



# WPDES PERMIT

## *STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES*

### **GENERAL PERMIT TO DISCHARGE UNDER THE WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM**

In compliance with the provisions of Chapter 283, Wis. Stats., any facility engaged in

#### **LANDSPREADING OF INDUSTRIAL LIQUID WASTES**

located in the State of Wisconsin and meeting the applicability criteria listed in this General Permit, is permitted to discharge these industrial liquid wastes to approved spreading sites in Wisconsin in accordance with the effluent limitations, monitoring requirements and other conditions set forth in this General Permit.

State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources  
For the Secretary

By Adrian Stocks  
Adrian Stocks  
Director, Bureau of Water Quality

9/13/2024  
Date Permit Signed/Issued

**PERMIT TERM: EFFECTIVE DATE – January 1, 2025**

**EXPIRATION DATE – December 31, 2029**

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# **1 Applicability Criteria**

## **1.1 Activities Covered**

This general permit (GP) is applicable to landspreading discharges of industrial liquid waste (“liquid wastes”), where industrial liquid waste is defined by sub. NR 214.03(27), Wis. Adm. Code, from an industrial, commercial, or agricultural facility to a landspreading system meeting the following conditions.

1. Routine landspreading of small volumes of industrial liquid waste;
2. Routine disposal of small volumes of industrial liquid waste into manure storage units under the s. NR 214.17(1), Wis. Adm. Code “10% exemption”;
3. Temporary or short-term discharges of larger volumes of whey, whey industrial liquid waste, milk, milk contaminated with antibiotics that cannot be processed, and other wastewater;
4. Interim landspreading of high-volume industrial liquid waste until an individual WPDES permit is issued or modified to include the landspreading discharge.
5. Cooling water or boiler water containing water treatment additives, and wash water generated in industrial processing.
6. Food byproduct leachate from industrial storage structures; and
7. Industrial or commercial wastewater that is biodegradable.
8. This GP will also be used by the department to react to urgent requests to landspread liquid waste due to unexpected problems, such as an upset of a wastewater treatment plant.

All industrial liquid wastes shall have no detrimental effects on soil, vegetation, or groundwater of a landspreading system (reference: sub. NR 214.02(1), Wis. Adm. Code).

## **1.2 Activities Not Covered**

This permit is not applicable to landspreading discharges that meet any of the following conditions:

1. Landspreading of industrial sludge as specified in sub. NR 214.03(34), Wis. Adm. Code;
2. Landspreading of by-product solids as specified in sub. NR 214.03(4), Wis. Adm. Code;
3. Land application of sewage sludge (or “biosolids”) as defined in sub. NR 204.03(55), Wis. Adm. Code;
4. Landspreading of septage as defined in sub. NR 113.03(55), Wis. Adm. Code;
5. Industrial liquid wastes containing pollutants which the department determines do not meet the requirements of sub. NR 214.17(4), Wis. Adm. Code, and, therefore, may cause an exceedance of the groundwater standards established in ch. NR 140, Wis. Adm. Code;
6. Industrial liquid wastes containing toxic or hazardous substances (such as metals, solvents, lubricants, biocides other than chlorination, pesticides, etc.), unless the permittee demonstrates to the department that the discharge of such pollutants will be in such small quantities that no environmental pollution will result and the pollutants will not exceed groundwater standards established in ch. NR 140, Wis. Adm. Code;
7. Industrial liquid wastes transferred to a Public-Owned Treatment Works (POTW), landfill, incinerator, or contract hauler;

8. Disposal of nonbiodegradable pollutants, except for ions like chloride that can be limited to the rate necessary to comply with ch. NR 140 groundwater standards. The permittee must do a thorough wastewater analysis and calculate the per acre loading rate for each pollutant in order to determine applicability;
9. Landspreading of industrial liquid waste to wetlands;
10. Landspreading of industrial liquid waste to surface waters;
11. Discharges that affect endangered and threatened resources, unless the department determines that the discharges comply with the endangered and threatened resource protection requirements of s. 29.604, Wis. Stats., and ch. NR 27, Wis. Adm. Code;
12. Landspreading of industrial liquid wastes within tribal lands. The U.S. EPA regulates discharges within Tribal Lands (land owned by or held in trust for the tribes and land within recognized reservation boundaries);
13. Contract Haulers servicing industrial customers or mixed wastes from more than one industrial source prior to landspreading are required to obtain individual WPDES permit coverage prior to landspreading;
14. Facilities that mix or comingle industrial liquid wastes from more than one industrial, septage, and/or sewage sludge source prior to landspreading. **Note:** These facilities are required to obtain an individual WPDES permit.

## 2 Application for Permit Coverage

An applicant shall comply with the following requirements to obtain coverage and authorization to discharge to a water of the state under this general permit.

### 2.1 New Permittees

#### 2.1.1 Submittal of a Notice of Intent

Any new permittee, meeting the applicability criteria in Section 1 of this general permit that proposes a new or existing discharge that was not previously covered under WPDES Permit No. WI-0055867-07 prior to the **Effective Date** of this general permit, shall submit a complete electronic Notice of Intent (eNOI) for coverage under this general permit at least 14 working days prior to initiating any land disturbing construction activities or industrial operations and discharging to a water of the state.

New permittees must submit an eNOI to obtain coverage under this general permit using the online ePermitting System. The ePermitting System is available for use at water permit applications (<https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/permits/water>). The ePermitting System does not require any special software and is completely web-based and available using any internet browser. Applicants must have or create a Wisconsin Web Access Management System (WAMS) ID or MyWisconsinID\* to access the eNOI. If the applicant already has a WAMS ID, then the applicant does not need to recreate one and they may access the eNOI.

*\*Important Note – The State of Wisconsin will be replacing the WAMS system and WAMS ID with the new MyWisconsinID and anticipates migration to occur during this permit term. Users should continue to use their existing WAMS ID until prompted to setup a MyWisconsinID. Login instructions will be outlined on all DNR electronic application systems and will be updated throughout the migration.*

#### 2.1.2 NOI Review Time Period

The department will evaluate the information submitted in the eNOI to determine whether the eNOI is true, accurate, complete, and whether the facility is eligible for coverage under the general permit within 30 calendar days of receipt of the complete NOI and associated attachments.

**Note:** If the department notifies an applicant that a discharge is ineligible for coverage under this general permit but still requires WPDES permit coverage, the department shall notify the applicant in writing, and the applicant shall apply for and obtain coverage under an individual WPDES permit (or alternative general permit, if available) prior to discharging to a water of the state. The necessary steps to apply for coverage under an individual permit can be found at the department website:

<https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Wastewater/PermitApplications.html>.

Applicants should also know that plans for any wastewater storage and/or treatment system require department approval (up to 90 days) prior to construction. The time periods for department action on plan submittals may, in some cases, run concurrently with the permit processing time. For more advice on plan approvals, contact the appropriate WPDES permits staff based upon the location of the proposed discharge or industry type.

#### 2.1.3 Content of the NOI

The applicant shall provide the following on the NOI:

- Legal permittee name;
- Permittee and facility contact information;
- Facility location and type information;

- Applicability and operations information;
- Discharge and permitted activity information;
- Attachments as indicated in Section 2.1.4; and
- Certification and signature pursuant to Section 9.2.6

#### **2.1.4 NOI Attachments**

The new permittee must include the following attachments with the eNOI submittal:

1. A site map with clearly marked waste storage and/or treatment facilities;
2. A process flow diagram showing all landspreading processes that generate wastewater and any wastewater treatment and storage systems;

#### **2.1.5 Incomplete NOI**

The department may require an applicant to submit additional information if the department determines a NOI is incomplete. The applicant shall submit the requested information within 30 days from receipt of notification by the department.

#### **2.1.6 Granting of Permit Coverage to New Permittees**

The department will transmit a coverage letter via email addressed to the permittee stating that the discharge from the facility is granted coverage under this general permit within 30 calendar days of receipt of the eNOI, unless the department has otherwise notified the permittee of the need for additional information as identified in Sections 2.1.2 and 2.1.5 or the department determines that the permittee is ineligible for coverage under this general permit. The applicant may not commence a point source discharge of pollutants to a water of the state until a coverage letter has been received from the department. Initial coverage under this permit will become effective at a new facility beginning upon the **Start Date** specified by the department in the coverage letter. The coverage letter will include instructions on where to download the general permit from the department's Internet website. Alternatively, a hard copy of the permit may be mailed to the permittee upon request.

### **2.2 Existing Permittees**

#### **2.2.1 Granting of Permit Coverage to Existing Permittees**

Any existing permittee that still meets the applicability criteria in Section 1 of this general permit and has an existing discharge that was previously covered under WPDES Permit No. WI-005867-07 prior to the **Effective Date** of this general permit, is automatically granted coverage under this general permit upon the **Effective Date**.

The department will transmit a reissuance letter via mail addressed to the existing permittee stating that the discharge from the facility is granted continued coverage under this general permit. The reissuance letter will include instructions on where to download the general permit from the department's internet website. Alternatively, a hard copy of the permit may be mailed to the permittee upon request.

## 3 Landspreading Site Requirements

### 3.1 Landspreading Site Approval

The permittee is authorized to landspread industrial liquid wastes only on sites approved in writing by the department in accordance with par. NR 214.17(2)(a), Wis. Adm. Code. The department may specify any site use restrictions and discharge limitations per ss. NR 214.05 and NR 214.17, Wis. Adm. Code. The department may grant any case-by-case exemptions per s. NR 214.06, Wis. Adm. Code.

The permittee shall comply with all specified restrictions, discharge limitations, and exemptions. The permittee shall not landspread industrial liquid wastes on a site until approval is received from the department for the site (reference: par. NR 214.17(2)(a), Wis. Adm. Code). The department may require the permittee re-submit landspreading site information for existing spreading sites to confirm that the landspreading areas meet the criteria specified in Section 2.2 of this permit and ch. NR 214, Wis. Adm. Code. If an existing spreading site, or portion thereof, is found by the department to be environmentally unacceptable, a written notice will be issued to withdraw approval of that site or a portion of that site. The permittee shall landspread only on approved sites and shall comply with requirements of this permit and ch. NR 214, Wis. Adm. Code.

The permittee shall submit a landspreading site request package including the following information: 1) "Land Application Site Request" (form 3400-53); 2) aerial photograph for requested site; 3) soil map unit map of requested site; 4) proof of ownership (example: tax parcel map); and 5) any other relevant site information including field data that demonstrates the site complies with all applicable requirements of s. NR 214.17, Wis. Adm. Code.

### 3.2 Landspreading Site Location Criteria

The landspreading site location criteria are included by reference from s. NR 214.05 and sub.NR 214.17(2), Wis. Adm. Code. The permittee must comply with all these requirements.

1. Landspreading sites shall be located at least 500 feet from the nearest inhabited dwelling, except that this distance may be reduced to 200 feet if the waste is incorporated with the soil and any affected owners and occupants give their written consent for the reduced separation distance. The department may require a greater separation distance depending on the type of industrial liquid waste and potential for aesthetic and public health impacts (reference: par. NR 214.17(2)(b), Wis. Adm. Code).
2. Industrial liquid wastes may not be landspread closer than 1,000 feet from a well serving a community public water supply system and 250 feet from other potable water supply wells (reference: par. NR 214.17(2)(c), Wis. Adm. Code).
3. Landspreading sites may not be located in the floodway as specified in ch. NR 116, Wis. Adm. Code. Any site located in the floodplain shall conform to ch. NR 116, Wis. Adm. Code, and may not be used when the floodplain is flooded (reference: par. NR 214.17(2)(d), Wis. Adm. Code).
4. Landspreading sites shall be limited to cultivated cropland, tree plantations, pasture or hayland. Other sites may be reviewed and approved on a case-by-case basis by the department (reference par. NR 214.17(2)(e), Wis. Adm. Code).
5. Landspreading sites shall be limited to a slope of 12% or less when the soil temperatures are above freezing. When the ground is frozen or snow covered, landspreading shall be restricted to sites with slopes of 2% or less. Sites with slopes of 2-6% may be approved for wintertime spreading on a case-by-case basis by the department (reference par. NR 214.17(2)(f), Wis. Adm. Code).



6. Wastes may not be landspread closer than 200 feet from any surface water and wetlands, except that the minimum separation distance may be reduced to a minimum of 100 feet, when a vegetative buffer strip is maintained between the site and the surface water or wetland. If the waste is incorporated with the soil, the separation distance from any surface water may be reduced to 50 feet (references: s. NR 214.05 and par. NR 214.17(2)(g), Wis. Adm. Code).
7. Landspreading sites shall have at least 36 inches of separation between the ground surface and bedrock or groundwater. However, the department may allow a reduced separation distance to a minimum of 18 inches on a case-by-case basis provided the rate of waste application is reduced (reference: par. NR 214.17(2)(h), Wis. Adm. Code).

### **3.3 Landspreading Site Discharge Limitations**

The discharge to a landspreading site may not exceed the hydraulic, organic, chloride, or other limitation specified in the WPDES permit or plans developed pursuant to a permit requirement. In determining discharge limitations, the department shall consider the past operating performance of the facility, nutrient uptake of the cover crop, site conditions, ability of the soil to treat the pollutants in the discharge, permeability and infiltration rate of the soil, other soil and geologic characteristics, the concentrations, and characteristics of pollutants in the discharge, and other relevant information (reference: par. NR 214.17(4)(a), Wis. Adm. Code).

## **4 Industrial Liquid Waste Storage Requirements**

### **4.1 Storage Criteria**

Any system used for the storage of industrial liquid wastes prior to landspreading shall be designed and constructed in accordance with ch. NR 213, Wis. Adm. Code, or other design criteria as approved in the management plan. Plans and specifications shall be submitted to the department for approval of such storage systems (reference: sub. NR 214.173(c), Wis. Adm. Code).

### **4.2 Odor Mitigation**

Storage systems shall be sited and operated to minimize odors or other public nuisance conditions as specified in par. NR 214.17(3)(d), Wis. Adm. Code.

## 5 Reporting Requirements

The permittee shall comply with the following reporting requirements.

### 5.1 Daily Log

All discharge and monitoring activity shall be documented on daily log sheets. This includes the total daily industrial liquid waste hauled volume. The original log sheets shall be kept by the permittee as described under Section 9.2.5 “Records Retention” in the Standard Requirements of this permit, and if requested, made available to the department. The total daily industrial liquid waste volume may be determined by actual measurement of the amount of the liquid waste in the hauling vehicles, or by estimated volume using standardized practices specified in the management plan. (A daily log chart is outlined in Section 6.2.1)

### 5.2 Characteristic Reports (Forms 3400-49)

The analytical results from testing of industrial liquid wastes that are land applied shall be reported by the date indicated on the Characteristic Report Form 3400-49. The report form shall be submitted electronically and is due 21 days after end of the reporting period whether or not waste is land applied in accordance with par. NR 214.17(5)(c), Wis. Adm. Code. Following submittal of the electronic Characteristic Report Form 3400-49, this form shall be certified electronically via the ‘eReport Certify’ page by a responsible executive or municipal officer, manager, partner in accordance with par. NR 205.07(1)(g), Wis. Adm. Code. The ‘eReport Certify’ page certifies that the electronic report form is true, accurate, and complete.

**Note:** Monitoring is only required during periods of active landspreading.

### 5.3 Annual Land Application Reports (Forms 3400-55)

The annual total loading for the land application of industrial liquid wastes to field spreading sites shall be submitted electronically on the Land Application Report Form 3400-55 by January 31, each year whether or not waste is land applied in accordance with par. NR 214.17(5)(c), Wis. Adm. Code. Following submittal of the electronic Land Application Report Form 3400-55, this form shall be certified electronically via the ‘eReport Certify’ page by a responsible executive or municipal officer, manager, partner or proprietor or duly authorized representative in accordance with par. NR 205.07(1)(g), Wis. Adm. Code. The ‘eReport Certify’ page certifies that the electronic report form is true, accurate, and complete.

### 5.4 Other Methods of Disposal or Distribution Reports (Forms 3400-52)

The permittee may submit electronically the Other Methods of Disposal or Distribution Report Form 3400-52 by January 31, each year whether or not waste is hauled to another facility, landfilled, or incinerated. Following submittal of the electronic Other Methods of Disposal or Distribution Report Form 3400-52, this form shall be certified electronically via the ‘eReport Certify’ page by a responsible executive or municipal officer, manager, partner, or proprietor in accordance with par. NR 205.07(1)(g), Wis. Adm. Code. The ‘eReport Certify’ page certifies that the electronic report form is true, accurate, and complete.

**Note:** In most cases, the Other Methods of Disposal or Distribution Report is not a requirement and is completely voluntary, however, the department recommends that permittees fill this form out when industrial liquid wastes are hauled to another permitted facility such as a Public-Owned Treatment Works (POTW), a landfill, an incinerator, a livestock feeding operation, or a contract hauler. This form may be

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**Landspreading of Industrial Liquid Wastes**

required as part of a conditional approval of a manure storage unit under the s. NR 214.17(1), Wis. Adm. Code “10% exemption.”

## 6 Industrial Liquid Wastes Landspreading Requirements

### 6.1 Sampling Point(s)

The discharge shall be limited to landspreading of liquid wastes on department approved landspreading sites. During periods of discharge, the permittee shall comply with the monitoring requirements, reporting requirements and limitations specified below.

<b>Sampling Point Designation</b>	
<b>Sampling Point Number</b>	<b>Sampling Point Location, Waste Type/Sample Contents and Treatment Description (as applicable)</b>
001	The landspreading of industrial liquid wastes from an industrial, commercial, or agricultural facility to a landspreading system on department approved sites. The permittee shall specify representative sample collection procedures (location, methods, etc.) in the management plan.

### 6.2 Monitoring Requirements and Limitations

The permittee shall comply with the following monitoring requirements and limitations based on s. NR 214.17(5), Wis. Adm. Code. **Note:** Monitoring is only required during periods of active landspreading.

#### 6.2.1 Sampling Point (Outfall) 001 – Industrial Liquid Waste

<b>Monitoring Requirements and Effluent Limitations</b>					
<b>Parameter</b>	<b>Limit Type</b>	<b>Limit and Units</b>	<b>Sample Frequency</b>	<b>Sample Type</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Landspreading Rate		Gallons/Day	Daily	Daily Record	Record in a Daily Log. See Section 5.1
Solids, Total		Percent	Quarterly	Grab	See Section 6.3
Chloride		mg/L	Monthly	Grab	See Sections 6.3 and 6.7
Nitrogen, Total Kjeldahl		mg/L	Monthly	Grab	See Sections 6.3 and 6.8
Phosphorus, Total		mg/L	Quarterly	Grab	See Section 6.3
Phosphorus, Water Extractable		% of Total P	Quarterly	Grab	See Section 6.3
Potassium		mg/L	Quarterly	Grab	See Section 6.3

<b>Daily Log Requirements</b>				
All landspreading and monitoring activity shall be documented on log sheets. The original log sheets shall be kept by the permittee as described under “Records Retention” in the Standard Requirements Section, and if requested, made available to the department.				
Parameter	Limit Type	Limit and Units	Sample Frequency	Sample Type
Landspreading Date	-	Date	Daily	Log
Landspreading Start Time	-	Time	Daily	Log
DNR Site Number(s)	-	Number	Daily	Log
Amount Applied	-	Gallons	Daily	Log
Acres Applied	-	Acres	Daily	Log
Application Rate	See Sections 6.4 and 6.5	Gallons/Acre/Day	Daily	Calculated
Incorporation Time (if applicable)	-	Time	Daily	Log
Incorporation Date (if applicable)	-	Date	Daily	Log

<b>Annual Reporting Requirements and Limitations</b>				
The “Annual Land Application Report” (Form 3400-55) is due by January 31 <sup>st</sup> of each year for the previous calendar year.				
Parameters	Limit	Units	Reporting Frequency	Sample Type
DNR Site Number(s)	-	Number	Annual	Record
Acres Landspread	-	Acres	Annual	Record
Total Amount Per Site	-	Gallons	Annual	Total Annual
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen per site	165, or alternate approved in writing	Pounds/Acre/Year	Annual	Calculated
Total Chloride per Site	340	Pounds/Acre per 2 years	Annual	Calculated

### 6.3 Sampling

Representative grab samples of the industrial liquid wastes that are land applied shall be collected from the vehicle used to haul the wastes, unless an alternate means of collecting the sample is approved in the management plan. The management plan shall specify how the samples will be collected. If the permittee land applies milk under this permit, the permittee may use typical parameter values of milk to characterize the quality of milk that is land applied in lieu of actually sampling the milk that is land applied.

**Note:** Monitoring is only required during periods of active landspreading.

### 6.4 Maximum Daily Application Rates

The maximum daily volume of liquid waste applied shall be limited to 13,500 gallons per acre per day (1/2 inch) except that when the ground is frozen or snow covered it shall be limited to 6,800 gallons per acre per day (1/4 inch) per subd. NR 214.17(4)(d)5., Wis. Adm. Code.

### 6.5 Maximum Weekly Application Rates

The permittee shall not land apply liquid wastes at weekly rates that exceed the values in the following table for the applicable soil texture (reference subd. NR 214.17(4)(d)6., Wis. Adm. Code).

Soil Texture	Maximum Weekly Volume to be Applied [gal/acre/week (inches/week)]	
	18-36" Depth to Groundwater or Bedrock	Greater than 36" depth to Groundwater or Bedrock
Sand	6,750 (1/4 inch)	13,500 (1/2 inch)
Sandy Loam	13,500 (1/2 inch)	27,000 (1 inch)
Loam	13,500 (1/2 inch)	27,000 (1 inch)
Silt Loam	13,500 (1/2 inch)	27,000 (1 inch)
Clay Loam	13,500 (1/2 inch)	20,000 (3/4 inch)
Clay	6,750 (1/4 inch)	13,500 (1/2 inch)

### 6.6 Whey Application Rates

The permittee may land apply whey, not including whey by-products or salty whey, at the following annual rates without sampling and calculating the nitrogen and chloride content of the land applied waste, provided no other waste or fertilizer has been applied to the same site: 27,150 gallons per acre (1 inch) the first year, 20,360 gallons per acre (3/4 inch) the second year, and 13,600 gallons per acre (1/2 inch) the third and succeeding years per subd. NR 214.17(4)(d)10., Wis. Adm. Code. Landspreading of whey shall comply with the maximum weekly application requirements shown in Section 5.5.

### 6.7 Chloride Requirements for Liquid wastes

The total pounds of chloride applied shall be limited to 340 pounds per acre for any 2 consecutive years per par. NR 214.17(4)(e) Wis. Adm. Code. Calculate the chloride loading as follows:

$$\text{Liquid: } \frac{\text{mg/L chloride} \times (\text{millions of gallons}) \times 8.34}{\text{acres land applied}} = \text{lbs. chloride/acre}$$

### 6.8 Nitrogen Requirements for Liquid wastes

The total pounds of nitrogen applied per acre per year shall be limited to the nitrogen needs of the cover crop (based on a reliable reference such as the “A2809 Nutrient Application Guidelines for Field, Vegetable and Fruit Crops in Wisconsin,” from University of Wisconsin-Extension), minus any other nitrogen, including fertilizer or manure, added to the landspreading site. Nitrogen applied can be calculated on the basis of plant available nitrogen, as long as the release of nitrogen from the organic material is credited to future years. The Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen applied each year from all sources shall not exceed 165 pounds per acre per year on any site, except when alternate numerical nitrogen loading limits are approved in writing via the department’s landspreading management plan approval. Calculate nitrogen loading as follows:

$$\text{Liquid: } \frac{\text{mg/L TKN} \times (\text{millions of gallons}) \times 8.34}{\text{acres land applied}} = \text{lbs. TKN/acre}$$

## 7 Management Plan

### 7.1 Operate Consistent with an Approved Management Plan

All landspreading sites used for treatment of industrial liquid wastes shall be operated in accordance with a department approved management plan. The management plan shall be consistent with the requirements of this permit, and s. NR 214.17, Wis. Adm. Code. A copy of the management plan shall be retained by the permittee and this plan shall be made available upon department inspection. If operational changes are needed affecting the character, quality or quantity of the industrial liquid waste land applied, the management plan shall be amended by submitting a written request to the Department for approval.

### 7.2 Submittal of the Management Plan

If a management plan has not been approved by the department prior to the reissuance of this permit, then the permittee shall submit a management plan to the department for approval not more than 60 days from the date of reissuance of this permit or from the date that coverage under this permit was granted, whichever is later. When coverage is granted under this permit, if the department determines that a previously approved management plan must be amended to comply with the conditions of this permit and par. NR 214.17(6)(c), Wis. Adm. Code, the permittee shall submit an amended management plan to the department not more than 60 days from the date that coverage under this permit was granted. Management plans shall be submitted to department staff identified in the letter of determination under this permit.

### 7.3 Management Plan Content

To ensure consistency, the management plan shall address the information specified in s. NR 214.17, Wis. Adm. Code and include:

- List all department approved storage structures and the procedures for regular inspection and maintenance of each storage structure;
- Representative sample collection procedures;
- Type of transporting and spreading vehicle(s);
- Contingency plans for periods of adverse weather;
- Landspreading standard operating procedures to ensure uniform landspreading of industrial liquid wastes on department-approved areas;
- DNR approval forms (3400-122) and maps that identify site limitations pursuant to par. NR 214.17(4)(a), Wis. Adm. Code;
- Full description of calculations used to determine appropriate application rates and loadings delivered to landspreading sites;
- Odor control and nuisance abatement;
- Daily record keeping and records retention;
- List of all department approved manure storage units under the s. NR 214.17(1), Wis. Adm. Code “10% exemption”; and



- Other information determined relevant to protect public health and the Waters of the State (reference s. NR 214.17(6)(c), Wis. Adm. Code).

It is also recommended that the management plan include:

- Spill mitigation and notification procedures (as required under ch. NR 706, Wis. Adm. Code);
- Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for tracking and reporting of other sources or nitrogen (commercial fertilizer and manure) as required under subd. NR 214.17(4)(d)9., Wis. Adm. Code); and
- Reporting SOPs to ensure timely submittal and certification of Characteristic Reports (forms 3400-49) and Annual Land Application Reports (forms 3400-55) as required by this WPDES permit.

## **7.4 Management Plan Amendments**

Following management plan approval by the department, the permittee must operate in conformance with the approved management plan. If the permittee wishes to operate differently than specified in the approved plan, then a written request shall be submitted to the department for approval to amend the management plan.

## **8 Operational Requirements**

The permittee shall comply with the following operational requirements.

1. Industrial liquid wastes containing viable pathogens, such as those from meat or poultry processing operations, may not be landspread on fields used for growing crops that may be consumed raw by humans (reference: par. NR 214.17(4)(c), Wis. Adm. Code).
2. The volume of liquid waste landspread may not alter the characteristics or structure of the soil such that the crop is adversely affected or erosion or permeability problems occur (reference: subd. NR 214.17(4)(d)1., Wis. Adm. Code).
3. The volume of liquid waste landspread shall be limited to prevent ponding, except for temporary conditions following rainfall events. If ponding occurs, all spreading shall cease immediately (reference: subd. NR 214.17(4)(d)2., Wis. Adm. Code).
4. The volume of liquid waste landspread shall be limited to prevent runoff and control odor. If runoff occurs, all spreading shall cease immediately (reference: subd. NR 214.17(4)(d)3., Wis. Adm. Code).
5. In order to prevent runoff or control odor, the department may require the waste to be incorporated into the soil. Incorporation procedures must be specified in the management plan (reference subd. NR 214.17(4)(d)4., Wis. Adm. Code).
6. The liquid wastes shall be applied on approved sites to assure uniform distribution of the material and resting of the soil and to maintain the soil's absorptive capacity. Vehicles used for land applying liquid wastes shall be equipped with a distribution system capable of applying the waste uniformly on the land surface (reference: par. NR 214.17(3)(a), Wis. Adm. Code).
7. Vehicles used for transporting or landspreading the liquid wastes shall be maintained to prevent spillage or leakage.
8. Industrial liquid wastes may be mixed into liquid manure at a volume less than 10% of the volume of the mixture at the time it is landspread under the sub. NR 214.17(1), Wis. Adm. Code "10% exemption." Each manure storage unit must be approved by the department prior to the discharge of industrial liquid wastes into the manure storage unit. If the storage is approved by the department, then the discharge of industrial liquid waste into approved manure storage units is exempted from the requirements of ss. NR 214.17(2), (3), (4), and (7), Wis. Adm. Code. The permittee shall track the volume of all industrial liquid wastes hauled to an approved manure storage facility to ensure volume does not exceed 10% total volume.

## 9 Standard Requirements

The conditions in ss. NR 205.07(1), 205.07(3), and 205.08(3), Wis. Adm. Code, are included by reference in this permit. The permittee shall comply with all of these requirements, except for s. NR 205.07(1)(n), Wis. Adm. Code, which does not apply to facilities covered under general permits. Some of these requirements are outlined in the Standard Requirements section of this permit. Requirements not specifically outlined in the Standard Requirements can be found in the ss. NR 205.07(1), 205.07(3), and 205.08, Wis. Adm. Code.

### 9.1 General Conditions for General Permits

#### 9.1.1 Delegation of Signature Authority

In accordance with s. NR 205.07(1)(g), Wis. Adm. Code, the permittee must provide a delegation of signature authority (DSA) request (Form 3400-220, Delegation of Signature Authority) or equivalent for a duly authorized representative to submit specific documents on the behalf of a responsible executive, officer, manager, partner, or proprietor of a permitted discharge. An executive, officer, manager, partner, or proprietor can only delegate signature authority to a duly authorized representative if that person has responsibility for the overall operation of the facility or activity regulated by this GP. The DSA request shall specify the name of the individual and their employment position. The DSA request must be submitted to the department with the request for coverage document or together with the submittal of any required documents. If there are any changes to this request, a new DSA request shall be submitted to the department.

#### 9.1.2 Permit Coverage Transfers

A permit is not transferrable to any person except after notice to the department. Permittees that wish to transfer general permit coverage to a new permittee must submit a Transfer of Coverage (TOC, Form 3400-222). The TOC must be submitted at least thirty (30) days in advance of the proposed transfer date. All TOCs shall be completed by both the existing and new permittees including the “Certification & Signature” section and sent via mail or email to the department. The department will then send a letter to the existing permittee stating that their coverage is terminated under this general permit. If the quality or quantity of the discharge has not changed at the facility, the department will send a letter of determination that grants coverage to the new permittee under this general permit. If there have been significant changes at the permitted facility, the new permittee shall submit a new eNOI to the department.

#### 9.1.3 Permit Coverage Terminations

Permittees that wish to terminate their general permit coverage must submit a Notice of Termination (NOT, Form 3400-221) to the department. All NOTs must be completed by the permittee including the “Certification & Signature” section and submitted to the department. The department will then send a termination letter to the permittee stating that their coverage is terminated under this general permit. Information on the eNOT submittal process are available at <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/WasterwaterGeneralPermits.html>

#### 9.1.4 Continuation of an Expired General Permit

Section NR 205.08(9), Wis. Adm. Code, provides that the terms and conditions of this GP shall continue to apply until this GP is revoked and reissued or until an individual permit is issued for the discharge to which the GP applied. The status of expired GPs can be accessed at <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wastewater/GeneralPermits.html>

## **9.2 General Conditions for WPDES Permits**

### **9.2.1 Duty to Comply**

The permittee shall comply with all conditions of the permit. Any permit noncompliance is a violation of the permit and is grounds for enforcement action; permit termination, revocation and reissuance, or modification; or denial of a permit reissuance application. If a permittee violates any terms of the permit, the permittee is subject to the penalties established in ch. 283, Wis. Stats.

### **9.2.2 Property Rights**

The permit does not convey any property rights of any sort, or any exclusive privilege. The permit does not authorize any injury or damage to private property or any invasion of personal rights, or any infringement of federal, state, or local laws or regulations.

### **9.2.3 Inspection and Entry**

The permittee shall allow an authorized representative of the Department, upon the presentation of credentials, to enter the permittee's premises, have access to records, and inspect and monitor the discharge as described in s. NR 205.07(1)(d), Wis. Adm. Code.

### **9.2.4 Recording of Results**

The permittee shall maintain records which provide the following information for each effluent measurement or sample taken:

- the date, exact place, method and time of sampling or measurements;
- the individual who performed the sampling or measurements;
- the date the analysis was performed;
- the individual who performed the analysis;
- the analytical techniques or methods used; and
- the results of the analysis.

### **9.2.5 Records Retention**

The permittee shall retain records of all monitoring information, including all calibration and maintenance records and all original strip chart recordings for continuous monitoring instrumentation, copies of all reports required by the permit, and records of all data used to complete the application for the permit for a period of at least 3 years from the date of the sample, measurement, report, or application. All pertinent industrial liquid waste information, including permit application information and other documents specified in the permit or ch. NR 214, Wis. Adm. Code, shall be retained for a minimum of 5 years.

### **9.2.6 Signatory Requirement**

All permit applications, reports and other information requested by the department shall be signed by a responsible executive officer, manager, partner, or proprietor as specified in s. 283.37(3), Wis. Stats., or a duly authorized representative of the officer, manager partner or proprietor that has been delegated signature authority pursuant to s. NR 205.07(1)(g)2., Wis. Adm. Code.

### **9.2.7 Proper Operation and Maintenance**

The permittee shall at all times properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment and control which are installed or used by the permittee to achieve compliance with the conditions of the permit.

### **9.2.8 Duty to Mitigate**

The permittee shall take all reasonable steps to minimize or prevent the likelihood of any adverse impacts to public health, the waters of the state, or the environment resulting from noncompliance with the permit.

### **9.2.9 Duty to Provide Information**

The permittee shall furnish the department, within a reasonable time, any information which the department may request to determine whether cause exists for modifying, terminating, suspending, revoking, or reissuing the permit or to determine compliance with the permit. The permittee shall give advance notice to the department of any planned changes in the permitted facility or activity which may result in noncompliance with permit requirements. The permittee shall also furnish the department, upon request, copies of records required to be kept by the permittee.

### **9.2.10 Need to Halt or Reduce Activity Not a Defense**

It is not a defense for a permittee in an enforcement action to claim that it would have been necessary to halt or reduce the permitted activity in order to maintain compliance with the conditions of the permit.

### **9.2.11 Sampling and Testing Procedures**

Sampling and laboratory testing procedures shall be performed in accordance with s. NR 205.07(1)(p) and Chapters NR 218 and NR 219, Wis. Adm. Code and shall be performed by a laboratory certified or registered in accordance with the requirements of ch. NR 149, Wis. Adm. Code. Groundwater sample collection and analysis shall be performed in accordance with ch. NR 140, Wis. Adm. Code. The analytical methodologies used shall enable the laboratory to quantitate all substances for which monitoring is required at levels below the effluent limitation. If the required level cannot be met by any of the methods available in ch. NR 219, Wis. Adm. Code, then the method with the lowest limit of detection shall be selected. Additional test procedures may be specified in this permit.

### **9.2.12 Laboratory Certification or Registration**

Samples collected under this permit shall be tested and analyzed by a laboratory certified or registered under ch. NR 149, Wis. Adm. Code. A list of Wisconsin DNR accredited laboratories can be found here: <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/labCert/certified-lab-lists>. The following parameters and tests are excluded from this requirement:

- Temperature;
- Turbidity;
- Bacteria tests in wastewater effluent and sludges;
- pH;
- Chlorine residual;
- Specific conductance;
- Physical properties of soils and sludges;
- Nutrient tests of soils and sludges; and

- Flow measurements.

### **9.2.13 Effluent Limits Less than LOD or LOQ**

When an effluent limitation for any substance in this permit is less than the limit of detection (LOD) or the limit of quantitation (LOQ), the following conditions shall apply:

- a) The permittee shall perform monitoring required in this permit using an acceptable analytical methodology as specified in ch. NR 219, Wis. Adm. Code for that substance in the effluent which produces the lowest LOD and LOQ.
- b) The permittee shall determine the LOD and LOQ using a test method specified in ch. NR 219, Wis. Adm. Code.
- c) Compliance with concentration limitations shall be determined as follows:
  1. When the effluent limitation is less than the LOD, effluent levels less than the LOD are in compliance with the effluent limitation.
  2. When the effluent limitation is less than the LOD, effluent levels greater than the LOD, but less than the LOQ are in compliance with the effluent limitation except when analytically confirmed and statistically confirmed by a sufficient number of analyses of multiple samples and use of appropriate statistical techniques.
  3. When the effluent limitation is greater than the LOD, but less than the LOQ effluent levels less than the LOD or less than the LOQ are in compliance with the effluent limitation.

### **9.2.14 Reporting Requirements – Alterations or Additions**

The permittee shall give notice to the department as soon as possible of any planned physical alterations or additions to the permitted facility. Notice is only required when:

- The alteration or addition to the permitted facility may meet one of the criteria for determining whether a facility is a new source.
- The alteration or addition could significantly change the nature or increase the quantity of pollutants discharged. This notification requirement applies to pollutants which are not subject to effluent limitations in the existing permit.
- The alteration or addition results in a significant change in the permittee's industrial liquid waste use or disposal practices, and such alteration, addition, or change may justify the application of permit conditions that are different from or absent in the existing permit, including notification of additional use of disposal sites not reported during the permit application process nor reported pursuant to an approved landspreading management plan. Additional sites may not be used for the landspreading of industrial liquid waste until department approval is received.

### **9.2.15 More Frequent Monitoring**

As specified in s. NR 205.07(1)(r), if the permittee monitors any parameter more frequently than required by the permit, using test procedures specified in chs. NR 204 or 219, Wis. Adm. Code or as specified in the permit, the results of this monitoring shall be included in the calculation and reporting of the data submitted in the discharge monitoring report.

### **9.2.16 Noncompliance Reporting**

The permittee shall report the following types of noncompliance by a telephone call to the department's regional office within 24 hours after becoming aware of the noncompliance:

- any noncompliance which may endanger health or the environment;

- any violation of an effluent limitation resulting from a bypass;
- any violation of an effluent limitation resulting from an upset; and
- any violation of a maximum discharge limitation for any of the pollutants listed by the department in the permit, either for effluent or industrial liquid waste.

A written report describing the noncompliance shall also be submitted to the department as directed at the end of this permit within 5 days after the permittee becomes aware of the noncompliance. On a case-by-case basis, the department may waive the requirement for submittal of a written report within 5 days and instruct the permittee to submit the written report with the next regularly scheduled monitoring report. In either case, the written report shall contain a description of the noncompliance and its cause; the period of noncompliance, including exact dates and times; the steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent reoccurrence of the noncompliance; and if the noncompliance has not been corrected, the length of time it is expected to continue.

A scheduled bypass approved by the department as specified in s. NR 205.07(1)(u)2, Wis. Adm. Code, shall not be subject to the reporting required under this section.

**Note:** Section 292.11(2)(a), Wis. Stats., requires any person who possesses or controls a hazardous substance or who causes the discharge of a hazardous substance to notify the Department of Natural Resources **immediately** of any discharge not authorized by the permit. **The discharge of a hazardous substance that is not authorized by this permit or that violates this permit may be a hazardous substance spill. To report a hazardous substance spill, call DNR's 24-hour HOTLINE at 1-800-943-0003.**

### **9.2.17 Other Information**

Where the permittee becomes aware that it failed to submit any relevant facts in a permit application or submitted incorrect information in a permit application or in any report to the department, it shall promptly submit such facts or correct information to the department.

### **9.2.18 Permit as Enforcement Shield**

Compliance with a permit during its term constitutes compliance for purposes of enforcement with 33 USC 1311, 1312, 1316, 1317, 1328, and 1345 (a) and (b), except for any toxic effluent standard or prohibition, and standards for sewage sludge use or disposal. If a new or revised toxic effluent standard or toxic prohibition becomes effective during the term of the permit, the permittee may be subject to enforcement action if the discharge exceeds the new or revised effluent standard for the toxic pollutant even though the discharge is in compliance with the existing permit. The permittee may also be subject to enforcement action standards for sewage sludge use or disposal. However, a permit may be modified, revoked, and reissued, or terminated during its term for cause as set forth in ch. 283, Wis. Stats., and ch. NR 203, Wis. Adm. Code.

**Note:** Pursuant to ss. 283.89 and 283.91, Wis. Stats., violations of permit conditions or rule requirements are referred to the department of justice for enforcement.

### **9.2.19 Severability**

The provisions of this permit are severable, and if any provisions of this permit or the application of any provision of this permit to any circumstance, is held invalid, the application of such provision to other circumstances, and the remainder of this permit, shall not be affected thereby.

### **9.2.20 Spill Reporting**

The permittee shall notify the department in accordance with ch. NR 706 (formerly ch. NR 158), Wis. Adm. Code, in the event that a spill or accidental release of any material or substance results in the discharge of pollutants to the waters of the state at a rate or concentration greater than the effluent limitations established in the permit, or the spill or accidental release of the material is unregulated in the permit, unless the spill or release of pollutants has been reported to the department under this section.



### **9.2.21 Planned Changes**

In accordance with ss. 283.31 (4) (b) and 283.59 (1), Wis. Stats., the permittee shall report to the department any facility expansion, production increase or process modifications which will result in new, different, or increased discharges of pollutants. The report shall either be a new permit application or, if the new discharge will not violate the effluent limitations of the permit, a written notice of the new, different, or increased discharge. The notice shall contain a description of the new activities, an estimate of the new, different, or increased discharge of pollutants and a description of the effect of the new or increased discharge on existing waste treatment facilities. Following receipt of this report, the department may modify the permit to specify and limit any pollutants not previously regulated in the permit.

### **9.2.22 Duty to Halt or Reduce Activity**

Upon failure or impairment of treatment facility operation, the permittee shall, to the extent necessary to maintain compliance with its permit, curtail production or wastewater discharges or both until the treatment facility operations are restored or an alternative method of treatment is provided.

## 10 Summary of Reports Due

FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY

Description	Date	Page
<b>Notice of Intent (NOI)</b>	<b>New Permittees:</b> 14 working days prior to initiating industrial operations and discharging to a water of state.  <b>Existing Permittees:</b> Automatically granted coverage under this general permit upon the Effective Date.	<b>3</b>
Land Application Site Request Form 3400-53	Prior to landspreading to site.	<b>5</b>
Daily Log	Maintained by permittee and available upon department request	<b>8</b>
Characteristic Report Form 3400-49	21 days after the end of the reporting period whether or not waste is landspread	<b>8</b>
Annual Land Application Report Form 3400-55	January 31, following each year whether or not waste is landspread	<b>8</b>
Methods of Disposal or Distribution Report Form 3400-52	January 31, following each year whether or not waste is hauled to another permitted facility	<b>8</b>
Management Plan	Within 60 days of permit coverage or changes to the plan.	<b>13</b>

Monitoring results obtained during the specified reporting period shall be summarized and submitted electronically in accordance with the reporting requirements herein. Paper copies of the monitoring forms will no longer be accepted. A copy of the submitted electronic landspreading report forms shall be retained by the permittee. Any facility plans or plans and specifications for industrial pretreatment and industrial wastewater systems shall be submitted to; ATTN: Wastewater Section Chief, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Bureau of Water Quality WY/3, P.O. Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707-7921.