

How do I obtain a permit to construct?

Permits to Construct can be obtained by submitting an application for water and sewerage works to the St. John's or Corner Brook regional offices of the Water Resources Management Division. Permit applications can be found by navigating the Water Resources Management Division website:

<http://www.env.gov.nl.ca/env/waterres/waste/community.html>

The application package should also contain an application fee and fee schedule, and all engineering design work associated with the project prepared and certified by a professional engineer licensed in the province of Newfoundland and Labrador.

What if I don't have a permit to construct?

Those who undertake water or wastewater works without a Permit to Construct are guilty of an offence under the *Water Resources Act* and can face legal challenges.



"We promote the protection and conservation of our water"

Water Resources Management Division Offices

St. John's Headquarters
4th Floor Confederation Building
West Block • Phone: 709.729.2558

Grand Falls-Windsor Regional Office
Provincial Building
3 Cromer Ave. • Phone: 709.292.4997

Corner Brook Regional Office
9th Floor Sir Richard Squires Building
84 Mt. Bernard Ave. • Phone: 709.637.2034

Happy Valley-Goose Bay Regional Office
2 Tenth St. • Phone: 709.896.7981

Email: WaterAndSewer@gov.nl.ca
Web: www.gov.nl.ca/env/waterres


**Newfoundland
Labrador**

Municipal Affairs and Environment

What Your Town Needs to Know About ...

Permits to Construct for Water and Wastewater Infrastructure




**Newfoundland
Labrador**

Municipal Affairs and Environment

Permits to Construct for Water and Wastewater Infrastructure

Responsibility of the Community

Communities installing new, replacing old, or extending existing municipal water and wastewater infrastructure are required to obtain a Permit to Construct from the Department of Municipal Affairs and Environment (Water Resources Management Division).

Sections 36 and 37 of the *Water Resources Act* require that all water and wastewater infrastructure works first obtain a Permit to Construct. Permits are required even if towns self-fund infrastructure projects.

It is the community's responsibility to advise private developers connecting to municipal water and wastewater systems that they may need to obtain a Permit to Construct before proceeding with the installation of any water or sewer works.

All municipal water and wastewater projects have to meet the requirements of the *Guidelines for the Design, Construction and Operation of Water and Sewerage Systems*:

<http://www.env.gov.nl.ca/env/waterres/waste/groundwater/report.html>

Water Infrastructure that Requires a Permit to Construct

- Intake work
- Water distribution lines
- Water service lines 150 mm or larger
- Subdivisions
- Primary and booster disinfection systems (i.e. chlorination systems)
- Water treatment systems (i.e. filters, pH adjustment, etc.)
- Water storage tanks
- Pumps (i.e. pressure booster stations)
- Mechanical or chemical cleaning of reservoirs, pipes, tanks
- Installation of valves, hydrants, flushing devices, backflow prevention devices, etc.

Wastewater Infrastructure that Requires a Permit to Construct

- Sewage collection lines
- Sewage service lines 200 mm or larger

- Sewage lift stations
- Manholes
- Wastewater treatment systems (i.e. communal septic tanks)
- Sewer outfalls and overflows

When is a permit to construct not required?

Permits are not required for routine service connections to isolated residences or small buildings. If in doubt, contact the Water Resources Management Division.

Why is obtaining a permit to construct important?

Permits are required for water and wastewater infrastructure projects because of the potential impact to public health and the environment. Permits help ensure consistency so that all projects are carried out in accordance with applicable regulations, policy directives, guidelines and standards. Permits provide other benefits including operational efficiencies, cost advantages and system longevity. The permitting process ensures the proper design and installation of water and sewer works. Projects that proceed without a permit can result in unsafe infrastructure.