

Do I need a permit?

Examples of businesses that often require permits include:

- Laboratories and manufacturing facilities
- Grain elevators and food processing plants
- Livestock operations and meat processors
- Asphalt, sand & gravel, and rock crushing operations
- Dry cleaners, auto repair shops, and recycling facilities
- Water treatment plants, incinerators, and fuel handling sites

Why permits matter


Nebraska has regulations designed to protect the environment, preserve natural resources, and safeguard the health of our citizens. Department staff determine the impact of your process on the environment and establish operating conditions that will ensure your process acts to sustain our environment.



**Need Help?
We are
here for
you!**

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The DWEE **One-Stop Permitting Assistance Program** will get you to the right people and get your questions answered – all in one stop!

 (402) 471-8697

 DWEE.assistance@nebraska.gov

 dwee.nebraska.gov



Navigating Environmental Permits in Nebraska

Helping you protect our environment and grow your business.

NEBRASKA
DEPT. OF WATER, ENERGY, AND ENVIRONMENT

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This guidance document is advisory in nature but is binding on an agency until amended by such agency. A guidance document does not include internal procedural documents that only affect the internal operations of the agency and does not impose additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties or include confidential information or rules and regulations made in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act. If you believe that this guidance document imposes additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties, you may request a review of the document.

Common types of permits

Before construction you may need:

- Air Quality Construction Permit
- Solid Waste or Compost Site Permit
- Livestock Waste Control Facility Approval
- Storm Water Construction Permit (NPDES)
- Wastewater or On-Site Treatment Construction Permit
- Drinking Water Construction Permit

Before construction activities begin, and you are considering what your **water source** will be, you may need:

- Surface water from a river, lake or stream (DWEE)
- Groundwater Well (Permitted through the local NRD and registered by DWEE)
- Groundwater Transfer – if groundwater will be transmitted off overlying land through a pipeline (permitted by local NRD and/or DWEE)

Before discharging wastewater you may need:

- NPDES Industrial Storm Water Permit
- Pretreatment Permit
- On-Site Wastewater Treatment Operating Permit
- Water Quality NPDES Permit

After construction you may need:

- Air Operating Permit
- Drinking Water Operating Permit



How long does a permit take?

Processing time depends on:

- Type of permit and project complexity
- Completeness of your application
- Number of applications ahead of you
- Issues that could arise during the 30–60 day public notice/comment periods



How can I speed up the permit process?

To make the permitting process the most efficient:

- Contact DWEE early and often
- Submit complete, accurate applications



Where do I get applications?

Permit forms and guidance are available at dwee.nebraska.gov



What else should I know?

In addition to obtaining permits, you may need to comply with regulations regarding the disposal of wastes; hazardous wastes; open burning; hazardous material storage; or other programs not administered by the DWEE such as the EPA Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure Plan requirements; risk management plans; Toxics Release Inventories; and regulations pertaining to refrigerants.

Where can I get help?

The **One-Stop Permit Assistance Program** is here to make the permitting process easier for Nebraska businesses.

- Acts as a clearinghouse for permitting information
- Helps you understand which permits you need
- Guides you on what information to include in your application
- Brings together the right DWEE staff to answer your questions
- Provides a single point of contact for timely responses

For questions about our One-Stop program, or to request a meeting:

☎ (402) 471-8697

✉ DWEE.assistance@nebraska.gov