



Hampton Roads Sanitation District
Alcohol Beverage Manufacturing Best Management Practice

This Best Management Practice (BMP) is issued in accordance with all terms and conditions of the Hampton Roads Sanitation District Industrial Wastewater Discharge Regulations, and in accordance with any applicable provision of Federal or State law or regulation.

The **Alcohol Beverage Manufacturing BMP** is applicable to facilities discharging alcoholic beverage manufacturing wastewater into the HRSD sanitary sewer system.

Effective Date: July 1, 2016
Revised Date: October 1, 2025

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of stylized initials and a surname, positioned above a horizontal line.

General Manager
(By Direction)

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK



Best Management Practice (BMP) for Alcohol Beverage Manufacturing

1. Purpose

This BMP is a combination of practices which are applicable to manufacturers of alcoholic beverages, such as breweries, distilleries, wineries and cideries. HRSD has determined this to be an effective, practicable means of protecting human health and the sewerage system by preventing or reducing the release of toxic and hazardous pollutants from spills, leaks, disposal, and manufacturing processes. BMP's are a written control mechanism and shall be enforceable in accordance with HRSD's Industrial Wastewater Discharge Regulations and the Enforcement Response Plan (ERP), which are considered a part of this BMP.

2. Prohibited Discharges

Wastewater with a pH lower than 5.0 SU is prohibited from discharge to the sewerage system. Wastewater with a pH greater than or equal to 12.5 SU may be discharged; however, it is considered hazardous waste and must be reported to HRSD via the Hazardous Waste Notification Form. Wastewater that requires pH neutralization prior to discharge may be adjusted by use of containment and waste mixing or the addition of acid/caustic. Diluting wastewater with water to neutralize is prohibited.

Unusable batches of product may be discharged to the sewerage system once the pH has been neutralized and HRSD has been notified. HRSD may place restrictions on this discharge, such as flow rates, volumes, and times, if deemed necessary to protect HRSD treatment plant operations. All batches shall be recorded in the discharge pH logbook along with the volume of discharge in gallons.

Condensate discharge to the sanitary sewer is prohibited unless otherwise approved by HRSD's Pretreatment and Pollution Prevention (P3) Department as per Section 301 of the HRSD Industrial Wastewater Discharge Regulations. Refer to the P3 Department Condensate Policy to determine if condensate may be approved. Any approved condensate discharges to the sanitary sewer are billed on the annual wastewater volume using the current wastewater treatment rate found in HRSD's Rate Schedule.

Solid waste, such as spent yeast, grains, hops, must, and any residual materials removed from any industrial pretreatment device(s) (i.e., neutralization pit, solids separator, grease control device [GCD], etc.) shall not be discharged directly or indirectly into the sewerage system. GCD residuals shall not be discharged directly into the HRSD system; however, food service GCD residuals may be discharged indirectly by waste haulers holding HRSD Indirect Wastewater Discharge Permits at locations authorized by HRSD. All pretreatment devices shall be maintained in accordance with manufacturer's specifications at all times. All floor and trench drains shall be equipped with screens, filters, or baskets to minimize accidental discharge of solids to the sewerage system.

3. Chemical Usage

All on-site chemicals shall be properly labeled and stored away from floor drains or placed in secondary containment to prevent accidental spills from reaching the sewerage system. Chemicals must not be stacked on top of one another. HRSD shall be notified immediately of any spills reaching drains leading to the sewerage system.

Safety Data Sheets (SDS) for all chemicals discharged to the sewerage system including, but not limited to, caustics, acids, sanitizers, passivators, floor cleaners, and manufacturer samples, shall be submitted to this office for review. All chemicals are deemed unapproved and shall not be discharged to the sewerage system until correspondence indicating otherwise is received from HRSD.

4. Monitoring Requirements and Record Keeping

To ensure that wastewater is in the acceptable range before discharge, a representative sample of the wastewater must be analyzed for pH using either an electronic pH measuring equipment (i.e. pH meter) or full range (0-14 SU) pH strips. If the pH is outside of the acceptable range, the wastewater must be neutralized prior to discharge.

4.1 pH Meter Calibration Logbook

The use of an electronic pH measuring device (pH meter) requires calibration prior to the first use of each day in accordance with manufacturer's specifications and instructions and must be documented in a pH meter calibration logbook. This logbook, or digital record, must contain: the meter serial number; date of calibration (MM/DD/YYYY); employee initials; time of calibration; pH results of all buffer solution standards; and, if the calibration check met acceptance

criteria. The logbook is not required to be submitted to this office but shall be maintained on-site for the most current three year period and shall be available for review by HRSD personnel at all times. All calibrations must be conducted with fresh, unexpired buffer. If the buffer solution does not have an expiration date listed by the manufacturer, the open date must be written on the bottle, and the buffer solution is considered 12 months after opening. The pH must be measured within 15 minutes of sample collection.

If using pH measuring strips, they must be full range in measurement, used prior to their expiration date, and stored in a cool, dry place.

4.2 Discharge pH Logbook

A discharge pH logbook, or digital record, must be maintained indicating at a minimum: the date of discharge (MM/DD/YYYY); employee initials; the type of tank the wastewater came from; the time the sample was collected; the time the sample was analyzed (applicable for pH meter only); the discharge pH; and any associated comments such as how the pH was neutralized. If no discharge to the sewerage system occurs in any calendar month, log "No Discharge during" followed by the month and the year (MM/YYYY), and employee initials. The logbook is not required to be submitted to this office but shall be maintained on-site for the most current three year period and shall be available for review by HRSD personnel at all times.

5. Additional Information and Resources

All correspondence and submittals must be sent via email to p3data@hrsd.com or by mail to:

HRSD
P3 Department
Attention: Alcohol BMP Program
PO Box 5902
Virginia Beach, VA 23471-0902

Please refer to <https://www.hrsd.com/alcohol-bmp> for information regarding:

Learn More:

[Annual Pollution Prevention \(P2\) Awards](#)

[Billing Deductions through the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau \(TBB\)](#)

[High Strength Waste Surcharge Billing](#)

Forms:

[Hazardous Waste Notification Form](#)

[pH Discharge Log](#)

[pH Calibration Log](#)

Additional Information:

Code of Federal Regulations [Title 40 Part 136](#), [Part 261](#), [Part 403](#)

[HRSD Industrial Wastewater Discharge Regulations](#)

[P3 Enforcement Response Plan \(ERP\)](#)

[HRSD Rate Schedule](#)

[Waste Disposal Companies](#)

[HRSD Permitted Grease Haulers](#)

[P3 Department Condensate Policy](#)