

# Other (Federal)

## Wetlands and Streams - Section 404 Permit

**What Activities Require This Permit?** You must obtain a Section 404 Permit if you intend to discharge dredged or fill material into the waters of the United States, including special aquatic sites such as wetlands. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACE) can authorize activities by a standard individual permit, nationwide permit, etc. It will be up to the ACE to make the determination on what type of permit is needed.

**What Is The Purpose of This Permit?** To prohibit the unauthorized discharge of dredge or fill material into waters of the United States, including special aquatic sites such as wetlands.

**Who Issues This Permit?** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Division reviews applications for Section 10 Permits. Visit the following link for field office locations and contact information:  
<http://www.saw.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory-Permit-Program/Contact/>.

**How Much Will This Permit Cost?** Most permits issued by the ACE such as Letters of Permission, Nationwide and General Permits do not have a permit fee. Individual Permits have fees of \$10 for individuals and \$100 for businesses, once the permit has been issued and accepted by the applicant.

**Where Can I Get An Application For This Permit?** Contact your local field office staff for the application and procedures for applying for a Section 10 Permit. Visit the following link for field office locations and contact information:  
<http://www.saw.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory-Permit-Program/Contact/>. A copy of the Pre-construction notification form can be found at the following link: <https://edocs.deq.nc.gov/Forms/Pre-Construction Notification Form>

**How Long Will It Take To Review My Application?** Approximately 45 calendar days for Nationwide Permits (upon receipt of a correct and complete application package). The target processing time for Standard Individual Permits is 120 days upon receipt of a complete permit application, but may be longer depending on the nature and complexity of the permit request.

Applicants requiring an Environmental Impact Statement (i.e., less than 1% of applicants) average about three years to make a permit decision.

**Where Do I Submit My Application?** Contact your local field office staff for the procedures for applying for a Section 10 Permit. Visit the following link for field office locations and contact information:  
<http://www.saw.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory-Permit-Program/Contact/>

### How Long Is My Permit or License or Certificate Valid?

- Regional Permit: Expiration date is generally 5 years after the Effective Date of the issuance of the Regional General permit. The majority of Regional General permits were issued in January 2017 and would expire at the end of 2021.
- Standard Individual Permit: Expiration dates will vary depending on the nature and complexity of the project, however an individual permit will typically expire in 3-10 years.
- Letter of Permission: 3 years.
- Nationwide Permit: Expiration date is generally 5 years after the Effective Date of the issuance of the Nationwide permit. Most recent Nationwide permits were issued in March 2017, and the permits will expire in 2022.

**Notes/Comments:** There are four regulatory field offices in North Carolina. Please click on the link below to obtain the proper contact information for your specific region.

<http://www.saw.usace.army.mil/Missions/RegulatoryPermitProgram/Contact.aspx>

**Legal Authority/Statute Reference:** The Federal Water Pollution Control Act, more commonly known as the "Clean Water Act," under Section 404, directs the Secretary of the Army, acting through the Chief of Engineers, to issue permits, after notice and opportunity for public hearings, for the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States at specified disposal sites.

**Link:** <http://www.saw.usace.army.mil/>

**Statewide Contact Information:**

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