications for conformity with State design guidelines and COMAR 26.03.12. After engineering comments are addressed, the Department issues the permit.

Before I apply for this approval, do I need to get any approvals from the local or federal government?

A building permit and septic system construction permit may be needed for the project, contact the county government.

Is this approval directly related or contingent on other approvals?

A discharge permit must be issued first.

Are there any other requirements?

PRE-APPROVAL: Applicants must show that the proposed facility is included in the current County Water and Sewerage Plan, and certify that the proposed facility will be operated either publicly or privately under a sound financial management plan.

POST-APPROVAL: The project must be constructed in accordance with the approved plans and specifications.

How long should I expect it to take to get this approval once I submit a complete application?

3 months

Once I get this approval, how long will it last?

One time permit, assuming no changes to the equipment.

How much will this approval cost?

No fee for projects that qualify for a local government waiver.
Privately financed water and sewerage capital projects are charged the following fees (COMAR 26.03.12.):

Type of Construction	Fee
Water mains and gravity sewers/force mains	\$125 to \$1800 depending on the length of the mains.
Water and wastewater pumping stations	\$400 to \$1400 depending on the design capacity.
Water treatment plants	\$250 to \$2000 depending on the design capacity and the number of treatment processes.
Wastewater treatment plants	\$450 to \$2000 depending on the design capacity and the number of treatment processes.

Who do I contact with additional questions?

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Related link:
<http://mde.maryland.gov/programs/Permits/WaterManagementPermits/Pages/waterpermits.aspx>