



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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DEQ to work with local waste water facilities

BATON ROUGE - The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality has begun to issue, or revoke and reissue water permits to local waste water treatment facilities in the Pontchartrain Basin. DEQ recommends that these parishes and municipalities work with the agency as it relates to new and existing discharges of treated sanitary waste water.

Under the Louisiana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System program, part of the Clean Water Act, DEQ has the authority to ensure water bodies meet water quality standards.

There has been an increase in the Basin in the installation of small sewage treatment facilities by private utility companies to accommodate the demand of new construction. This current pattern will cause DEQ and local governments to deny some future permits relating to sanitary waste water discharge if the discharge will cause a water body to fail to meet water quality standards.

“As growth and development continues, so does the need for adequate sanitary wastewater treatment, said DEQ Assistant Secretary, Chuck Brown. “Because many parishes and municipalities have experienced such large growth over a short period of time, publicly provided sewage treatment has not been able to keep pace with the demand necessitated by new development.”

For more information, please visit www.deq.louisiana.gov or contact Aimee’ Killeen 225-219-3073 or Gary Aydell 225-219-3002 with DEQ’s Water Permits Division.