



**US Army Corps  
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New England District

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# PUBLIC NOTICE

**Date: July 20, 2011**

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## **REISSUANCE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY CONNECTIUCT GENERAL PERMIT (GP)**

The New England District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers hereby announces the reissuance of the statewide Connecticut General Permit (GP), pursuant to 33 CFR 325.5(c)(3), for minimal-impact activities within the State of Connecticut. The prior Connecticut Programmatic General Permit (PGP) expired on May 31, 2011. This GP became effective on July 15, 2011. The reissued Connecticut GP continues the expedited review process for activities within Corps jurisdiction under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899. This public notice is issued in accordance with 33 CFR 325.10 to ensure potential applicants for permits are informed of the requirements of 33 CFR 320-330 and of the steps required to obtain permits for activities in waters of the United States or ocean waters.

General permits were encouraged under the President's plan to streamline state and Federal regulatory programs. The Corps of Engineers has already had success with streamlining these programs through the use of general permits throughout New England. This GP is designed to authorize activities covered under the Nationwide Permit (NWP) program and the prior PGP. Continued utilization of the general permit process in place of the NWPs will provide important benefits to the public, including simplifying the process, state and federal concurrent review, and providing necessary environmental protection.

Projects with minimal individual and cumulative effects on the aquatic environment will be approved administratively under this GP. Projects that do not meet the terms and conditions of this GP will be subjected to Individual Permit review. The Individual Permit review procedures are not altered by the GP. Federal exemptions, which are not necessarily the same as the State of Connecticut's exemptions, are also not altered by the GP. Project proponents must also obtain any appropriate local and state approvals when required in order for this GP to be valid. All GP authorizations will be subject to the applicability requirements, procedures, and conditions contained in the GP document.

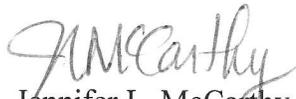
### **Some of the major changes from the previous PGP include:**

1. Section 1A has been added for activities occurring in inland waters and wetlands located within the boundaries of Mashantucket.
2. There is a new requirement of the submittal of a Category 1 self-certification form (Appendix 1A) before work can begin. Appendix 1A can be found on our website.
3. Temporary access fills such as swamp/timber mats without upper threshold limits are allowed under Category 2 of this GP.
4. Projects within FEMA established floodway are allowed under the GP provided that project proponents receive a State of Connecticut Flood Management Certification.

5. A Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV) survey may be required – see guidance document on website.
6. All dredging/excavation and associated disposal in the Byram River require applicants to coordinate with New York Department of State for Coastal Zone Management consistency.
7. All dredging project proponents with disposal at any of the Long Island Sound Disposal sites will be required to submit a completed Federal Consistency Assessment Form along with an alternatives analysis to the Corps at the same time they are requesting a sampling plan. The Corps will coordinate with NY DOS for State Coastal Zone Management concurrence.
8. New aquaculture activities have been added to Appendix 2 – Coastal definition of categories as well as the addition of aquaculture conditions listed on Appendix 3.
9. General conditions have been updated to reflect current state and Federal law and policies.

The new GP supercedes the previous PGP, but does not affect activities authorized under the previous PGP that have commenced prior to the new issuance. Activities which have commenced (i.e. are under construction or are under contract to commence) prior to the expiration date of the previous PGP in reliance upon the terms and conditions of the category under which it was authorized, shall remain authorized provided the activity is completed by May 31, 2012 or in accordance with specific expiration requirements contained in the individual Corps PGP authorization letter for Category 2 projects.

The Connecticut GP is on our web site at <http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Regulatory/SGP/ct.htm>  
Please contact Ms. Diane M. Ray at (978) 318-8831 or at [diane.m.ray@usace.army.mil](mailto:diane.m.ray@usace.army.mil) for more information or a copy of the GP.

  
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