



**pennsylvania**  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION

**BUREAU OF WASTE MANAGEMENT**

**DIVISION OF MUNICIPAL and RESIDUAL WASTE**

**GENERAL PERMIT WMGR109**

**PROCESSING USED OILS, GREASES, FATS AND SIMILAR  
MATERIALS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF BIOFUEL, INCLUDING  
BIODIESEL**

**Issued: March 9, 2026**

**Expires: March 9, 2036**

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PROCESSING USED OILS, GREASES, FATS AND SIMILAR MATERIALS FOR THE  
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**A. Description:**

The approval herein granted is limited to the processing of used restaurant oil, yellow grease, grease trap waste, oils and animal fat from food processing or rendering plants, waste from ethanol production, soybean soap stock, float grease (from wastewater treatment plants), and off-specification vegetable oils (“oil and grease waste”) to produce biofuel, including biodiesel, for beneficial use as fuel. The authorized processing is limited to filtration, deodorization using steam stripping, carbon absorption or other means, heating, decantation, distillation, transesterification, esterification, neutralization, water washing, and polishing using absorbents.

**B. Registration Requirements:**

All commercial processors that propose to operate under the terms and conditions of this general permit after the date of permit issuance must obtain a registration from the appropriate Department Regional Office (see attached list) prior to commencing authorized activities under this general permit. A completed application on forms provided by the Department and the application fee may be submitted electronically through the Department’s Public Upload with Electronic Payment website at:

<https://www.dep.pa.gov/DataandTools/ElectronicSubmissions/Pages/default.aspx>.

If an alternative method of submittal of the application and application fee is necessary, the appropriate Department Regional Office should be contacted for further instructions. No activities shall commence unless approved, in writing, by the Department.

**C. Definitions:**

*Biodiesel* – A fuel comprised of mono-alkyl esters of long-chain fatty acids derived from vegetable oils or animal fats, designated B100, and meeting the requirements of ASTM D 6751 or, for biodiesel to be shipped outside the United States, the specification for biodiesel fuel commonly used in the country where it will be shipped for use as fuel or blend stock.

*Biofuel* – A fuel produced under this general permit, including biodiesel.

*Commercial processor* – A person, business or other entity in the business of manufacturing biofuel, including biodiesel for sale.

**D. Operating Conditions:**

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1. Biofuel produced by the permittee is no longer a waste provided it meets one of the following:
  - a. the specification for B100 in ASTM D 6751 (Standard Specification for Biodiesel Fuel (B100) Blend Stock for Distillate Fuels), or
  - b. the specification for biodiesel fuel commonly used in the country where it will be shipped for use as fuel or blend stock, or
  - c. the specification in ASTM D 396 (Standard Specification for Fuel Oils), or
  - d. the specifications required by the combustion device in which it will be used.
  
2. Glycerin produced by the permittee is no longer a waste provided it is not accumulated speculatively pursuant to 25 Pa. Code § 287.1 and meets the specification in ASTM D 1257 (Standard Specification for High-Gravity Glycerin) or is shipped to a manufacturer for conversion into glycerin that will meet the specification in ASTM D 1257. (*Note: Any glycerin produced by the permittee and used as is as an ingredient in a manufacturing process, such as in soap or cosmetic production, is not a waste under the definition of "waste" in § 287.1 provided it is not accumulated speculatively.*)
  
3. Biofuels, including biodiesel, and glycerin not meeting the requirements in Conditions D.1. or D.2. must be managed as waste in accordance with the requirements in 25 Pa. Code Chapters 287 through 299.
  
4. A facility operating under this general permit shall not be located:
  - a. within 300 yards of a building owned by a school district or parochial school used for instructional purposes.
  - b. within 300 yards of a park or playground.
  - c. in the 100-year floodplain of waters of this Commonwealth, unless the Department approves in the permit a method of protecting the facility from a 100-year flood consistent with the Flood Plain Management Act (32 P. S. §§ 679.101 - 679.601) and the Dam Safety and Encroachments Act (32 P. S. §§ 693.1 - 693.27).
  
5. Upon cessation of permitted operations at the facility, the permittee shall assure removal of all wastes and provide for the processing, recycling, beneficial use, or disposal of wastes in accordance with the SWMA, the environmental protection acts and the regulations promulgated thereunder.
  
6. The permittee shall maintain at the permitted facility an updated copy of a Preparedness, Prevention, and Contingency (PPC) plan for the facility prepared in accordance with the most recent edition of the Department's "Guidelines for the Development and Implementation of Environmental Emergency Response Plans". The PPC plan shall be updated every 5 years or more frequently if necessary (e.g., if changes in phone numbers, equipment, or regulatory requirements occur).

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7. All activities conducted under the authorization granted in this permit shall be conducted in accordance with the permittee's application. Except to the extent the permit states otherwise, the permittee shall utilize materials as described in the permit application.
8. The permittee shall comply with the fugitive emissions regulations under 25 Pa. Code, Chapter 123 (relating to standards for contaminants) issued under the Air Pollution Control Act, the Act of January 8, 1960, P.L. 2119, 35 P.S. §4005, and shall comply with all the applicable provisions of 25 Pa. Code §§123.1 and 123.2 (relating to prohibition of certain fugitive emissions and fugitive particulate matter).
9. Nothing in this permit shall be construed to supersede, amend, or authorize a violation of any of the provisions of any valid and applicable local law, ordinance, or regulation, providing that said local law, ordinance, or regulation is not preempted by the Solid Waste Management Act (SWMA), 35 P.S. §§ 6018.101—6018.1001; and the Municipal Waste Planning, Recycling and Waste Reduction Act of 1988, 53 P.S. §§4000.101, et seq.
10. As a condition of this general permit and of the permittee's authority to conduct the activities authorized by this general permit, the permittee hereby authorizes and consents to allow authorized employees or agents of the Department, without advance notice or search warrant, upon presentation of appropriate credentials and without delay, to have access to and inspect all areas on which solid waste management activities are being, will be, or have been conducted. This authorization and consent shall include consent to collect samples of waste, soils, water, or gases; take photographs; perform measurements, surveys, and other tests; inspect any monitoring equipment; inspect the methods of operation and inspect and/or copy documents, books, and papers required by the Department to be maintained. This permit condition is referenced in accordance with Sections 6018.608 and 6018.610(7) of the SWMA, 35 P.S. §§ 6018.608 and 6018.610(7). This condition in no way limits any other powers granted under the SWMA.
11. Any independent contractors or agents retained by the permittee in the completion of activities authorized under this general permit shall be subject to compliance history review by the Department prior to performance of any activities, as specified by the SWMA.
12. Failure of measures herein approved to perform as intended, or as designed, or in compliance with the applicable laws, rules, and regulations and terms and conditions of this permit, for any reason, shall be grounds for the revocation or suspension of the permittee's approval to operate under this permit.
13. The activities authorized by this general permit shall not harm or present a threat of harm to the health, safety, or welfare of the people or environment of this Commonwealth. The Department may modify, suspend, revoke, and reissue the authorization granted in this general permit if it deems necessary to prevent harm

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or the threat of harm to the public health, and the environment or if they cannot be adequately regulated under the conditions of this general permit.

14. The permittee shall comply with the terms and conditions of this general permit and with the environmental protection acts to the same extent as if the activities were covered by an individual permit. The Department may require an individual permit be obtained if the permittee cannot comply with the conditions of this general permit or is conducting an activity that harms or presents a threat of harm to the health, safety, or welfare of the public or the environment of this Commonwealth.
15. This permit does not authorize and shall not be construed as an approval to discharge any waste, wastewater, or runoff from the site of processing to the land or waters of the Commonwealth.
16. Best Management Practices shall be implemented to divert storm water run-on from the storage area. Storm water runoff shall be managed in accordance with The Clean Streams Law and regulations promulgated thereunder. Prior to beginning operations at the facility, the operator must obtain all necessary storm water management permits.
17. The permittee shall maintain in force and affect a general liability insurance policy in accordance with 25 Pa. Code, Chapter 287, Subchapter E (relating to bonding and insurance requirements) to provide continuous coverage during operation of the facility and until the Department issues a final closure certification.
18. Equipment used for the processing and storage of used oils, greases, fats and similar materials shall be maintained in good operating condition. Daily inspections of each storage area and surrounding environs shall be conducted to determine compliance of the terms and conditions of this general permit and for evidence of failure, and to prevent spillage or release of oil and grease waste, biofuels, including biodiesel, or other materials resulting from the processing activities.
19. Storage of used oils, greases, fats and similar materials by the permittee shall be in a manner that complies with the requirements set forth in 25 Pa. Code, Chapter 299 (relating to storage and transportation of residual waste), and that ensures the following:
  - a. storage conditions that may cause the haborage, breeding, or attraction of vectors are prevented and eliminated;
  - b. other measures necessary to minimize and control the presence of vectors are taken;
  - c. if vectors are present, measures necessary to exterminate them are immediately taken;
  - d. odors are controlled and do not cause a nuisance to neighboring properties.

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20. The permittee shall inspect the incoming used oils, greases, fats and similar materials to ensure that it is free of hazardous waste or other materials.
21. The used oils, greases, fats and similar materials shall not be mixed with other types of solid wastes, including hazardous waste, municipal waste, special handling waste, or other residual waste, as the terms are defined in 25 Pa. Code §§ 271.1 and 287.1.
22. Used oils, greases, fats and similar materials and residues from processing shall not be accumulated speculatively as defined in 25 Pa. Code § 287.1.
23. Analytical testing required by this general permit shall be performed by a laboratory accredited under the Pennsylvania Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Act, Act of 2002, 27 Pa. C.S.A. §§ 4101-4113.

**E. Recordkeeping:**

1. The permittee shall maintain records of all analytical evaluations conducted in accordance with this permit, and records shall be made available to the Department upon request. Required records shall be retained for a minimum of 5 years. Records of analytical evaluations must include, at a minimum, the following for each sample: the dates of sampling and testing, sampling procedures utilized, name of the individual who collected the sample, the volume or weight of the sample, each parameter tested, the analytical results, the name of the analytical laboratory used, and the analytical methodologies employed.
2. The permittee shall maintain records of all waste accepted by the facility, and records shall be made available to the Department upon request. Required records shall be retained for a minimum of 5 years. Records of each source of incoming waste must include, at a minimum, the following: the name, address, and phone number of each source of incoming waste; the date of receipt; the quantity of waste received; the results of visual observations; and the name, address, and phone number of the destination of each outgoing shipment of waste. The permittee shall also maintain records of spills or releases that include, at a minimum, the following: the location, date, time, identification, and quantity of spilled or released material, and a description of how the material was cleaned up. The permittee shall also maintain records of all reports submitted to the Department or to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

**F. Reporting Requirements:**

1. Any person that operates under the provisions of this permit shall immediately notify the Department (see attached list) via certified mail of any changes in: the company name, address, owners, operators, and/or responsible officials of the company; land ownership and the right to enter and operate on any land occupied by a facility; the system used to process waste; compliance status, and

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the status of any permit issued by the Department or federal government under the environmental protection acts.

2. Persons operating under the provision of this general permit shall submit to the appropriate Department Regional Office (see attached list), an annual report on the beneficial use activities conducted under this permit by March 1 for the preceding calendar year. This report shall include the information required by Conditions E.1. and E.2.
3. In the event of a spill or release of oil and grease waste, biofuel, including biodiesel, or any other materials resulting from processing, the permittee shall take appropriate immediate action to protect the health and safety of the public and the environment. The following spills and releases of oil and grease waste, biofuel, including biodiesel, or any residue from processing must immediately be reported to the Department's Emergency Hotline at (717) 787-4343 and the appropriate DEP regional office:
  - a. a discharge where the spilled or released amount of oil and grease waste, biofuel, including biodiesel, or any residue from processing exceeds five gallons or,
  - b. a discharge of oil and grease waste, biofuel, including biodiesel, or any residue from processing, regardless of the volume where the discharge may reach surface waters.
4. The local police, fire department, or other appropriate state or local emergency response agencies shall be contacted immediately in the event of a fire, spill, or other hazard arising from the storage and curing of produced compost that threatens public health, safety, and welfare, or the environment, and whenever necessary in the event of personal injury related to such storage.

**G. Renewal:**

A permittee that plans to continue the operations authorized under this general permit, after the expiration date indicated on the approval for coverage page, shall file a complete application for permit renewal at least 180 days before the expiration date of this general permit unless permission has been granted by the Department for submission at a later date. The General Permit Number WMGR109 Registration Form and a renewal fee in the amount identified in 25 Pa. Code § 287.626 may be submitted electronically through the Department's Public Upload with Electronic Payment website at:

<https://www.dep.pa.gov/DataandTools/ElectronicSubmissions/Pages/default.aspx>

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If an alternative method of submittal of the renewal application and renewal application fee is necessary, the appropriate Department Regional Office should be contacted for further instructions.

In the event that a timely and complete application for renewal has been submitted and the Department is unable, through no fault of the permittee, to reissue the general permit or approval for coverage before its current coverage expiration date, the terms and conditions of the approved coverage will automatically continue and will remain fully effective and enforceable pending the issuance or denial of the renewal for permit coverage, provided the permittee is, and has been, operating in compliance with the terms and conditions of the general permit.

**Department of Environmental Protection  
Regional Offices  
(and Counties Served)**

- I. Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, Philadelphia.

**Southeast Regional Office**  
2 East Main Street  
Norristown, PA 19401  
Phone: (484) 250 - 5960

- II. Carbon, Lackawanna, Lehigh, Luzerne, Monroe, Northampton, Pike, Schuylkill, Susquehanna, Wayne, Wyoming.

**Northeast Regional Office**  
2 Public Square  
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18711-0790  
Phone: (570) 826 – 2516

- III. Adams, Bedford, Berks, Blair, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Fulton, Huntingdon, Juniata, Lancaster, Lebanon, Mifflin, Perry, York.

**Southcentral Regional Office**  
909 Elmerton Avenue  
Harrisburg, PA 17110-8200  
Phone: (717) 705 – 4706

- IV. Bradford, Cameron, Centre, Clearfield, Clinton, Columbia, Lycoming, Montour, Northumberland, Potter, Snyder, Sullivan, Tioga, Union.

**Northcentral Regional Office**  
208 West 3<sup>rd</sup> Street - Suite 101  
Williamsport, PA 17701  
Phone: (570) 327 – 3653

- V. Allegheny, Beaver, Cambria, Fayette, Greene, Somerset, Washington, Westmoreland.

**Southwest Regional Office**  
400 Waterfront Drive  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4745  
Phone: (412) 442 – 4000

- VI. Armstrong, Butler, Clarion, Crawford, Elk, Erie, Forest, Indiana, Jefferson, Lawrence, McKean, Mercer, Venango, Warren.

**Northwest Regional Office**  
230 Chestnut Street  
Meadville, PA 16335-3481  
Phone: 814-332-6848