

**OKLAHOMA POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM GENERAL PERMIT OKG59  
TO DISCHARGE WASTEWATER FROM SPLASH PADS**

**GENERAL PROVISIONS**

As provided by Title 27A O.S. §2-6-201 *et seq.* as amended, and the Rules of the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), operators of splash pads (also known as spray grounds, spray parks, spray pools, or spray pads) will be authorized to discharge wastewater within the boundaries of the State of Oklahoma in accordance with requirements and other conditions set forth in Parts I, II, and III hereof.

Each municipality or other operator is required to obtain an authorization to discharge wastewater (authorization) from the Executive Director of the DEQ to discharge splash pad wastewater. Owners or operators of discharging splash pads located within the boundaries of the State of Oklahoma must make a written request to the DEQ that they be authorized to discharge wastewater under this general permit and receive an authorization prior to commencing such discharge. Owners or operators of splash pads within the scope of this general permit who fail to make a written request to the DEQ are not authorized to discharge wastewater under this general permit.

This general permit covers splash pads (also known as spray grounds, spray parks, spray pools, or spray pads) that discharge to waters of the state. This permit does not cover splash pad discharges that are already covered by the Small MS4 Stormwater General Permit OKR04 or other OPDES permit.

Existing splash pads covered under the 2015 permit shall apply for renewal of coverage under this general permit, or apply for an individual permit, within 90 days of the effective date of this permit. Authorization under the 2015 permit will be administratively extended for a period not to exceed 90 days from the effective date of this permit.

Existing splash pads that are not currently permitted by the DEQ through individual wastewater discharge permits or the Small MS4 Stormwater General Permit shall apply for coverage under this general permit, or apply for an individual OPDES discharge permit, within 90 days of the effective date of this permit. New splash pads shall apply for coverage and obtain an authorization prior to conducting any of the activities regulated by this general permit.

The written request for an authorization shall include the name and legal address of the owner or operator. For each splash pad to be included in the authorization, the written request shall also include the location of the splash pad, the location of the point of discharge (outfall), the type of splash pad (flow-through or recirculating), along with any other information specified in the application form 2MG59.

Requirements contained in Part I hereof will apply to discharges of wastewater from splash pads. At no time shall the effluent cause a violation of Oklahoma's Water Quality Standards in the receiving stream. Splash pad discharges are considered to be non-significant sources of pollution until determined otherwise. Determination of substantial contribution may be through monitoring, complaints, or fish kills. If a discharge authorized under this permit is shown to be a significant contributor of pollution or to violate water quality standards protective of the designated beneficial uses of the receiving water, the authorization will be revoked and an individual permit will be required.

The permittee shall comply with all provisions of this general permit and any authorization issued pursuant to it.

Issuance of this general permit in no way or in any respect affects the permittee's civil or criminal responsibility regarding disposal of wastewater and/or residuals (sludge), except with respect to the permittee's legal responsibility under 27A O.S. §2-6-201 *et seq.* and DEQ Rules to obtain an authorization under this general permit.

This general permit supersedes and replaces the previous permit issued on October 5, 2015.

This general permit shall become effective on January 1, 2021.

This general permit and any authorizations issued under it shall expire at midnight, on December 31, 2025.

This is to certify that the wastewater discharges set forth in this general permit comply with the requirements of Oklahoma's Water Quality Standards, as amended, provided that the permittee maintains compliance with the conditions set forth in this permit and each splash pad is not determined to be a significant source of pollution.

Issued this 7<sup>th</sup> day of *December, 2020*.

For Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality

*for* *Karen Stule*  
Michael B. Moe, P.E., Engineering Manager  
Municipal Wastewater & Stormwater Permits Section  
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*Shellie R. Chard*  
Shellie R. Chard, Director  
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**PART I  
PERMIT CONDITIONS AND REQUIREMENTS**

**Permit Conditions and Requirements**

During the period beginning the effective date and lasting through the expiration date of this general permit, the permittee is authorized to discharge from all outfalls as described in the authorization. Wastewater discharges regulated by this general permit are wastewater from splash pads.

**Other Year Round Requirements**

- Discharges from recirculating splash pads must be dechlorinated prior to discharge.
- Permittee shall develop and maintain a pollution prevention and good housekeeping plan for each splash pad authorized to discharge under this general permit. Plan shall be made available to DEQ upon request.

Plan Recommendations:

- A. Post signs at the splash pad. For example, "No Dumping. Drains to Streams" for flow-through splash pads or "No Dumping. Recirculating System" for recirculating splash pads.
- B. Seek enactment of an ordinance or resolution prohibiting illicit discharges at splash pads. Develop a plan to detect and address illicit discharges.
- C. Seek enactment of an ordinance or resolution that governs the operation of splash pads that is protective of public health.
- D. Develop splash pad operation and maintenance (O&M) procedures. Procedures may address:
  1. Routine maintenance while in operation
  2. Cleaning schedules and waste disposal
  3. Opening procedures at the start of the season
  4. Closing procedures at the end of the season
  5. On-site chemical storage
  6. Water usage monitoring and record keeping

**NOTE: See Parts II and III for Additional Requirements.**

**PART II  
OTHER PERMIT REQUIREMENTS**

**A. Applicable Laws and Rules**

The DEQ Rules, as amended, are applicable to and are incorporated by reference into this general permit and any authorizations under it. The permittee is hereby given notice that this general permit is in all respects subject to compliance with and actions under any and all applicable and relevant terms, conditions, provisions and requirements and all amendments of the laws of the State of Oklahoma, the Department of Environmental Quality Rules, and Oklahoma's Water Quality Standards. The absence of any express reference within this general permit to any particular statutory requirement, rule(s), regulation(s), or standard(s) shall in no respect be deemed or construed to exempt or preclude the application of such requirement, rule(s), regulation(s), or standard(s) to this general permit of the permittee. By DEQ approval, grant and issuance of this general permit, permittee acknowledges responsibility to obtain correct and current copies of applicable DEQ Rules (as amended), provided, however, that permittee further acknowledges that any and all amendments thereto shall become a part of this general permit.

- B.** This general permit does not convey any exclusive privileges or authorize any injury to property or invasion of rights or any infringement of Federal, State, or local laws or regulations nor does it obviate the requirement to obtain permission from any landowners whose property will be affected by this general permit.
- C.** If DEQ determines that a splash pad is a significant contributor of pollution, authorization under this permit will be revoked, and an individual permit will be required.

**D. Re-Opener Clause**

The permit and any authorizations issued under this permit may be re-opened for modification or revocation and reissuance to require additional monitoring and/or effluent limitations where actual or potential exceedances of State water quality criteria are determined to be the result of the permittee's discharge to the receiving water, or a revised Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) is established for the receiving water, or when required as technology. Modification or revocation and reissuance of the permit shall follow regulations listed at 40 CFR Part 124.5.