



**St. Joseph, Missouri - Water Protection Division
Frequently Asked Questions
from New Industrial Dischargers**



What are allowable pollutant concentrations in industrial wastewater discharged to the City of St. Joseph, MO Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW)?

The narrative criteria that industrial wastewater must conform to are located in St. Joseph City Code § 29-156, General Discharge Prohibitions which can be viewed at the following web address:

www.stjoemo.info/index.aspx?NID=206

The numeric criteria that industrial wastewater must conform to are located in St. Joseph City Code § 29-157, Specific Prohibitive Discharge Limitations

The maximum allowable pollutant concentrations found in that ordinance are as follows:

<u>Pollutant</u>	<u>mg/L</u>
Arsenic -----	0.62
Cadmium -----	0.07
Chromium -----	4.57
Copper -----	1.64
Cyanide -----	0.38
Mercury -----	0.14
Molybdenum -----	0.45
Lead -----	0.53
Nickel -----	0.99
Selenium -----	0.75
Silver -----	1.75
Sulfide -----	0.50
Zinc -----	3.00
Biochemical Oxygen Demand ₅ (BOD)-----	1,000
Total Suspended Solids (TSS) -----	1,200
Ammonia -----	100
Fats, Oils, & Greases (FOG) -----	200

pH must be maintained within the range of 5.0 – 10.5 standard units at all times



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Can exceptions be made to the General and Specific Discharge Prohibitions found in St. Joseph City Code § 29?

The St. Joseph City Code does include provisions for applying for an exception to the Specific and Narrative Discharge Prohibitions in Section 29-189 Limit Variance Procedure. This process is conducted on a case by case basis and approval of a variance is not guaranteed simply by applying for it. To be granted a variance the following conditions must be met at a minimum:

1. The applicant must successfully demonstrate that to comply with the General or Specific Discharge Prohibition for a specific pollutant is either not possible or is economically unfeasible given the nature of the wastewater to be generated.
2. The POTW must be fully capable of conveying and treating (removing) the specific pollutant at no detriment to the collection or treatment system or to the quality of final effluent discharged to the Missouri River.
3. The applicant must be willing to potentially pay higher wastewater treatment costs associated with a variance if applicable.

Note that, when applying for a variance, the burden of proof that the variance should be approved falls entirely upon the applicant.

Will I be required to install wastewater pretreatment equipment and facilities?

If your industrial wastewater is considered to be of a higher strength than normal domestic sewage and/or contains toxic pollutants not found in domestic sewage the installation of wastewater pretreatment facilities may be required prior to being allowed to discharge. St. Joseph City Code § 29-158 Pretreatment, section (a) reads as follows:

Users shall provide necessary wastewater treatment or flow equalization facilities as required to comply with this division and other requirements imposed by the director and shall achieve compliance with all pretreatment standards within the time limitations as specified by the applicable pretreatment regulations. Any facilities required to pretreat wastewater to a level acceptable to the city shall be provided, operated and maintained at the user's expense. Detailed plans showing the pretreatment facilities and operating procedures shall be submitted to the city for review and shall be acceptable to the city before construction of the facility. The review of such plans and operating procedures will in no way relieve the user from the responsibility of modifying the facility as necessary to produce an effluent acceptable to the city under the provisions of this division. Any subsequent changes in the pretreatment facilities or method of operation shall be reported to and be acceptable to the city prior to the user's initiation of the changes.



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What are the costs for discharging industrial wastewater to the City of St. Joseph, MO POTW?

Per St. Joseph City Code § 29-237 Schedule and Application of User Charges, section (c) Commercial and Industrial Users – Applicable Charges and the June 2018 Revenue Requirements and Cost of Service Rates document prepared by Black and Veatch for the City of St. Joseph, MO, the costs for industrial wastewater discharge within St. Joseph City Limits are as follows:

Base Monthly Service Charge -----	\$37.69
Flow Service Charge -----	\$5.57/100 cubic feet
 <u>Pollutant Extra Strength Surcharge Fees</u>	
BOD in excess of 300mg/L -----	\$0.254/lb
TSS in excess of 350mg/L -----	\$0.196/lb
FOG in excess of 100mg/L -----	\$0.286/lb
Ammonia in excess of 30 mg/L -----	\$0.105/lb

In addition to the costs for discharge of industrial wastewater to the POTW, facilities that are required to maintain a Wastewater Contribution Permit through St. Joseph’s Industrial Pretreatment Program should consider sampling and analytical costs for operational control monitoring as well as for permit-required monitoring and reporting.