

**PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF DRAFT SECTION 401 CERTIFICATIONS
AND PUBLIC HEARING**

Public notice is hereby given that the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) Division of Surface Water (DSW) has received an application and has developed DRAFT Clean Water Act section 401 water quality certifications for the following Nationwide Permits as proposed in the Wednesday, February 16, 2011, Federal Register (Volume 76, No. 32):

1) Aids to Navigation, 2) Structures in Artificial Canals, 3) Maintenance, 4) Fish and Wildlife Harvesting, Enhancement, and Attraction Devices and Activities, 5) Scientific Measurement Devices, 6) Survey Activities, 7) Outfall Structures and Associated Intake Structures, 8) Oil and Gas Structures on the Outer Continental Shelf, 9) Structures in Fleeting and Anchorage Areas, 10) Mooring Buoys, 11) Temporary Recreational Structures, 12) Utility Line Activities, 13) Bank Stabilization, 14) Linear Transportation Projects, 15) U.S. Coast Guard Approved Bridges, 16) Return Water From Upland Contained Disposal Areas, 17) Hydropower Projects, 18) Minor Discharges, 19) Minor Dredging, 20) Response Operations for Oil and Hazardous Substances, 21) Surface Coal Mining Activities, 22) Removal of Vessels, 23) Approved Categorical Exclusions, 24) Indian Tribe or State Administered Section 404 Programs, 25) Structural Discharges, 26) Reserved, 27) Aquatic Habitat Restoration, Establishment, and Enhancement Activities, 28) Modifications of Existing Marinas, 29) Residential Developments, 30) Moist Soil Management for Wildlife, 31) Maintenance of Existing Flood Control Facilities, 32) Completed Enforcement Actions, 33) Temporary Construction, Access and Dewatering, 34) Cranberry Production Activities, 35) Maintenance Dredging of Existing Basins, 36) Boat Ramps, 37) Emergency Watershed Protection and Rehabilitation, 38) Cleanup of Hazardous and Toxic Waste, 39) Commercial and Institutional Developments, 40) Agricultural Activities, 41) Reshaping Existing Drainage Ditches, 42) Recreational Facilities, 43) Storm water Management Facilities, 44) Mining Activities, 45) Repair of Uplands Damaged by Discrete Events, 46) Discharges in Ditches, 47) Reserved, 48) Existing Commercial Shellfish Aquaculture Activities, 49) Coal Re-mining Activities, 50) Underground Coal Mining Activities, A) Land-Based Renewable Energy Generation Facilities and B) Water-Based Renewable Energy Generation Pilot Projects.

The application for authorization of these Nationwide Permits was submitted by the United States Army Corps of Engineers, CECW-CO-R, 441 G Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20314-1000.

The discharges from the activities, if approved, would result in degradation to, or lowering of, the water quality of surface waters of the state, including wetlands, streams and lakes. Draft section 401 water quality certifications were prepared after reviewing the application in accordance with Chapters 3745-1 and 3745-32 of the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC). In accordance with OAC Rule 3745-1, an antidegradation review of the application has been conducted.

No exclusions or waivers apply or may be granted by the director of Ohio EPA, as outlined by OAC Rule 3745-1-05(D) (effective on May 1, 1998).

Starting January 13, 2012, Ohio EPA's draft certification of the nationwide permits may be inspected on Ohio EPA's Division of Surface Water website at www.epa.ohio.gov/dsw.

Ohio EPA will hold a public information session and public hearing relative to issues of lower water quality on February 27, 2012 at 3:30 p.m. at the Center for Excellence located on the sixth floor of Ohio EPA's offices at 50 West Town Street, Suite 700, Columbus, Ohio, 43215. The public hearing will end when all interested parties have had an opportunity to provide testimony related to the project.

All interested persons are entitled to attend or be represented and give written or oral comments on the proposed project. The purpose of the hearing is to obtain additional information that will be considered by Ohio EPA prior to any further action on the proposed application.

Persons wishing to be on Ohio EPA's interested parties mailing list for this project or submit written comments for Ohio EPA's consideration regarding the proposed reauthorization of the nationwide permits should do so electronically, in person, or by mail no later than the close of business on March 5, 2012. The words "Reauthorization of Nationwide Permits" should appear on each page of any submitted comments. Ohio EPA will consider all comments received by the close of business on March 5, 2012. E-mail all comments to Chris.Bowman@epa.state.oh.us or Ed.Swindall@epa.state.oh.us or mail them to:

Attn: Reauthorization of Nationwide Permits
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
Division of Surface Water - Permit Processing Unit
50 West Town Street, Suite 700
P.O. Box 1049
Columbus, Ohio 43216-1049