

# SPECIAL PUBLIC NOTICE



US Army Corps  
of Engineers  
St. Louis District

Issue Date: June 21, 2023

Expiration Date: None

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## AVAILABILITY OF ST. LOUIS DISTRICT REGIONAL GENERAL PERMIT 44 – MAINTENANCE OF PUBLIC STORMWATER, SANITARY, AND COMBINED SEWER SYSTEMS

**This notice is an informational notice only, no comments are requested.**

**BACKGROUND:** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District (the Corps) issued a public notice in February 2023 soliciting comments on the proposed reissuance of general permit for routine maintenance of existing stormwater, sanitary, and combined sewer systems. We have reviewed all comments and made minor changes, resulting in the approved St. Louis District Regional General Permit 44 (MVS-RGP-44).

With this notice, the Corps is announcing the immediate availability of MVS-RGP-44 for use by applicable public utility entities, subject to guidelines and conditions contained therein. The Corps has limited the area in which MVS-RGP-44 may be used to local municipalities and public stormwater system authorities.

**PURPOSE:** The Corps developed MVS-RGP-44 in collaboration with owners and operators of local stormwater, sanitary, and combined sewer systems. The object of MVS-RGP-44 is to increase the efficiency of Clean Water Act, Section 404 authorization for routine maintenance projects, while maintaining compliance with Section 404 permit requirements (33 CFR parts 320-332), as well as other relevant federal and state regulations. The Corps also recognizes that implementation of MVS-RGP-44 benefits the public interest by allowing owners and operators of such systems to more effectively maintain public infrastructure.

**ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION:** To excavate or to discharge fill material into waters of the U.S. in order to perform work associated with the maintenance, repair, or inspection of public stormwater, sanitary, or combined sewer systems. **This general permit does not authorize new infrastructure built in natural streams or wetland areas.**

Types of activities authorized by this general permit are:

1. **Sediment Disturbance and Log Jam Removal** from existing stormwater conveyances or basins in Waters of the US: Sediment disturbance could occur under a dry condition or a wet condition to reduce flooding and protect the integrity of system.

**2. Maintaining Existing Stormwater conveyances or basins in Waters of the U.S.**

Maintaining existing stormwater conveyance structures including the removal and replacement of culverts, pipes, transfer tubes, inlet and outlet structures, weirs, flumes, trash racks, riprap, grade stabilizers, pumps, valves, and channels lined with concrete, riprap, stone, block, gabion baskets, and other like materials. This also includes maintenance and clean out of existing culverts, weep holes, and outfall structures.

**3. Improvements to Existing Stormwater Management Facilities:** Improvements or maintenance to existing stormwater management features to improve water quality or add bio-retention, setbacks, rain gardens, natural re-vegetation. This activity does not include stream channelization, impoundments, or piping.

**4. Maintenance or repair of existing stormwater, sanitary or combined sewer systems, including separation of systems.** Maintenance and clean out of existing culverts, weep holes, and outfall structures associated with improved stormwater channels. Also includes placement of material, including riprap, at outfalls and along the channel banks for the purpose of protecting the sewer system and excavation needed to access, maintain, or repair sewer infrastructure.

**5. Maintenance and Repair of Existing Access Roads and Ramps necessary to perform items 1-4 above:** Maintenance and repair of existing access roads and ramps, including re-grading.

**6. Vegetation Removal necessary to perform items 1-5 above:** Vegetation removal would occur through native and non-native vegetation removal within and along the banks of existing recharge basin facilities, and within and around existing water conveyance structures. Vegetation removal shall be the minimum necessary. Permittee may use a combination of mechanical vegetation cutters, hand tools, and heavy equipment to remove vegetation. This activity also includes debris removal to reduce flooding and protect integrity of system.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** MVS-RGP-44 is effective with the issuance of this notice.

**RGP-44 DOCUMENT:** The full text of MVS-RGP-44, including general and specific conditions not included with this Public Notice, is located on the District's webpage at <https://www.mvs.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/Public-Notices/>

**PERIODIC REVIEW:** The permit availability expires on June 21, 2028. Prior to its expiration, the Corps will consider reauthorization, modification, or cessation of the permit, based upon experiences during its use. The Corps encourages users of MVS-RGP-44 or the public to report concerns with the permit to Corps as they are encountered, to assist the Corps in evaluating its effectiveness in practice.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** Additional information about MVS-RGP-44 may be obtained by contacting Ms. Jaynie Doerr Missouri Section Chief by telephone (314) 331-8581 or via email at [Jaynie.g.doerr@usace.army.mil](mailto:Jaynie.g.doerr@usace.army.mil). Letters of inquiry or comment can be mailed to:

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