# TRIBUTARY TRIBUNE **Filling Out Permit Applications**

SAN JOSE/SANTA CLARA WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PLANT

2006 - ISSUE II

rrors and omissions in filling out Filling Out Section A a Wastewater Discharge Permit ✓ Application are common. While Source Control staff tries to work with our customers, it is ultimately your responsibility to submit a complete, correctly filled out application.

### **General Tips**

- Avoid leaving blank spaces; enter "not applicable" or "unknown" as appropriate. For example, if you leave the part on Waste Minimization Practices (Section I) blank, you are strongly implying that you do nothing to minimize waste and your permit conditions will be set accordingly.
- Avoid handwriting; print or type entries.
- Include a check made payable to the City of San Jose for the correct fee, based on Section L of your permit.
- Submit your application before your current permit expires, or late fees will apply.
- Make sure you are filling out the most recent version of the permit application (download current version at: www.sanjoseca. gov/esd/water-pollution-prevention/ eeforms.htm).

### **Site Verification**

In addition to the personnel involved in production or wastewater treatment, the person filing out the application must be knowledgeable of all aspects of the business. The same applies to the site contact meeting the City Inspector for the detailed permit inspection.

Be prepared to verify important details of your application when the City Inspector inspects the site. This inspection could include verifying the chemical inventory and wastestream plumbing, and other aspects of the facility not directly related to wastewater treatment and/or generation. Be prepared to allow the City Inspector access to any and all parts of your facility.

Sign under "Certified by" only if you are in a position of authority at the facility. If you have also prepared the application, sign under "Prepared by" as well, or have the person who prepared the application sign it.

	Inspecto	r
COMPANY NAME:		GITY:
Date received: Am	ount Paid: \$ Receipt #	Pernit #:
discharge, into the Sanitary Sevie Director. Critical User reason a - waste other than sanitary sewag- 100,000 gallone per day. A con- office by all Critical Users. Municipal Code requires that per an Executive Officer of the busi- ty for President. General Partner.	I Code, no Critical User shall connect. System except in accordance with a Wal- discharger whose wastewater contains a, which has the potential to cause inter- pleted permit application and appropriat- nt applications, and any other reports re- neas filing the application. Such Execu- tive President, or an individual sesponsible the Federal responsers for PODICS ap-	atevater Discharge Permit Issued by incircly politizatio, or who discharges inence, or who discharges in excess fee is required to be submitted to pured by the Director shall be signed you Officer shall be at least of the lew for the overall operation of the far
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### **Filling Out Section C**

Use the latest 12 months of water data, or explain the basis of the alternate flow data. Remember, all wastestreams discharged to the sanitary must be accounted for in this section, including mop water, groundwater, etc., whether or not they go through your sample box. Your incoming and outgoing water estimates should roughly balance.

	C. WAT	ER USAGE AND DISCHA	ARGE	
(Data over the past year should be companies with no actual flow of should be within 10% of the total of	sta and for s f Discharge			
(identify all so;	rces of wat	INFLUENT FLOWS for to your facility. Attach water	bills for last year.)	
Water Account Number or Well Nu	mber	Primary Use	Flow in Gallon	ns per Day (GPC Max.
Trucked influent (DI or other)				
Total Influent Flow:				
TOTAL CONTRACTOR CONTR				
(Augreen Mont	marater Pres	DISCHARGE FLOWS charged to the Santary Sever in	GPD for last year	
	- we out		Ave.	Max.
Process #1 Process #2				
Propess #3				_
Scrubber(s)			_=	
Total Process Wastewater Flow	(GPD)			
Sanitary Usage (Use 15 gallons p				_
Sanitary Usage (Use 15 gallons p Cooling Tower Blowdown Boiler Blowdown	an day per e	managed union metered)		
Boiler Blowdown				
Reverse Osmosis Reject Water				=
Reverse Comosis Reject Water Laundry Facility Restaurant Withen/Cafeteria			==	$\equiv$
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Raverse Carsonia Reject Water Laundry Facility Restaurant Kitchery Cafeteria	ning pools. v	water rides, etc.)		
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### In This Issue ...

- Filling Out Permit **Applications**
- Update on South Bay Water Recycling (SBWR)
- Ask Your Inspector
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- Did You Know?
- IUs Contribute to Website Redesign

### www.sanjoseca.gov/esd

The **Tributary Tribune** serves the cities of San José, Santa Clara, Milpitas, Cupertino Sanitary District, West Valley Sanitation District (including Campbell, Los Gatos, Monte Sereno, Saratoga), County Sanitation Districts 2-3. Sunol & Burbank Sanitary Districts

### **Filling Out Section E**

You must submit an accurate site plan or map. Such maps could be incorporated into your permit and must show the following:

- A general layout of the facility
- The location of City water meters and water lines
- The sanitary sewer laterals and the street(s) to which they are discharged
- The location of the sample point(s)

Name of Permit  EPA - Generator I D. Number  County of Sente Clare - Environmental Health Permit.  County of Sente Clare - Hazardous Waste Generator	Permit No.
County of Santa Clara - Environmental Health Permit	
County of Santa Clara - Hazardous Waste Generator	
	Pernit
Bay Area Air Quality Management District - Permit to	Operate
Regional Water Quality Control Board NPDES permit	
Local Hazardous Materials Storage Permit (Fire Dept.)	
Radioactive Materials License	
Biohazard Waste Generation Registration	
Other:	
sampling points. Identify street locations, and N10	
of process waters from each wastewater-generatir example: high-pH rinses to pH-adjust, heavy mets grease interceptor. Provide a list of treatment che	ch your pretreatment system(s), if applicable. Show the rout go course to the beatment system that will address it. For the wasterbeam to precipitation system, or kitchen wastes to mistry used. Show the flow of treated water from the all monitoring equipment, pH recorders, flow meters, CRP
and chemicals from start to final discharge point to flow in gallons per day for each line. Identify all un	a simple block diagram showing the flow of water, materials or each activity that generates wastewater. Indicate average it processes (blocks) and number these to correspond to by plumbing layout. (See Block Flow Example, Page 6)
F. WASTEWATE	ER CHARACTERISTICS
(From the following list of wastewater characteristics, facility prior to pretreatment.) Please check all that a	check those that apply to the wastewater generated in this
Toxic Substances	Suspended Solids
Apdic pH < 5.0	High Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD)
Caude pt + 12.5	Ammonia
Heavy Metals	Grass OVF ats
	Temperature > 150 degrees F
Sold or Viscous Matter	Other (specify)
Petroleum Products	Own (specify
Does your facility's production and/or discharge have a	seasonal variation? YES NO (circle
	d the approximate dates when the variation occurs.

### **Filling Out Section G**

You must attach an evaluation of the pretreatment system used in your facility. Your analysis must demonstrate the rationale for choosing the system, including its effectiveness, design capacity, physical size, loading rate, maintenance, etc.

	the facility diagram according	in your facility. Indicate ly	rated flow for each pretreatment me	thod checked,	Describe the wastewater discharge monitoring practices for your facility. Include the typ methods to be used, the frequency of testing, and the name of the person(s) who will pure analytical data if available. Enclose a copy of any loss, check lats, forms, etc., which as	erform the tests . Attach
		Capacity		Capacity	analysia dala i ananasie. Lincola a copy or any loga, check mis, lorini, vic., who i a	e nantana.
	Darifler or Interceptor		Biological Treatment			
	H Adjustment		Air Stripper/Scrubber			
	on Eachange		Chemical Precipitation		List sampling and monitoring equipment in place at your facility:	
	Rease or Oil Separation		Cyanide Destruction			
	Sectrolytic Recovery		Chromium Reduction			
	Vastestream Segregation (Inc.		Ozonation			
	libration: ( ) Screen ( ) I					
	lilver Recovery:				Use average gpd flows over the previous 12 months for the facility	ty diagram.
Explain h (e.g. In-h if wastest wastestr Number of Average	YES NO If you epablities, flow rates, pollutar ow compliance is verified at a case testing, certified outside water is treated and/or disch water is treated and/or disch water.	describe how this evaluate toadings, and maintena ach sample point. lab, etc.): arged in batches, compared in batches, compared in batches, compared in the sample of t	plete the following for each of the to	ddress treatment		Act House.
		BAMPLING AND MO			plantament of the control of the con	_
streams?	restment (if used), can waste YES lease explain:	water streams be sample	d prior to mixing with other waste loable	=	erconducture on justice per dej (jigh)	_
Provide a which we	s written description of each sa if (North/South/East/West), an	impling/monitoring local; id what equipment it is lo	on including the name of the room it cated near.	t is in,		
	173/09		Tastewater Discharge Permit Application		Revised 08/12/09 Washerson Discharge Perm	



### **Filling Out Section H**

For every wastestream not discharged to the sanitary sewer or storm drain, you must complete a SEPARATE copy of Section H of the Application. For example, if you generate treatment sludge, medical wastes and spent chemical, you will need to fill out 3 separate copies of Section H.

COMPLETE THIS SECTI STORM SEWERS. USE Solutions, Mercury Waste     Do not include wastes s	A SEPARATE FORM I s, Solvents, Medical W	FOR EACH TYPE OF WI Tastes, etc.).	ASTE (e.g. Spent Silv	ITAKT OR or Bearing
	H. NON-DISCHAR	GED WASTE STRE	AM(s)	
identify the waste (e.g. spent ch waste.	semical, treatment slud	ge, medical waste, etc.) :	and the process that g	enerates the
Physical state of the waste (liqu	id, sludge, slurry, etc.)			$\equiv$
Brief characterization of waste (	list hazardous ingredie	nts and attach supporting	MSDS or lab analysi	0
Rate of waste generation in terr	ns of quantity per day,	week, month, or quarter		
	QN-50	TE STORAGE		
Method of Storage:				
Typical Volume Stored		Typical Length of	Time in Storage:	
is Storage Site Secondarily C		( )Yes		) No
Are there provisions for Surfs (if you answered "yes" to either surface drainage collection.)	question above, pleas	e describe provisions for		) No it and/or
		SPORTATION		_
Name of Waste Hauler.			EPA No	
AddressStreet	City	State Zip	Phone	_
	n	ISPOSAL		
Name of Waste Hauler			EPA No	
Address	City	State Zio	Phone	
Method of Disposal (e.g. recycle				_
				_

If you have further questions on filling out your permit application, please call your inspector at

(408) 945-3000.

# Update: South Bay Water Recycling (SBWR)

n 2005, the South Bay Water Recycling (SBWR) distribution system expanded to over 105 miles, providing more than 2.6 billion gallons of recycled water to over 530 customers throughout the Water Pollution Control Plant's service area. This represents a 12% increase for recycled water delivered as compared to the previous year. An important milestone for the use of recycled water, this increase equates to 5% of all potable water used in our area through the heaviest demand months (August through October).

Recently, several new power plants with industrial cooling tower operations have been added to the recycled water system, strengthening the need for reliable, 24/7 service.

Toward this end, two 2.75 million gallon reservoirs have recently completed construction and will be commissioned for service shortly. Supplemental improvements to pump stations and other infrastructure have also been completed.



## **Ask The Inspector**

tarting with the next issue, we'd like to introduce this item, which will address at least one frequently asked question per publication.

If you would like to contribute a question or concern relating to permitting, regulations or the environment in general, please drop us an e-mail at *tributary.tribune@sanjoseca.gov*.

Anonymous questions are welcome and will be answered. Thanks and we hope to hear from you.

# **Effects of Low pH on the Collection System**

ost of you know that it's a standard wastewater permit **Safety** condition for industrial process water discharged to have a pH higher than 6.0 and lower than 12.5. Some of you, however, may not know why pH control is important. This article describes the damaging effects of low pH on sewer infrastructure, the public and the environment.

### **Background**

pH is a measure of the hydrogen-ion concentration in an aqueous (water-based) solution. How chemical reactions

will occur in water is strongly affected by pH, and vice versa. ApH of less than 7 is considered acidic, while a pH higher than 7 is considered basic.

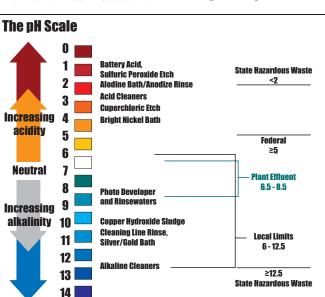
For industrial wastewater discharges, local ordinance prohibits a pH of less than 6.0, while federal wastewater regulations prohibit a pH of less than 5.0. California state hazardous waste regulations prohibit a pH of less than 2.0 or greater than 12.5, with criminal sanctions for violators.

### **Sewer Lines and Pump Stations**

The corrosive effects of low pH discharges on collection system piping and equipment are a strong

reason to prohibit acidic discharges into the sewer. It is common to open manholes and see sewers damaged by etching, if the IU generates acidic wastes. Sewers can also be destroyed by long-term exposure to acidic discharges, shortening the lifespan of sewer mains, pump stations and other equipment, and needlessly burdening taxpayers.

While the safety of workers exposed to acidic water is a clear concern, a less obvious threat is the risk of gas evolution in an acidic environment. Many pollutants that stay dissolved in neutral or basic conditions will off-gas if the sewage becomes acidic. This includes dangerous levels of gases such as hydrogen sulfide and cyanide, which can generate explosive and unsafe conditions in the sewer, endangering collection system workers and the general public.



### **Particulate vs. Dissolved Metals**

Those of you who rely on precipitation technology know that metals (many of which are regulated pollutants) stay in particulate form in limited pH ranges. Acidic waters promote dissolution of metals that were in "solid" form, either as precipitate or as small particles. While virtually all particulate pollution is captured in Plant processes prior to discharge of treated water to the Bav. much of the dissolved pollution remains in solution. In addition, low pH can adversely impact biological processes at the Plant, causing the Plant to be

in violation of its discharge limits. Thus, regulating the pH of sewage in the collection system that leads to the Plant will help protect and nourish the health of the Bay.

### Did You Know?

### Mercury-Added Switches and Relays are Now Banned!

new or refurbished mercury-added products has been passed. The tiered schedule for banned products takes

- July 1, 2006—Ban on the use of mercury switches and mercury relays (devices that open and close electric contacts, circuits, or gas valves)
- January 1, 2008—Ban on the use of mercury diostats (also called a Flame Sensor, a switch that controls a gas valve, typically found in ovens or oven portion of gas ranges)

new law banning the sale and distribution of certain Exemptions are available, and may be granted if all of the following conditions are met:

- The exemption request describes the use of the product with supporting information that there is no technically feasible alternative, available at a reasonable cost
- The supporting information shows that the product is eligible for the exemption
- The manufacturer or trade group requesting the exemption enters into a cost reimbursement agreement with DTSC for reviewing the exemption request

For more information please download the DTSC Fact Sheet at the following link:



In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, City of San José Environmental Services Department materials can be made available upon request in alternative formats, such as Braille, large print, audio-tape or computer disk. Requests may be made by calling (408) 945-3000 (Voice) or (800) 735-2929 (CRS).



Watershed Protection Division
City of San José
Environmental Services
Department
170 W. San Carlos Street
San José, CA 95113
Phone 408-945-3000
Fax 408-277-5775

# **IUs Contribute to Website Redesign**

any Environment Health and Safety managers in the Bay Area rely heavily on the Internet to get their jobs done. Whether they need to look up a regulation, download a form, or prepare a report, most tasks will depend on information found on the Internet.

How well that information is organized and intuitive to navigate contributes greatly to the experience of the end user and the likelihood of a return visit!

In April and May this year, the Watershed Protection Division undertook a research project to find out how Industrial Users would search for information on wastewater and stormwater regulations for job-related tasks.

The results of this study are now being used to redesign the Division's website with improved navigation. New topics will be added to the website and grouped using the feedback of the eight volunteer Industrial Users who participated in the study.



IUs are asked to sort and label topics found on the Division's website, during focus group sessions.

Watch for future articles in this newsletter announcing the launch of the newly redesigned Watershed Protection Division website. If you want to make a suggestion for the website, send an e-mail to:

ESDWebmaster@sanjoseca.gov

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