



Thank you for contacting the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE). Please note that the following requirements and recommendations apply to many but not all projects referred by local governments. Also, they are not intended to be an exhaustive list and it is ultimately the responsibility of the applicant to comply with all applicable rules and regulations. CDPHE's failure to respond to a referral should not be construed as a favorable response.

### **Hazardous and Solid Waste**

The applicant must comply with all applicable hazardous and solid waste rules and regulations.

Hazardous waste regulations are available here:  
<https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/hwregs>.

Solid waste regulations are available here:  
<https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/swregs>.

Applicable requirements may include, but are not limited to, properly characterizing all wastes generated from this project and ensuring they are properly managed and disposed of in accordance with Colorado's solid and hazardous waste regulations.

If this proposed project processes, reclaims, sorts, or recycles recyclable materials generated from industrial operations (including, but not limited to construction and demolition debris and other recyclable materials), then it must register as an industrial recycling facility in accordance with Section 8 of the Colorado Solid Waste Regulations. The industrial recycling registration form is available here:

<https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/sw-recycling-forms-apps>.

If you have any questions regarding hazardous and/or solid waste, please contact CDPHE's Hazardous Materials and Waste Management Division (HMWMD) by emailing [comments.hmwm@state.co.us](mailto:comments.hmwm@state.co.us) or calling 303-692-3320.

### **Water Quality**

The applicant must comply with all applicable water quality rules and regulations. The Water Quality Control Division (WQCD) administers regulatory programs that are generally designed to help protect both Colorado's natural water bodies (the clean water program) and built drinking water systems. Applicants must comply with all applicable water quality rules and regulations relating to both clean water and drinking water. All water quality regulations are available here:

<https://cdphe.colorado.gov/water-quality-control-commission-regulations>.



## Clean Water Requirements

### Stormwater

Applicable clean water requirements may include, but are not limited to, obtaining a stormwater discharge permit if construction activities disturb one acre or more of land or if they are part of a larger common plan of development that will disturb one or more acres of land. In determining the area of construction disturbance, WQCD looks at the entire plan, including disturbances associated with utilities, pipelines or roads constructed to serve the facility.

Please use the Colorado Environmental Online Services (CEOS) to apply for new construction stormwater discharge permits, modify or terminate existing permits and change permit contacts.

For CEOS support please see the following WQCD website:

<https://cdphe.colorado.gov/cor400000-stormwater-discharge>

or contact:

Email: [cdphe\\_ceos\\_support@state.co.us](mailto:cdphe_ceos_support@state.co.us) or [cdphe\\_wqcd\\_permits@state.co.us](mailto:cdphe_wqcd_permits@state.co.us)

CEOS Phone: 303-691-7919

Permits Phone: 303-692-3517

### Domestic Wastewater

Some projects with wastewater collection may have domestic wastewater treatment works (i.e., treatment plant, interceptor sewer, or lift station) with a design capacity to receive greater than 2,000 gallons per day (gpd) and are subject to state-wide site location, design, and permitting requirements implemented by the Water Quality Control Division. State review and approval of the site location application and design is required by the Colorado Water Quality Control Act (Act), Section 25-8-702, C.R.S. which states in part that:

*“No person shall commence the construction of any domestic wastewater treatment works or the enlargement of the capacity of an existing domestic wastewater treatment works, unless the site location and the design for the construction or expansion have been approved by the division.”*

State review may also be necessary for projects with multiple on-site wastewater treatment systems (OWTS) on a single property, unless the OWTS meet the requirements of division’s “Site Application Policy 6: Multiple On-Site Wastewater Treatment Systems” (Policy 6).

If applicable, the project would need to meet all applicable regulatory requirements including, but not limited to, site location and design review, discharge permitting, having a certified operator; and routine monitoring and reporting. For questions regarding domestic wastewater regulation applicability or other assistance and resources, visit these websites:

<https://cdphe.colorado.gov/design>

<https://cdphe.colorado.gov/clean-water-permitting-sectors>



## Drinking Water Requirements

The definition of a public water system is self-implementing. It is the responsibility of all water systems in Colorado to assess whether their system is a public water system and to comply with the regulations accordingly. There is not a notification process whereby a system only becomes a public water system if the Department notifies that system. A system becomes subject to regulation as a public water system at the point the system begins operating a system meeting the definition of a public water system under Regulation 11.

Some projects may also need to address drinking water regulations if the proposed project meets the definition of a “Public Water System” per the Colorado Primary Drinking Water Regulations (Regulation 11):

*A Public Water System means a system for the provision to the public of water for human consumption through pipes or other constructed conveyances, if such system has at least fifteen service connections or regularly serves an average of at least 25 individuals daily at least 60 days per year. A public water system is either a community water system or a non-community water system. Such term does not include any special irrigation district. Such term includes:*

*(a) Any collection, treatment, storage, and distribution facilities under control of the supplier of such system and used primarily in connection with such system.*

*(b) Any collection or pretreatment storage facilities not under such control, which are used primarily in connection with such system.*

If applicable, the project would need to meet all applicable requirements of Regulation 11 including, but not limited to, design review and approval; technical, managerial and financial review and approval; having a certified operator; and routine monitoring and reporting. If it is determined that your facility meets the definition of a public water system please submit a drinking water inventory update form to the department. For questions regarding drinking water regulation applicability or other assistance and resources, visit these websites:

<https://cdphe.colorado.gov/drinking-water>

<https://cdphe.colorado.gov/dwtrain>

If you have any other questions regarding either clean or drinking water quality, please contact CDPHE’s WQCD by emailing [cdphe.commentswqcd@state.co.us](mailto:cdphe.commentswqcd@state.co.us) or calling 303-692-3500.

## Air Quality

The applicant must comply with all relevant state and federal air quality rules and regulations. Air quality regulations are available here:

<https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/aqcc-regs>.



## Air Pollutant Emissions Notices (APENs) and Permits

Applicable requirements may include, but are not limited to, reporting emissions to the Air Pollution Control Division (APCD) by completing an APEN. An APEN is a two in one form for reporting air emissions and obtaining an air permit, if a permit will be required. While only businesses that exceed the Air Quality Control Commission (AQCC) reporting thresholds are required to report their emissions, all businesses - regardless of emission amount - must always comply with applicable AQCC regulations.

In general, an APEN is required when uncontrolled actual emissions for an emission point or group of emission points exceed the following defined emission thresholds:

Table 1 APEN Thresholds		
Pollutant Category	UNCONTROLLED ACTUAL EMISSIONS	
	Attainment Area	Non-attainment Area
Criteria Pollutant	2 tons per year	1 ton per year
Lead	100 pounds per year	100 pounds per year
Non-Criteria Pollutant	250 pounds per year	250 pounds per year

Uncontrolled actual emissions do not take into account any pollution control equipment that may exist. A map of the Denver Metropolitan Ozone Non-attainment area can be found on the following website: [http://www.colorado.gov/airquality/ss\\_map\\_wm.aspx](http://www.colorado.gov/airquality/ss_map_wm.aspx).

In addition to these reporting thresholds, a Land Development APEN (Form APCD-223) may be required for land development. Under Colorado air quality regulations, land development refers to all land clearing activities, including but not limited to land preparation such as excavating or grading, for residential, commercial or industrial development. Land development activities release fugitive dust, a pollutant regulation by APCD. Small land development activities are not subject to the same reporting and permitting requirements as large land activities. Specifically, land development activities that are less than 25 contiguous acres and less than 6 months in duration do not need to report air emissions to APCD.

It is important to note that even if a permit is not required, fugitive dust control measures included the Land Development APEN Form APCD-223 must be followed at the site. Fugitive dust control techniques commonly included in the plan are included in the table below.

Control Options for Unpaved Roadways	
Watering	Use of chemical stabilizer
Paving	Controlling vehicle speed
Graveling	
Control Options for Mud and Dirt Carry-Out Onto Paved Surfaces	
Gravel entry ways	Washing vehicle wheels
Covering the load	Not overfilling trucks
Control Options for Disturbed Areas	



Watering	Application of a chemical stabilizer
Revegetation	Controlling vehicle speed
Compaction	Furrowing the soil
Wind Breaks	Minimizing the areas of disturbance
	Synthetic or Natural Cover for Slopes

Additional information on APENs and air permits can be found on the following website: <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/air/do-you-need-an-apen>. This site explains the process to obtain APENs and air quality permits, as well as information on calculating emissions, exemptions, and additional requirements. You may also view AQCC Regulation Number 3 at <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/aqcc-regs> for the complete regulatory language.

If you have any questions regarding Colorado’s APEN or air permitting requirements or are unsure whether your business operations emit air pollutants, please call the Small Business Assistance Program (SBAP) at 303- 692-3175 or 303-692-3148.

### **Asbestos and Lead-Based Paint**

In Colorado there are regulations regarding the appropriate removal and handling of asbestos and lead-based paint as part of a demolition, renovation, or remodeling project. These regulations are presented in AQCC Number 8 (asbestos) and Number 19 (lead-based paint) which can be found on the following website: <https://www.colorado.gov/cdphe/aqcc-regs>.

These regulations may require the use of, or inspection by, companies or individuals that are certified to inspect or remove these hazards **prior to renovation or demolition**. APCD must also be notified of abatement or demolition activities prior to beginning any work in the case of asbestos. For additional guidance on these regulations and lists of certified companies and individuals please visit the following website for asbestos: <https://www.colorado.gov/cdphe/categories/services-and-information/environment/asbestos> and the following website for lead-based paint: <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/categories/services-and-information/lead>.

If you have any questions about Colorado’s asbestos and lead-based paint regulations or are unsure whether you are subject to them please call the Indoor Environment Program at 303-692-3100.

If you have more general questions about air quality, please contact CDPHE’s APCD by emailing [cdphe.commentsapcd@state.co.us](mailto:cdphe.commentsapcd@state.co.us) or calling 303-692-3100.

### **Environmental Justice and Health Equity**

CDPHE is dedicated to promoting and protecting the health and environment for all Coloradans. As part of those efforts, we strive to achieve health equity and environmental justice.



ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE is the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin or income. Environmental justice recognizes that all people have a right to breathe clean air, drink clean water, participate freely in decisions that affect their environment, live free of dangerous levels of toxic pollution, experience equal protection of environmental policies, and share the benefits of a prosperous and vibrant pollution-free economy.

HEALTH EQUITY is when all people, regardless of who they are or what they believe, have the opportunity to attain their full health potential. Achieving health equity requires valuing all people equally with focused and ongoing efforts to address inequalities.

The Environmental Justice Act (HB21-1266) builds upon these efforts by declaring a statewide policy to advance environmental justice, defining disproportionately impacted communities, and creating an Environmental Justice Action Task Force, Environmental Justice Ombudsperson, and Environmental Justice Advisory Board. The Environmental Justice Act also directs the Air Quality Control Commission to promulgate certain rules to reduce emissions in disproportionately impacted communities, and to revise its approach to permitting actions in disproportionately impacted communities. The Environmental Justice Act further requires the Air Quality Control Commission to conduct enhanced outreach in disproportionately impacted communities for rulemakings and contested permitting actions.

The Environmental Justice Act's definition of disproportionately impacted communities includes low-income communities, communities of color, and housing cost-burdened communities, as well as communities that experience cumulative impacts and with a history of environmental racism. CDPHE's [Climate Equity Data Viewer](#) can be used to identify census block groups that meet those three criteria.

CDPHE notes that certain projects have potential to impact communities of color and low-income communities that are already disproportionately impacted by cumulative impacts across environmental media and challenges outside the environmental context. It is our strong recommendation that your organization consider the potential for disproportionate environmental and health impacts on specific communities within the project scope and take action to avoid, mitigate, and minimize those impacts.

To ensure the meaningful involvement of disproportionately impacted communities, we recommend that you interface directly with the communities in the project area to better understand community perspectives on the project to receive feedback on how it may impact them during development and construction as well as after completion. This feedback should be taken into account wherever possible, and reflected in changes made to the project plan to implement the feedback.

Additionally, to ensure the fair treatment of disproportionately impacted communities, we recommend that you consider substantive measures to avoid, minimize, and mitigate impacts to disproportionately impacted communities. This may include considering alternative facility siting locations, using best management practices to reduce impacts to air, water, soil, noise, light, or odor, or offsetting impacts by reducing impacts from other nearby facilities as appropriate.



We have included some general resources for your reference.

**Resources:**

[CDPHE Environmental Justice Website](#)

[CDPHE's Health Equity Resources](#)

[CDPHE's "Sweet" Tools to Advance Equity](#)

[EPA's Environmental Justice and NEPA Resources](#)

