

NPDES

Pesticide General Permit (PGP)

May 20, 2026

Indiana Pesticide Review Board Meeting



NPDES PGP

185th
IPRB
5.20.26



National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

Permit ING870000

GENERAL PERMIT FOR
PESTICIDE APPLICATIONS

Indiana Department of Environmental Management

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In compliance with the provisions of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended by the Clean Water Act of 1977 ([33 U.S.C. 1251](#), et seq., the "Act"), Title 13 of the Indiana Code, Articles 5 and 15 of Title 327 of the Indiana Administrative Code, and regulations adopted by the Environmental Rules Board, the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) is issuing this general permit to all persons who apply pesticides on or near surface waters of the State of Indiana.

Current permit expires 10/30/26

[IDEM NPDES General Permits](#)

https://oisc.purdue.edu/pesticide/pdf/npdes_general_permit_10-2021.pdf

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2.1 What discharges are covered under this general permit?

Pesticide discharges from the following applications of pesticides are covered under this general permit:

- The application of pesticides directly to water in order to control pests. Examples of such applications include applications to control mosquito larvae, aquatic weeds, or other pests that are present in water.
- The application of pesticides to control pests that are present over water, including near the water, where a portion of the pesticides will unavoidably be deposited to the water in order to target the pests effectively. Examples of such applications include when insecticides are aerially applied to a forest canopy where water may be present below the canopy, or when pesticides are applied over or near water for control of adult mosquitoes or other pests.

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Table 1. Pesticide Uses Covered Under this General Permit

| Pesticide Use | Annual Treatment Area Thresholds for Determining NOI Submittal Requirements |
|--|--|
| Control of public health or nuisance pests and other flying insect pests that develop or are present during a portion of their life cycle in or above standing or flowing water. Public health or nuisance pests in this use category include but not limited to mosquitoes and black flies. | 6400 acres (cumulative for adulticide for the calendar year) |
| Control of invasive or other nuisance weeds and algae in water and at water's edge, including irrigation ditches and irrigation canals including but not limited to: (1) Treating weeds in a right-of-way or easement where to target the pests effectively a portion of the pesticide unavoidably will be applied over and deposited to water; and (2) Control of aquatic vegetation through chemical or biological means in waters of the state under a permit issued by the Department of Natural Resources under IC 14-22-9-10 and 312 IAC 9-10-3. | 80 acres in water 20 linear miles of ditch or other linear feature or at water's edge |
| Control of invasive or other nuisance animals in water and at the water's edge. Aquatic nuisance animals in this use category include, but are not limited to fish, lampreys, and mollusks. | 80 acres in water 20 linear miles of ditch or other linear feature or at water's edge |
| Aerial or ground application of a pesticide over a forest canopy to control the population of a pest species, for example, an insect or pathogen, where to target the pests effectively a portion of the pesticide unavoidably will be applied over and deposited to water. | 6400 acres (cumulative for the calendar year) |
| Application of pesticides to outstanding state resource waters designated in 327 IAC 2-1.3-3(d) to restore or maintain water quality or to protect public health or the environment where those discharges either do not degrade water quality or only degrade water quality on a short-term or temporary basis. | No annual treatment area threshold. Applies to any pesticide application, regardless of the amount of area treated |

Table 2. Pesticide Uses that ARE NOT Covered Under this General Permit

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| Agricultural pesticide application to the land or to terrestrial crops. |
| Agricultural stormwater runoff. |
| Pesticide application or discharge that violates IC 15-16-4, IC 15-16-5, the rules of the Indiana State Chemist at 355 IAC 4 or 355 IAC 5, the rules of the Indiana Pesticide Review Board at 357 IAC 1, or the pesticide product label. |
| Pesticide application that results in the discharge of any pesticide: (1) to waters that have been designated as: (A) impaired for that pesticide or its degradates; (B) outstanding state resource waters in 327 IAC 2-1.3-3(d) except as provided in Table 1; (2) that violates a water quality standard established in 327 IAC 2; or (3) within a pesticide setback established by the Indiana State Chemist or the Indiana Pesticide Review Board or described in the product label. |
| Discharges that are currently covered by another NPDES permit. |
| Discharges included in a permit that within the last five (5) years has been or is in the process of being denied, terminated, or revoked by IDEM. |

Table 4. Who is Not Required to Submit a NOI

A person who is certified or licensed to apply pesticides by the Office of the Indiana State Chemist (OISC) or a person who has received a GN number issued by the OISC in any of the following categories: 2 – Forest Pest Management; 3B – Turf Management; 5 – Aquatic Pest Management; 6 – Industrial Weed Management; 7A - Industrial, Institutional, Structural, and Health-Related Pest Management; 8 – Mosquito Management; and 11 – Aerial Application. (A “GN number” is the OISC identifier number that is assigned to a “government or not-for-hire pesticide application operating location”.)

A person who applies pesticides under a permit issued by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources under IC 14-22-9-10 and 312 IAC 9-10-3.

A person engaged in pesticide research and development activities.

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Notices of intent

This permit will require the largest pesticide applicators to submit a notice of intent, unless they have been issued a GN number by the OISC. A "GN number" is the OISC identifier number that is assigned to a "government or not-for-hire pesticide application operating location". These operators would potentially include the following if they exceed a use pattern threshold or have a discharge to an outstanding state resource water:

- (1) The Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) which conducts aquatic pesticide applications with its employees, contracts for pesticide application by registered applicators, and permits application of aquatic pesticides to Indiana water bodies and waterways under Indiana law. IDNR also contracts for and supervises aerial pesticide application to control *Lymantria dispar dispar* and other invasive species.
- (2) The Indiana Department of Transportation that uses its employees and contractors to apply pesticides to ditches and ditch banks to maintain public right-of-ways.
- (3) The U.S. Forest Service when it performs or contracts for pesticide application to control pests in national forests.
- (4) Utilities, railroads and other entities that apply pesticides to right-of-ways to control invasive or nuisance vegetation if they (A) exceed a use pattern threshold and (B) are not a small business as defined in Indiana law ([IC 5-28-2-6](#)).

[IDEM NPDES PGP Fact Sheet](#)

[NPDES PGP Pesticide Discharge Management Plan Form](#)

Under 40 CFR 122.28(b)(2)(v), the Commissioner has determined that submission of a notice of intent under this permit by pesticide applicators other than the pesticide applicators described above is unnecessary but is not prohibited. Most pesticide applications that would exceed a threshold in the permit are (1) conducted by the state of Indiana or a federal agency using its employees or contractors or by large companies such as utilities and railroads, (2) are permitted by the state, or (3) are carried out by persons registered or certified by the OISC. All of these pesticide applications are a matter of public record. All pesticide application in the State of Indiana is regulated by the OISC. As a result of this determination, submission of a notice of intent by every pesticide applicator will not be required under this general permit. Notice of intents are only required of those persons who meet the criteria of Tables 1, 2 & 3 and who are not exempted by Table 4.

Pesticide Discharge Management Plans

This permit will require only those persons who are required to submit a Notice of Intent to also develop a Pesticide Discharge Management Plan (PDMP). The form of the plan will be specified by the OISC since the PDMP consists of standards and procedures applicable to the planning and control of pesticide application and the OISC is the agency tasked by Indiana law with controlling the application of pesticides in Indiana. The Plan is not required to be submitted to IDEM or OISC for approval prior to its implementation. A copy of the PDMP shall be maintained by the person and shall be made available for agency (IDEM or OISC) review upon request.