

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

# EPA CWA Inspection and Enforcement



**What to expect  
when EPA shows  
up at your door**

# Who will inspect my construction project?

- Project is on tribal land – EPA is the permitting authority.
- Project on state land – State is the permitting authority.
- Project may include both state and tribal lands.
- Others – local tribal requirements, DOT requirements.





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# EPA Inspection Process

- Typically EPA sends letter announcing time and date of inspection.
- EPA has the authority to conduct an inspection unannounced.
- Site Visit
  - Opening conference – overview of the site
  - Review SWPPP and storm water inspection reports
  - Tour site
  - Closing Conference

# Walk Through of EPA Inspection Checklist

- [Construction SW insp form.pdf](#)



# What can I do to be prepared for an inspection?

- Have appropriate people available.
- Have paperwork ready.
- Have prepared any questions about the permit requirements or other compliance concerns.



# Information Letters

- To gain further information about a construction site, EPA may issue a CWA 308 letter.
- Provide required information by the due date.
- If extension is needed ask early.
- Ask any clarifying questions of the EPA contact.
- When submitting information, don't forget to sign certification statement.





# Enforcement

- If a construction site is not in compliance, EPA has several tools:
  - Compliance Assistance Letter (tribal entity only)
  - Order or Order on Consent
  - Penalty Action (Administrative or Judicial)

