

# DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY

TEL: # (609) 292-9977

Waterquality@dep.nj.gov

*www.state.nj.us/dep/waterquality*

Please notify the NJDEP Hotline (1-877-WARN DEP or 1-877-927-6337) for any significant impacts to your infrastructure and/or compromises to the operations of your facility.

## PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES FOR WASTEWATER AND STORMWATER SYSTEMS BEFORE, DURING, AND AFTER A MAJOR WEATHER EVENT

**08/21/2021**

Operators of wastewater treatment systems, wastewater conveyance systems, and stormwater systems should prepare for a major weather event by taking the following steps:

### **Before a Major Weather Event**

Update your emergency contact list for internal and external communications

Test your remote access and communication systems and ensure they are in good working order

Place operating/emergency response personnel on call and review emergency procedures

Provide the NJ State Police with 24 hour contact information for your organization (operation center) in the event a travel restriction is imposed

Provide an emergency response personnel list to the operator on 24-hour call

Ensure that all supplies, including water treatment chemicals and fuels, are fully stocked and secured to the maximum extent possible

Test auxiliary power sources and generators to ensure they are in good working order

If applicable, arrange for portable generators for key pumping stations

Inspect infrastructure and back-ups to ensure they are functioning properly

Inspect Combined Sewer Systems and ensure that the regulators, screening facilities, netting and tide gates are functioning properly

Clear all road storm drains and storm inlets prior to the storm event

*New Jersey is an Equal Opportunity Employer • Printed on Recycled Paper and Recyclable*

### **During a Major Weather Event**

**STAY CLEAR OF FLOODED STORMWATER COLLECTION AREAS (BASINS) ESPECIALLY INLET AND OUTLET STRUCTURES DURING AND AFTER A STORM EVENT**

Monitor all critical infrastructure components for signs of trouble

Monitor *radio stations* serving your area for emergency public service announcements

Ensure all emergency response personnel carry company issued identification with picture and carry the 24 hour contact number in the event they are pulled over (critical for systems serving multiple municipalities with different law enforcement agencies)

### **After a Major Weather Event**

#### **STAY CLEAR OF FLOODED STORMWATER COLLECTION AREAS (BASINS) ESPECIALLY INLET AND OUTLET STRUCTURES DURING AND AFTER A STORM EVENT**

Avoid direct contact with flood waters

Inspect/assess critical infrastructure for damage, where you can do so safely

### **Ongoing Actions**

Any non-compliance with permit limitations, anticipated or unanticipated bypass, or violation as outlined in N.J.A.C. 7:14A-6.10, must be reported to the DEP Hotline (1-800-WARN DEP) within 2 hours of the event or knowledge of the event, or 24 hours depending on the nature of the violation (see N.J.A.C. 7:14A-6.10). The Department also urges any facility experiencing noncompliance or anticipating such non-compliance to contact downstream drinking water purveyors and their local department of health.

Emergency Repair Projects: The Department of Environmental Protection has developed a process to respond expeditiously when emergencies occur, obtain basic project information, make an eligibility determination and issue a pre-award approval so that owners/operators can expeditiously undertake the needed repairs and maintain eligibility for those expenditures through the Environmental Infrastructure Financing Program.

For wastewater facilities, see:

Page 15 of the FFY21 and 22 Clean Water Intended Use Plan Proposal at [https://www.nj.gov/dep/dwq/pdf/NJWB\\_FFY21-SFY22\\_cwpppl\\_Final\\_IUP.pdf](https://www.nj.gov/dep/dwq/pdf/NJWB_FFY21-SFY22_cwpppl_Final_IUP.pdf). You can also contact the Municipal Finance and Construction Element at 609-633-1170.

Additional information can be found at the following links:

<http://www.epa.gov/hurricanes/> <http://www.fema.gov/hazard/hurricane/index.shtm>

*Should you have any questions contact the Division of Water Quality at 609-292-9977*