

**City of Wilsonville**

# Industrial Pretreatment Program



## Background

The City of Wilsonville's Industrial Pretreatment Program is a component of the City's NPDES permit. The program performs permitting, administrative, and enforcement tasks for discharges into the wastewater treatment plant. The objectives of the program are to prevent the introduction of pollutants into the treatment plant that will interfere with its operation, including interference with its use or disposal of municipal sludge; prevent the introduction of pollutants into the treatment plant that will pass through the treatment works or otherwise be incompatible with it, and; improve opportunities to recycle and reclaim municipal and industrial wastewaters and sludges.

## Who does this apply to?

Any industry that discharges anything other than sanitary or domestic wastewater into the sanitary sewer. This includes high tech, food and beverage production, dentists, auto shops, manufacturing among many others. The City of Wilsonville's Industrial Pretreatment Program provides guidance and technical



assistance to keep industrial users in compliance with federal, state and local regulations. Although not every industry or business will be required to obtain a permit, any business or industry that is connected to the sewer should consult the City's pretreatment program to ensure safe environmental practices are being implemented. Industrial Pretreatment staff works with businesses to help them identify and employ pollution prevention practices as well as water conservation efforts.

## What type of permits are there?

There are three types of industrial permit categories: Significant Industrial Users, Categorical Industrial Users, and Non-Discharging Categorical Industrial Users. Although not a permit, Best Management Practices (BMP) Agreements are established for industries that don't fall under those three categories but have potential to impact the POTW.

## What is industrial waste?

Industrial waste is a generic term for any waste material (solid, gas, or liquid) generated by a commercial, industrial, or nonresidential activity. The Industrial Pretreatment Program focuses on companies that discharge wastewater during manufacturing, remediation, cleaning, or rinsing processes. This waste differs from residential household wastewater which is considered *domestic sewage* from toilets, showers, washing machines, sinks, and other household-related activities.

Industrial waste is different from *hazardous waste* which is a federal and state designation for waste material that is toxic, flammable, corrosive, or reactive; hazardous waste requires special handling and treatment at a licensed treatment, storage, disposal facility (TSDF).

## FAQ's for Businesses Discharging Industrial Waste

### *How does my business obtain approval to discharge?*

Prior to discharging industrial waste to the sewer, all dischargers who generate and dispose of industrial wastewater (not including toilets) should contact the City's Pretreatment Program. Potential dischargers will be sent a permit application package alongside an environmental survey.

Contact: Steve Gering  
Industrial Pretreatment Coordinator  
[gering@ci.wilsonville.or.us](mailto:gering@ci.wilsonville.or.us)  
503-570-1551



### *When do I need to obtain a permit?*

The time it takes to develop and obtain a permit depends upon the type and amount of wastewater a company discharges to the sewer. For federally regulated dischargers, you must apply for a permit 90 days prior to discharge. Federally regulated dischargers meet on or more of the following categories:

- The facility discharges more than 25,000 gallons a day of process wastewater
- The facility includes a federally identified categorical process
- The facility discharges 5% or more hydraulic or organic load to the treatment plant
- The facility has the potential to cause upset or pass through the treatment plant
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### *What fees can I anticipate?*

The Industrial Pretreatment Program Permit application fee is \$594.00. The annual inspection and report fees for significant industrial users as defined in Wilsonville Code 8.006(67) shall be \$1,662. A high strength user fee is imposed upon commercial and industrial users of the City’s wastewater collection that discharges wastes having an average strength in excess of 250 mg/L of BOD or TSS.

For more information, contact the City’s Pretreatment Program.

### *What are the discharge limits?*

In Oregon, municipalities are required to establish local limits to ensure that industrial discharges do not damage the municipal treatment plants and the surrounding environment. These limits are specific to the municipality. In addition to local limits, some businesses are subject to federal pretreatment regulations which may be stricter than local limits. If your business falls under any of the categories listed [here](#), you are subject to federal pretreatment regulations.

City of Wilsonville Local Limits		Federal Categorical Limits
Pollutant (mg/L)	Limits Adopted July 2004	
Arsenic, Total	0.09	-----
Cadmium, Total	0.05	0.05
Chromium, Total	2.77	1.71
Copper, Total	0.54	0.54
Cyanide, Total	0.59	0.59
Lead, Total	0.58	0.43
Mercury, Total	0.015	-----
Nickel, Total	0.61	0.61
Silver, Total	0.11	0.11
Zinc, Total	1.3	1.3
pH	5.5-10.0	-----

### *Fats, oils, and grease (FOG)*

FOG from petroleum, mineral, or nonbiodegradable cutting oil origin (non-polar FOG) can harm the biological treatment process. Oil/water separators, grease interceptors used to pretreat oily wastewater must be approved before installation. Plans for these equipment should be submitted to the Pretreatment Program for review and approval. Contact the City’s Building Department to obtain information for submittal and installation guidelines (503-682-4960).

FOG from animal or vegetable origin (polar FOG) can block sewer lines. Although polar FOG may have no numerical limit, dischargers are required to minimize free-floating polar FOG to prevent sewer line blockage. Dischargers may not add agents to emulsify free-floating polar FOG. Companies discharging polar

FOG may be required to add additional pretreatment to correct these discharges.

For more information on the City’s environmental regulations, refer to the City’s [code](#). For more information on specific discharge limits, contact the City’s Pretreatment Program.

