



What To Expect During an Inspection

Bureau of Environmental Health Services

South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control

Healthy People. **Healthy Communities.**

Basic Foundation of DHEC Inspections

- **Announced and Unannounced Visits**
- **Introduction with Point of Contact**
- **Full Facility Walk Through with Visual Inspection**
- **Record Review**
- **Discuss Findings/ Deficiencies During Closing Conference**
- **Written Report Will Be Provided**

Programs

- **Wastewater and Stormwater – Sonya Johnson**
- **Air Quality – Hollon Stillwell**
- **Hazardous Waste Management– Melinda Washington**
- **Drinking Water and Recreational Water – Shawn Williams**



Wastewater and Stormwater

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South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control

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What Makes Wastewater Inspection Different?

- **Types of Waste Water Treatment Plants (WWTP) plants**
- **National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit – discharge water quality**
 - **Treatment Process**
 - **Pre-treatment programs (IW, FOG)**
 - **Size of system**
 - **Customers, collection system, mechanical components, biological process**

What Makes Stormwater Inspection Different?

- NPDES Permit – Construction Sediment and Erosion Control
- Water Quality: You are not in control of treating-
you enforce the end product
- New Construction: Permitting
- Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan and BMP's
- IW
- Nonpoint Source Discharges vs. Point Source Discharges

What Makes Wastewater & Stormwater Different?

- **We inspect WWTP and collection systems- your final water quality**
- **Construction Sediment Erosion Control**
- **Industrial Stormwater: SWPPP**

Common Deficiencies/ Issues (Wastewater Treatment Plants)

- Facility Maintenance
- Conditions of the Plant/ Site
- Infrequency of facility checks
- Changes/Deviation of Plans
- Failure to Comply SWPPP
- Unaware of permit Requirements
- O&M/SWPPP Manuals
- Staff Turnover
- Know Your O&M

Common Deficiencies/ Issues (Wastewater Treatment Plants)

- Maintenance Schedules
- Liner/pipe/valves conditions
- Lagoon depth
- Pump stations/ 10% cleaning
- Creek Crossing/ Easement Clearing
- Pre-treatment program/ FOG
- Chemical Storage/cover

Common Deficiencies/ Issues (Wastewater Treatment Plants)

- **Does the boss know your needs?**
- **Staff Training (What and How often)**
- **Staff Certification**
- **Know the purpose of the job**
- **Know the SOP, O&M and Permit Requirements**

Common Deficiencies/issues (Stormwater)

- **Changes/ Deviation from original plans**
- **Mass Grading**
- **Major vs. Minor Modifications**
- **Failure to Comply SWPPP/BMP's: Who wrote the plan?**
- **Unaware of Permit Requirements.**
- **Active Rain Event Inspections**

Helpful Links

- <https://www.scdhec.gov/environment/water-quality>
- https://www3.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/cmom_guide_for_collection_systems.pdf
- wwresponse@dhec.sc.gov
- dwpert@dhec.sc.gov



Air Quality

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What Makes an Air Inspection Different?

- **Unannounced visits**
- **Multi-day, multi-person**
- **Copy of all associated permits**
- **Copy of all submitted reports**
- **Logs**
- **Calculations**
- **Testing reports**

Common Deficiencies/ Issues

- **Incomplete logs/paperwork**
- **Delayed calculations**
- **Missed testing and maintenance**
- **Unfamiliar/new site contacts**
- **New equipment**

Recommendations

- **Electronic tracking and notification**
- **Training/retraining of employees**
- **Technical Assistance (TA) visit**



Helpful Links

Air Quality Permitting Guidance

<https://www.scdhec.gov/environment/air-quality/guidance-emission-calculators-air-permits>

Air Quality Monitoring/Reporting Guidance

<https://www.scdhec.gov/environment/air-quality/air-quality-compliance-monitoring/monitoring-and-reporting-forms-guidance-0>



Hazardous Waste

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South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control

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What Makes Hazardous Waste Inspections Different?

- **Process Inspection vs. Permit Inspection**
 - **Unless a RCRA permitted facility, there is no permit**
 - **How is waste generated?**
 - **How is waste stored?**
 - **How is waste disposed of?**
 - **Photo(s) required for the inspection**

What Makes Hazardous Waste Inspections Different? (Cont.)

- We inspect **Hazardous Waste** and **Universal Waste**.
- We formerly inspected based on the actual generation status, we currently inspect based on what you determine your generator status is.

Common Deficiencies/ Issues

- **Open containers**
- **Improper labeling of containers**
- **Improper management of universal waste**
- **Aerosol can management**
- **Leaking container**
- **Waste determination documentation**
- **Training records/Untrained staff**

Common Deficiencies/ Issues

- **Unsigned disposal manifest**
- **Inconsistent weekly inspections**
- **Missing start dates in 90/180 day storage areas**
- **Holding waste past the 90/180 day storage time**
- **Inadequate aisle space**
- **Non-compliance with HW management plan**

Helpful Links

- <https://www.dhec.sc.gov/environment/land-management/hazardous-waste>
- <https://www.epa.gov/hw>
- <https://rcrainfo.epa.gov/rcrainfoprod/action/secured/login>



Drinking Water/ Recreational Water

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South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control

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What makes Drinking Water Inspections Different?

- **Inspection may be performed by regional or central office staff, depending on collection type**
- **Inspection Frequency**
- **Inspections aren't always scheduled in advance**
- **Sanitary Survey Manual available to the regulated public**
- **Water quality samples collected by SCDHEC personnel**

Common Deficiencies / Issues

- **Emergency Operations Plan**
- **System Maps Need Update**
- **Maintenance Issues: Piping, Pads, and Fences**
- **Valves Paved Over**
- **Water Audits**

What Makes a Recreational Waters Inspection Different?

- **Unannounced Inspection**
- **Violation cited on-site at the conclusion of inspection**
- **Facility may be closed as a result of the inspection**
- **Many deficiencies can be corrected in minutes**
- **Many items inspected are safety related and not environmental in nature**

Common Deficiencies/ Issues

- **Water Chemistry**
- **Insufficient or Incomplete Signage**
- **Incomplete Log Book**
- **Missing Drinking Water Fountain**
- **Emergency Notification Device Inoperable**
- **Missing or Damaged Safety Equipment**

Helpful Links

- https://www.scdhec.gov/sites/default/files/media/document/Ground_Water_Sanitary_Survey_Manual-2017.pdf
- <https://www.scdhec.gov/sites/default/files/media/document/R.61-51.pdf>



Questions

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DHEC Contacts

Local Office:

<https://www.scdhec.gov/ea-regional-offices>

DHEC, General Information

<https://www.scdhec.gov>

Phone: 803-898-DHEC (3432)



Emergency Contacts

Report Chemical Spill, Pollution

<https://www.scdhec.gov/report-it/reporting-chemical-spills-pollution>

Phone: 1-888-481-0125



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Thank You

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