NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION #2025-11 Issued: 10/8/2025

Compliance Advisory

SCRAP METAL AND VEHICLE RECYCLING NOTICE

WHO IS AFFECTED BY THIS ADVISORY?

This advisory is applicable to all vehicle recycling and scrap metal operations that have, or should have, either a New Jersey Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NJPDES) Vehicle Recycling General Stormwater Permit (RVR) or a Scrap Metal General Stormwater Permit (SM/SM2). If you operate one of these types of facilities and do not currently have a Stormwater Permit, please contact the appropriate regional Water Enforcement office listed at the end of this advisory and arrange for a Water Enforcement inspector to visit your facility to determine if a permit is necessary.

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?

The following items are some, but not all, of the required NJPDES Stormwater Permit Best Management Practices (BMPs) that you must follow:

- 1. Storage: Fluid storage, storage of vehicle parts with oily/lubricant/coolant residues, and oily scrap storage must be on an impervious surface that is contained and under cover. Processed vehicles must be stored with their hoods down.
- 2. Fluid Draining & Dismantling: All fluid draining and dismantling of fluid containing parts must be conducted indoors or in a covered area on an impervious surface, unless your stormwater is collected for proper disposal. All fluids, other than those in sealed units, including oil, coolant, transmission, brake & power steering fluids, and wiper fluid must be drained and disposed of properly.
- 3. Spills: Spill kits must be available and all employees must receive annual spill response training. Spills should be addressed immediately and all spill absorbent materials are to be recovered and disposed of properly.
- 4. Sampling: For SM2 permits, quarterly sampling of your stormwater discharge shall be conducted with the sample results submitted to the Department. Facilities should implement additional BMPs and/or treatment options to ensure stormwater discharges do not exceed the permit's Design Criteria.
- 5. SPPP: You must develop and follow/implement, a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SPPP). A copy of the SPPP must be kept at your facility.
- 6. Inspections: You must inspect your facility, at least quarterly, to ensure that BMPs are being properly implemented and that control measures are functioning adequately. A detailed inspection log must be kept.
- 7. Change of Ownership: The Department must be properly notified when the ownership of your facility changes or if the business is no longer in operation.

WHY IS THE DEPARTMENT ISSUING THIS ADVISORY?

The Department is focused on minimizing the negative effects of stormwater runoff on New Jersey's waters. Stormwater runoff either infiltrates through the soil into the ground water or runs off into storm drains and ultimately into surface waters of the State. The runoff picks up pollutants like trash, chemicals, oils, and dirt/sediment which can harm our drinking water wells, rivers, streams, lakes, and coastal waters. The RVR and SM/SM2 permits require BMPs to prevent pollution and/or filter out pollutants by eliminating or minimizing exposure of industrial activities to stormwater.

WHAT IS THE DEPARTMENT DOING?

The Department's Division of Water Enforcement (DWE) will inspect ALL permitted scrap metal and vehicle recycling facilities to ensure compliance with their NJPDES Stormwater permits. If any instances of non-compliance are identified, the DWE inspector may issue a Notice of Violation which includes corrective actions. Any serious violations or corrective actions that remain outstanding will result in issuance of a formal enforcement action and may include the assessment of penalties. Any facilities which DWE finds to be operating in these industries without a permit will be subject to an enforcement action which may include corrective actions and/or an assessment of penalties.

WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

Industrial Stormwater Permit information:

Vehicle Recycling: https://dep.nj.gov/njpdes-stormwater/industrial-stormwater-program/general-permits/rvr permit/

Scrap Metal: https://dep.nj.gov/njpdes-stormwater/industrial-stormwater-program/general-permits/scrap-metal-sm-sm2/

Contact Information Update Form:

https://dep.nj.gov/wp-content/uploads/dwq/pdf/forms_and_checklists/njpdes2.pdf

WHO SHOULD I CONTACT WITH QUESTIONS?

For Reporting Noncompliance or Incidents:	NJDEP Hotline (877) 927-6337 or
	(877) WARNDEP
For permitting questions, please contact:	NJDEP Bureau of NJPDES Stormwater
	Permitting and Water Quality Management
	(609) 633-7021
	IndustrialStormwaterPermitting@dep.nj.gov
Any compliance, inspection, or enforcement	NJDEP Division of Water Enforcement
questions, please:	Case Management and Special Services
	(609) 292-3010
	dwecmss@dep.nj.gov