



SC DEPARTMENT *of*
**ENVIRONMENTAL
SERVICES**

Groundwater Withdrawal Permit Application Package for Designated Capacity Use Areas

The guidance contained in this document are applicable to all persons who withdraw or are capable of withdrawing in excess of three (3) million gallons in any given month from a well or multiple wells in a designated Capacity Use Area. The application process is intended to assist the applicant in developing appropriate information necessary for the Department to evaluate the potential effect of the existing or proposed groundwater withdrawal on the water resources of the area. These guidelines are provided as a courtesy and all applications must comply with R.61-113, Groundwater Use and Reporting regulations.

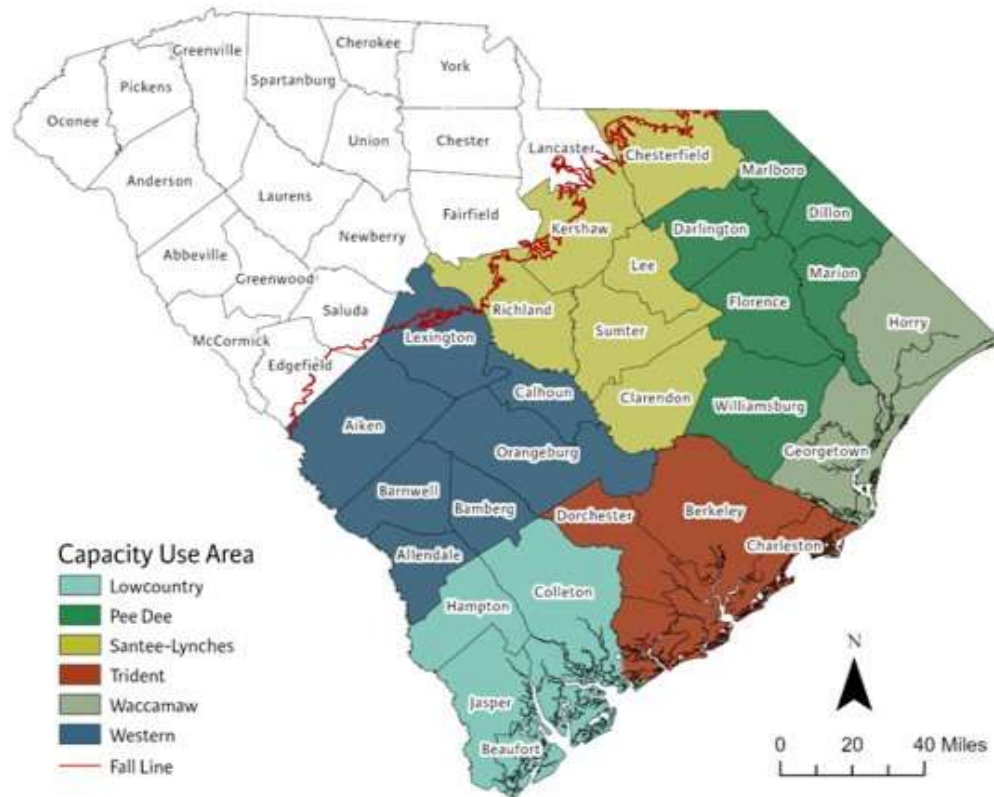
Not all sections will apply to every application. Please read carefully and complete only those sections which are applicable to your facility and/or operation. Some information may have been previously submitted to the Department and should be noted on the application as such. If you are unsure, it is better to submit the information again, or contact the Department to verify your facility's file information. As always, if there are any questions or concerns with the application or guidance document, please contact:

- Rebecca Morris, Lowcountry coordinator, 803-898-3952, Rebecca.Morris@des.sc.gov
- C. Luke McDurmon, Pee Dee coordinator, 803-898-4220, Carl.McDurmon@des.sc.gov
- Elaina King-Byrce, Santee-Lynches coordinator, 803-898-3575, Elaina.King-Byrce@des.sc.gov
- Pamela Wyant, Trident coordinator, 803-898-0190, Pamela.Wyant@des.sc.gov
- Gina Carney, Waccamaw coordinator, 803-898-3298, Gina.Carney@des.sc.gov
- Steven Martin, Western coordinator, 803-898-3563, Steven.Martin@des.sc.gov

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The Groundwater Withdrawal Permit Application guidance is for existing or proposed groundwater withdrawal within a designated Capacity Use Area. The following map depicts currently designated Capacity Use Area counties.



Step 1.

Determine if your groundwater withdrawal meets the permitting threshold of three (3) million gallons in a given month. For example:

- A well pumping at 70 gallons/minute 24 hours/day for thirty days will produce 3.024 million gallons (exceeding the threshold limit);
- Applying 1" of water per week for one month on 28 acres will produce 3.04 million gallons (exceeding the threshold limit);
- Filling a 2 acre pond with average depth of 5 feet requires 3.26 million gallons (exceeding the threshold limit);
- A full circle irrigation system (125 acres) at 80% application efficiency requires 879 gallons/minute to apply 0.3 inches/day, which equals 1.27 million gallon (exceeding the threshold limit in 3 applications).

The above examples are intended as a general guide and every withdrawal must be evaluated on an individual basis. The Department will work closely with individual applicants to determine the necessity of filing for a Notice of Intent (NOI), a Permit to Construct application, and/or a Permit to Operate a groundwater withdrawal system. Applicants with any questions can reach out to the coordinator in the appropriate Capacity Use Area (contact information on page 1).

Step 2.

Complete the Application for Groundwater Withdrawal Permit (form D-2504). This can be completed online through the Department's ePermitting system [here](#). Applicants are required to provide the Department sufficient documented evidence to aid in evaluating the effect of the existing or proposed groundwater withdrawal or use on the water resources of the Capacity Use Area. Generally, documented evidence will include (but may not be limited to):

1. Name, address, and phone number of applicant who shall be the owner and his applicable agent, professional engineer or professional geologist, as appropriate;
2. Location of all existing and/or proposed wells, properly identified, for which the permit is requested, marked on the best available map, which may be a portion or copy of a United States Geological Survey 7 ½ (seven and one-half) minute quadrangle map, latest county highway map, or more detailed map or aerial photography, where required by the Department, provided the map or aerial photography submitted is clearly identified;
3. The latitude and longitude of all wells, obtained from the location map or by acceptable Global Positioning System (GPS) instrumentation;
4. As-built construction details of all existing wells to include, but not limited to, the following:
 - Name of driller;
 - Date of drilling;
 - Total depth of well (in feet);
 - Diameter of drilled hole;
 - Diameter, depth, and type of casing;
 - Depth (length) of grouting;
 - Depth and diameter of well screen(s), if used, and the material, type, and diameter of screen openings;
 - Type of pump, size (horsepower), and performance curves;
 - Static water level and pumping water level; and
 - Number of hours per day the well(s) is pumped.

5. A completed SCDES Water Well Record (D-1903 Form) or other approved form and driller's logs, if available;
6. Copy of geophysical/mechanical logs, if available;
7. The ground elevation of the well(s), if available;
8. The location of all abandoned or unused well(s) owned or under the control of the applicant;
9. The proposed amount of groundwater withdrawal (in million gallons) per year;
10. A "Best Management Plan" for water use and water conservation designed to protect water quality and reduce water consumption to include, but not limited to, the following, as applicable;
 - Reasonable and appropriate conservation techniques, application processes, and alternate sources of water, including but not limited to, surface water(s) and/or availability of treated effluent, to minimize or eliminate groundwater sources;
 - Based on the current and/or proposed withdrawal rates, provide reasonable and appropriate documentation that the proposed water use is necessary to the anticipated needs of the applicant to include, but not limited to, the following;
 - a. Public Water Supply- by system, population served, anticipated growth, annual water use statistics (e.g., monthly average, peak summer/winter consumption);
 - b. Industrial Water Supply- by industry type, anticipated growth, and annual water use statistics (e.g., monthly average, peak summer/winter consumption);
 - c. Irrigation Water Supply- irrigated acreage, major crops (with irrigated acreage for each crop), water use by crop (per acre), calculated irrigation requirement (including available precipitation), critical period growth requirements, growing season, and nutrient and pest management strategy;
 - d. Golf Course Irrigation Water Supply- irrigated acreage (differentiating actual golf course areas and aesthetic landscaping), water use per acre, calculated irrigation requirement (including available precipitation), annual water use statistics (e.g., monthly average, peak summer/winter consumption), and nutrient and pest management strategy;
 - e. Aquaculture Water Supply- pond capacity (acre-feet), make-up water requirement, drain-fill periodicity, (e.g., monthly average, peak summer/winter consumption).
 - Maintenance schedule to preserve the integrity and efficient operation of water conveyance system(s); and

- A statement specifying the beneficial use of the groundwater being withdrawn as necessary to meet the reasonable needs of the applicant.
- 11. Historical water use information;
- 12. Availability of alternate water sources;
- 13. Any present or anticipated unreasonable adverse or potential adverse effects on other water uses or users, including, but not limited to, adverse effects on public use; and
- 14. Permitted effluent discharges in accordance with a valid NPDES Discharge Permit.

Construction Requirements

In addition to the information required above, applicants proposing new well construction or increasing the rated capacity of an existing well or wells shall provide proposed well construction details and technical specifications or pump specifications to include (but may not be limited to):

1. Name of driller, if known;
2. Date of drilling, if known;
3. Total depth of well (in feet);
4. Diameter of drilled hole;
5. Diameter, depth, and type of casing;
6. Depth of grouting – the minimum length of grout to protect the aquifer utilized, unless demonstrated that an alternate grout length is as protective, shall be:
 - Type II and III, the first confining bed (clay, marl, etc.) immediately above the aquifer being utilized or to within ten (10) feet of the uppermost screen when no confining bed is encountered;
 - Type IV, twenty (20) feet into firm limestone or firm marl, whichever is less.
7. Depth and diameter of the open hole or well screen(s), if used, and the material, type, and diameter of screen openings. The open hole or screen setting(s) shall not connect aquifers or zones with documented differences in water quality or result in or create the potential for contamination of any aquifer or zone or cause depletion or significant loss of head in any aquifer or zone;
8. Type of pump, size (horsepower), and performance curves;
9. Deep well airline of steel, iron, or heavy gauge copper material, or an access port not less than one-half inch in diameter, with screw cap for water-level measurements;
10. Proposed geophysical/mechanical logging; and

11. Filling, plugging, and sealing procedures for any well(s) that are to be abandoned.

In addition to the information and standards identified above, applicants proposing new well construction must comply with requirements established in S.C. R.61-44, South Carolina Individual Residential Well & Irrigation Permitting and comply with R.61-58, State Primary Drinking Water Regulation, as applicable.

Step 3.

Complete the Notice of Intent (NOI) Form (Form D-3724) for your county. Applicants are required to provide the Department sufficient information regarding the construction of any new wells, either in existing wells systems or alone and plan to withdraw 3-million gallons a month or more within a county within the Coastal Plain. These include all Capacity Use Area counties as well as: Edgefield and Saluda.

Once this is received by the Department, a sequential Groundwater Withdrawer registration number will be issued. Once the well is drilled, the owner of the well is responsible to submit a Well Driller's Record, DES Form 1903 (previously mentioned), and all other approved construction forms to the Department.

Information to be included on the NOI Forms includes:

1. Facility Name;
2. Facility Address;
3. Owner Name;
4. Owner Address;
5. Owner Telephone Number;
6. Owner Fax Number;
7. Owner E-Mail Address;
8. Contact Name;
9. Contact Address;
10. Contact Telephone Number;
11. Contact Fax Number;
12. Contact E-Mail Address;
13. Name and phone number of Agent completing application;
14. Purpose for Groundwater Use (Water Supply, Golf Course, Agricultural Irrigation, Industrial, Aquaculture, or Other) and amount of monthly withdrawal in million gallons;
15. Well Driller Information:
 - a. Company Name;

- b. Well Driller's Name;
- c. Company Address;
- d. Telephone Number;
- e. E-Mail Address;
- f. SC Certification Number;
- g. Fax Number;

16. Well Location/Construction and Site Details

- a. Address of the facility;
- b. Map of existing and proposed wells (irrigated areas if applicable);
- c. Latitude and Longitude for each well;

This form should be signed by the individual who will hold legal responsibility for the well.

Step 4.

Submit the completed application and all requested information and maps to:

BOW/Water Quantity Permitting Section
 2600 Bull Street
 Columbia, SC 29201
 Attention:

Gina Carney, for counties in the Waccamaw Capacity Use Areas,
Elaina King-Bryce, for counties in the Santee-Lynches Capacity Use Area,
Steven Martin, for counties in the Western Capacity Use Areas,
Luke McDurmon, for counties in the Pee Dee Capacity Use Area.
Rebecca Morris, for counties in the Lowcountry Capacity Use Area, and
Pamela Wyant, for counties in the Trident Capacity Use Area,

In considering all applications for groundwater withdrawal, the Department will consider (but may not be limited to):

1. The number of persons using an aquifer and the object, extent, and necessity of their respective withdrawals or uses;
2. The nature and size of the aquifer;
3. The physical and chemical nature of any impairment of the aquifer adversely affecting its availability or viability for other water uses, including public use;
4. The severity and duration of such impairment under foreseeable conditions;

5. The injury to public health, safety, or welfare which may result if such impairment were not prevented or abated;
6. The kinds of businesses or activities to which the various uses are related;
7. The relative importance and necessity of uses claimed by permit holders and permit applicants, or of the water use of the area, and the extent of injury or detriment caused or reasonably expected to be caused to other water uses, including public use;
8. Diversion from or reduction of flows in surface water or other aquifers;
9. An approved local or regional Groundwater Management Strategy; and
10. Any other relevant factors, such as, but not limited to, public comments and best available geologic and hydrologic information on the aquifer or aquifers of the area.

Where an applicant for a Groundwater Withdrawal Permit demonstrates to the Department's satisfaction that the groundwater withdrawal is reasonable and necessary to meet the applicant's requirements and where there are no unreasonable adverse effects on other water users, including public use, and including potential as well as current use, a Groundwater Withdrawal Construction Permit will be issued by the Department and may contain additional conditions on well construction, as deemed necessary or appropriate. The Department will also provide public notice wording to the applicant who will publish the notice, for one (1) day, in a newspaper of general circulation in the area of the proposed groundwater withdrawal. The applicant will provide to the Department an affidavit of publication from the newspaper within fifteen (15) days of initial publication and a copy of the published notice. The public notice provides for a thirty (30) day comment period for interested parties to make comment on the proposed groundwater withdrawal and well construction. The applicant may initiate construction concurrently with the public notice period or wait to the end of the period to determine the extent and nature of interest in the groundwater withdrawal.

Additional information may be obtained from the Department's webpage at: <https://des.sc.gov/programs/bureau-water/groundwater-management-planning/groundwater-use-reporting>