

Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District's Sewer Use Bylaw (GVS&DD)

The purposes of the GVS&DD Sewer Use Bylaw include:

- a) protecting the Sewers and Sewage Facilities from damage and promoting the efficient and cost-effective operation of the Sewers and Sewage Facilities,
- b) promoting Biosolids quality,
- c) protecting human and animal health and safety,
- d) enabling the District to remain in compliance with laws and regulatory instruments to which it is subject, and
- e) protecting the environment.

The Bylaw specifies when an operation requires a Waste Discharge Permit:

- discharges 300 m³ in a 30 day period, or
- discharges contaminants exceeding the Bylaw Restricted Waste Criteria.

Waste discharge permits specify the terms and conditions of the discharge including discharge limits and monitoring requirements. On the other side of the page is a list of typically applied limits that are specified in Waste Discharge Permits (keeping in mind that limits may vary between permits, depending on the specifics of the discharge, the constraints in the receiving sewer system and other site specific considerations).

Permit holders are also required to regularly monitor the volume and contents of their liquid waste and submit these test results to the Greater Vancouver Regional District staff for review. Permitting and Enforcement Officers carry out random sampling inspections to confirm the accuracy of the self-monitoring tests. They also conduct site inspections to inspect treatment works, confirm liquid waste sampling points and to evaluate the operations or processes that the company uses.

The District also may restrict the amount of wastewater discharged to sewer to protect the public and workers from Sanitary Sewer Overflows. This happens when the flow entering the sewer pipes exceeds the capacity of the pipes to convey it to the wastewater treatment plants. This leads to sewage flowing from manholes and pump stations to streets or homes.

Therefore, the District usually limits the discharge of wastewater to the sanitary sewer. This is especially valid in open sites such as those that may be found in boatyards.

For more information about the GVS&DD Sewer Use Bylaw, please contact Jeff Gogol at the Greater Vancouver Regional District by telephone at 604-436-6731 or by email at jgogol@gvrd.bc.ca.

**Typically Applied Criteria for Discharges to the
Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District's Sanitary Sewer System**

Parameter	Authorized Range or Maximum Limit
Ammonia (as Nitrogen)	60 mg/L
Chlorinated Phenols	0.05 mg/L
Dissolved Organic Halides	1.0 mg/L
Food Waste Particle Size	0.5 cm
Formaldehyde	40 mg/L
Oil & Grease (hydrocarbons)	15.0 mg/L
Oil & Grease (total)	150 mg/L
pH	5.5 - 10.5
Tetrachloroethylene	0.7 mg/L
Total Aluminum	50.0 mg/L
Total Arsenic	1.0 mg/L
Total Benzene/Ethylbenzene/Toluene/Xylenes	1.0 mg/L
Total Boron	50.0 mg/L
Total Cadmium	0.2 mg/L
Total Chromium	4.0 mg/L
Total Cobalt	5.0 mg/L
Total Copper	2.0 mg/L
Total Cyanide	1.0 mg/L
Total Iron	10.0 mg/L
Total Lead	1.0 mg/L
Total Manganese	5.0 mg/L
Total Mercury	0.05 mg/L
Total Molybdenum	1.0 mg/L
Total Nickel	2.0 mg/L
Total Phenols	1.0 mg/L
Total Polynuclear Aromatic Hydrocarbons	0.05 mg/L
Total Silver	1.0 mg/L
Total Sulphate	1500 mg/L
Total Sulphide	1.0 mg/L
Total Suspended Solids	600 mg/L
Total Zinc	3.0 mg/L
Trichlorethene	0.5 mg/L
Vinyl Chloride	0.2 mg/L