

ANNOUNCEMENT: NEW GENERIC PERMITS AVAILABLE FOR DOMESTIC WASTEWATER FACILITIES

Effective February 7, 2006, two new generic permits are available for certain types of small domestic wastewater facilities that are seeking renewal of their wastewater permit. A generic permit is a permit that is established by rule for facilities that have similar types of discharges, operations, monitoring requirements, and effluent limitations. A generic permit is used to streamline the permitting process and to promote greater statewide permitting consistency, while providing the same level of public health and environmental protection as an individual permit. An eligible facility may apply for coverage under a generic permit as an option to applying for an individual permit.

The two new generic permits focus on facilities that have permitted flows less than 100,000 gallons per day and discharge solely to either a Part II Reuse System (Slow Rate/Restricted Access Land Application System) or to a Part IV Reuse System (Rapid Rate Infiltration Basin and Absorption Field System). Though the primary focus of the new generic permits is based on the size of the facility and the type of discharge, there are other requirements that a facility must meet in order to be eligible for these generic permits. These additional eligibility requirements can be found in the new generic permit rule, Rule 62-621.500(2), F.A.C.

Some of the benefits for a facility to use a generic permit in lieu of an individual permit are listed below:

- Shorter permit application;
- Shorter permit and certainty of the permit conditions;
- Less paperwork;
- Quicker permitting process; and
- Less costly consultant fees

If your facility is interested in finding out more about the new generic permits, the Department encourages you to review Rule 62-621.500(2), F.A.C., for the application and eligibility requirements. If you have any questions regarding the new generic permits, please contact the appropriate District Office or delegated local program.