

# Georgia-Pacific Camas Mill National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Draft Renewal Permit and Fact Sheet



Photo courtesy of Mady Lyon, Ecology

## Comments accepted:

Thursday, January 30, 2025,  
12:01 am to Thursday, March 13,  
2025, 11:59 pm

## Submit comments:

[Online:](#)



[By mail to:](#)

Mady Lyon  
SWM, Industrial Section  
PO Box 47600  
Olympia, WA 98504-7600  
Phone: (360) 628-3250

Or orally at the virtual hearing on  
March 4, 2025, on ZOOM. Please  
[register](#).

Site info:

<https://ecology.wa.gov/georgia-pacific-camas>

## General Information

Georgia-Pacific's (G-P) Camas Mill makes paper products from purchased pulp. Ecology is proposing to renew Georgia-Pacific Camas Mill's water quality discharge permit, also called a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. G-P collects and treats its process wastewater and potentially contaminated stormwater before discharging to the Camas Slough and Columbia River.

## Location

Georgia-Pacific's Camas Mill is a paper mill located at 401 NE Adams Street. The manufacturing complex is bound on three sides by the City of Camas, Washington. The mill site is heavily developed and lies north of the Camas Slough (an arm of the Columbia River that connects to the Washougal River). The mill also has operations on Lady Island south of the Camas Slough and fronts the Columbia River. The island is only partially developed and hosts the wastewater treatment system and two landfills.



## Background

G-P's Camas Mill is a 661-acre paper manufacturing complex established in 1883. It began as a pioneer newsprint mill and evolved into a 700 tons/day integrated communications paper and tissue paper mill. The mill ceased pulping operations in 2018 and now purchases pulp from an outside source to manufacture approximately 111 tons of paper products each day.

## Changes to the Permit

The draft proposed renewal permit contains more stringent treated wastewater discharge limits for biochemical oxygen demand (BOD<sub>5</sub>), solid particles (TSS), and pH. Ecology also removed the limit associated with bleaching operations at the mill as the Kraft process which used bleaching ended in 2018. Additional proposed changes to the permit include:

- A study to evaluate if G-P Camas is sending PFAS to the wastewater treatment plant.
- Updating the mixing zone study to reflect the changes to the treated wastewater discharge after the Kraft pulping operations ended in 2018.
- New annual E.coli monitoring, and
- Weekly rainfall monitoring.

## Where to find Documents

### Document review locations:

#### Camas Public Library

625 NE 4<sup>th</sup> Ave

Camas, WA 98607

Phone: (360) 834-4692

Hours:

Monday - Wednesday 10 am to 8 pm

Thursday - Saturday 10 am to 6 pm

Sundays: Closed

#### Department of Ecology, Headquarters

300 Desmond Dr SE

Lacey, WA 98503

Phone: (564) 669-4474

By appointment

#### Online

[Permit](#)

[Fact Sheet](#)

## Public Hearing

A virtual public meeting, followed by a hearing to accept oral comments, will take place March 4, 2025, starting at 5:30 p.m. on ZOOM. Please [register](#) online. Registration is required. A link to the hearing will be emailed to you after you have registered.

## What happens next?

Once the comment period ends, we will review all comments received and make a final decision on the permit.

## Interested Parties List

If you would like to be added to the list of interested parties for G-P Camas and receive updates on Ecology's Industrial Section actions at the site, contact Tara Roberts at 360-280-4325 or [tara.roberts@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:tara.roberts@ecy.wa.gov).

## ADA Accommodation

To request an ADA accommodation, contact Ecology by phone at 360-407-6831 or email at [ecyadacoordinator@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:ecyadacoordinator@ecy.wa.gov), or visit <https://ecology.wa.gov/accessibility>. For Relay Service or TTY call 711 or 877-833-6341.