

132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 465

S.P. 200

In Senate, February 11, 2025

An Act to Update Waste Discharge License Fees

Submitted by the Department of Environmental Protection pursuant to Joint Rule 204. Received by the Secretary of the Senate on February 5, 2025. Referred to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed.

DAREK M. GRANT Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator GROHOSKI of Hancock.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

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Sec. 1. 38 MRSA §353-B, sub-§2, ¶A, as amended by PL 2019, c. 631, §1, is further amended to read:

A. The fees for waste discharge license groups are the 2019 bill amounts increased by a factor of 1.4, unless otherwise indicated, as follows.

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6 7 8 9	Discharge group		Basis for annual fee	Median fee for discharge group	Water quality improvement surcharge	
10	Publicly owned	annual fee	2019 bill	\$543		
11	treatment		amount			
12	facilities, 10,000					
13	gallons per day					
14	or less					
15						
16	Publicly owned	annual fee	2019 bill	\$689		
17	treatment		amount			
18	facilities, more					
19	than 10,000					
20	gallons per day					
21	to 0.1 million					
22	gallons per day					
23						
24	Publicly owned	annual fee	2019 bill	\$1,063		
25	treatment		amount			
26	facilities, more					
27	than 0.1 million					
28	gallons per day					
29	to 1.0 million					
30	gallons per day					
31						
32	Publicly owned	annual fee	2019 bill	\$2,241		
33	treatment		amount			
34	facilities, more					
35	than 1.0 million					
36	gallons per day					
37	to 5.0 million					
38	gallons per day					
39						

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	Publicly owned treatment facilities, greater than 5 million gallons per day or with significant industrial waste	annual fee	2019 bill amount	\$7,850
10 11 12 13 14 15 16	Major industrial facility, process wastewater (based on EPA list of major source discharges)	annual fee	2019 bill amount	\$33,919
18 19 20 21	Other industrial facility, process wastewater	annual fee	2019 bill amount	\$2,093
22 23 24	Food handling or packaging wastewater	annual fee	2019 bill amount	\$1,135
25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32	Fish-rearing Terrestrial fish- rearing facility 0.1 million gallons per day or less	annual fee	2019 bill amount	\$538
33 34 35 36 37 38	Fish-rearing Terrestrial fish- rearing facility over 0.1 million gallons per day	annual fee	2019 bill amount	\$1,368
39 40 41 42	Marine aquaculture facility	annual fee	2019 bill amount	\$529
43 44 45 46	Marine finfish aquaculture facility	annual fee	<u>\$1,682</u>	<u>\$1,682</u>
47 48	Noncontact cooling water	annual fee	2019 bill amount	\$330

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	Industrial or commercial sources, miscellaneous or incidental nonprocess wastewater	annual fee	2019 bill amount	\$626	
10 11 12 13	Municipal combined sewer overflow	annual fee	2019 bill amount	\$711	
14 15 16 17 18	Sanitary wastewater, excluding overboard discharge	annual fee	2019 bill amount	\$1,268	
20 21 22 23 24 25	Sanitary overboard discharge, commercial sources	annual fee	2011 bill amount	\$446	\$75
26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33	Sanitary overboard discharge, residential sources 600 gallons per day or less	annual fee	2011 bill amount	\$231	\$75
34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41	Sanitary overboard discharge, residential sources more than 600 gallons per day	annual fee	2011 bill amount	\$313	\$75
42 43 44 45 46	Sanitary overboard discharge, public sources	annual fee	2011 bill amount	\$315	\$75

1 2 3 4	Aquatic pesticide application	annual fee	2019 bill amount	\$1,110
5 6 7	Snow dumps	annual fee	2019 bill amount	\$550
8 9 10	Salt and sand storage pile	annual fee	2019 bill amount	\$738
11 12 13	Log storage permit	annual fee	2019 bill amount	\$727
14 15 16 17 18 19 20	General permit coverage for industrial storm water discharges (except construction)	annual fee	2019 bill amount	\$588
21 22 23 24 25 26	General permit coverage for marine aquaculture facility	annual fee	2019 bill amount \$1,682	\$230 \$1,682
27 28 29 30 31 32	General permit coverage for municipal separate storm sewer system	annual fee	\$1,306	<u>\$1,306</u>
33 34 35	General permit coverage (other)	annual fee	2019 bill amount	\$283
36 37 38	Experimental discharge license	license fee	2019 bill amount	\$1,550
39 40 41 42 43	New or amended mixing zone, in addition to other applicable fees	flat fee	\$9,254	
44 45 46	Formation of sanitary district	flat fee	\$693	

Transfer of flat fee \$140 --license for
residential or
commercial
sanitary
wastewater

On an annual basis, municipalities and publicly owned treatment works whose combined sewer overflows have the potential to affect shellfish harvesting areas as determined by the department by virtue of their locations within estuarine or marine waters of the State must be assessed a surcharge on their wastewater discharge licenses in a total amount of \$12,000. This amount must be allocated among the municipalities and publicly owned treatment works according to their prior 3-year average annual flows as reported to the department.

On an annual basis, publicly owned treatment works whose outfalls licensed for the discharge of treated effluent cause adjacent shellfish growing areas to be closed for the purposes of harvesting shellfish must be assessed a license surcharge in a total amount of \$25,000. This amount must be allocated among the publicly owned treatment works according to the acreage that each licensed outfall closes. This acreage must be determined by the Department of Marine Resources in consultation with the department.

21 SUMMARY

This bill adds marine finfish aquaculture facilities and general permit coverage for municipal separate storm sewer systems as waste discharge license groups and establishes the basis for the annual fees for those license groups. It changes the basis for the annual fee for the general permit coverage for the marine aquaculture facilities waste discharge license group and increases the median fee for that license group. It also clarifies that the fish-rearing facility waste discharge license group covers terrestrial fish-rearing facilities.