



**Storm Warning: Reminder of Requirements to Call the DEP Hotline at 1-877- WARN DEP (1-877-927-6337)**

**Who is subject to DEP notification requirements?**

Any regulated facility either with a permit or subject to statutes or rules may be required in certain circumstances to make notification to the DEP using the DEP Hotline at **1-877- WARN DEP (1-877-927-6337)**. Knowing if or when you might be required to call demands familiarity with the permits your facility holds and the rules that apply to your operations. Review of rules and permits is the best way to ensure you know your obligations.

Facility type	Call the DEP Hotline...
ANY FACILITY (Except Drinking and Waste Water)	Immediately (within 15 minutes) upon the discharge of any contaminant to the environment  (N.J.S.A. 58:10-23.11 Spill Compensation and Control Act)
Drinking Water Facilities	Within 6 hours of an emergency that affects water quality or pressure (NJAC 7:10-2.4(b))
Waste Water Facilities	Within 2 hours of exceeding an effluent limit, discharging toxics or hazards not in a permit, experiencing an upset or bypass. (NJAC 7:14A-6.10)

*The table above does NOT constitute a complete list of possible notification requirements, but is intended to provide relevant examples of notification requirements for common facilities.*

**Why is DEP issuing this reminder?**

A storm currently moving toward NJ is expected to bring conditions which may contribute to power outages and localized coastal flooding along the Atlantic Ocean. As such, this storm may present a risk to operations and can lead to disruptions, upsets, failures, shutdowns, permit exceedance or other problems that may require you to notify the DEP.

Required notifications are important in their ability to inform the DEP, as well as other local, state and national agencies about the safety of, and potential impacts to citizens. Complete information on all situations that rise to a required notification level improves the understanding of the scale of problems and improves coordinated efforts by government, especially in large scale emergency situations. However, as important as this information is during emergencies, required notifications are expected at all times when triggered by circumstances, whether or not a general emergency exists.

**What is DEP doing?**

The DEP will continue to employ the information from required notifications and coordinate with other agencies as needed. In order to ensure reliability of this information, the DEP may pursue enforcement action and penalties against any entity that fails to make timely, required notifications.

# COMPLIANCE ADVISORY

## What should I do?

If you own, operate or have responsibility for a regulated facility of any type, make time to review your environmental obligations and especially any requirement to call the DEP Hotline. Ensure that all individuals who may have responsibility at different times are aware of the situations that would trigger any notification requirements. Keep the DEP Hotline number readily accessible. In addition:

1. Review your regulatory obligations periodically.
2. Identify the situations that would trigger notification.
3. Share with everyone who has responsibility at the facility.
4. Ensure the DEP Hotline is readily available or posted. 1-877- WARN DEP (1-877-927-6337).
5. Update your emergency contact list for internal and external communications.
6. Test your remote access and communication systems and ensure they are in good working order.
7. Place operating/emergency response personnel on call and review emergency procedures.
8. Provide the NJ State Police with 24 hour contact information for your organization (operation center) in the event a travel restriction is imposed.
9. Test auxiliary power sources and generators to ensure they are in good working order.
10. Carry a fully charged cell phone and be sure everyone on the emergency list has the number, in case the land line is unavailable.

**In addition, New Jersey Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NJPDES) permittees who discharge wastewater or stormwater, as well as governmental or other agencies that maintains and operates sanitary and/or stormwater collection systems should:**

1. Provide a list of emergency response personnel on 24-hour call to the licensed operator on duty at the water or wastewater facility.
2. Ensure that all supplies, including water treatment chemicals and fuels, are fully stocked and secured to the maximum extent possible.
3. If applicable, arrange for portable generators for key pumping stations.
4. Inspect infrastructure and back-ups to ensure they are functioning properly.
5. Inspect Combined Sewer Systems and ensure that the regulators, screening facilities, netting and tide gates are functioning properly.
6. Clear all road storm drains and storm inlets prior to the storm event.
7. Inspect/assess critical infrastructure for damage after the storm, when you can do so safely.

## Who should I contact with questions?

- If you are unsure of your notification obligations, please call one of the NJDEP C&E offices listed at the following address: <http://www.nj.gov/dep/easyaccess/compenf.htm>
- For general information please visit our Contact NJDEP website at: <http://www.nj.gov/cgi-bin/dep/contactdep.pl>
- National Weather Service Local Forecast Office: <http://www.erh.noaa.gov/phi/>
- To comment on this advisory: <http://www.nj.gov/dep/enforcement/survey.html>

Please note this advisory is intended to be a summary explanation of a department initiative. It does not include all potentially applicable requirements. If you have any questions related to compliance with this initiative, please contact the Enforcement numbers listed above.