

## General information

**Public comment period begins:** March 25, 2024

**Public comment period ends:** May 24, 2024

**Current permit issued:** August 12, 2008

**Current permit expiration date:** July 31, 2013

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) Commissioner has made a preliminary determination to reissue this permit for a term of approximately five years.

**Name and address of Permittee:**

City of Spring Grove  
PO Box 218  
Spring Grove, MN 55974-0218

**Facility name and location:**

Spring Grove Wastewater Treatment Facility  
500 1<sup>st</sup> Ave SW  
Spring Grove, MN 55974  
Houston County  
T101N, R07W, Section 014

**MPCA contact person:**

Nancy Heskett  
Municipal Division  
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency  
7381 Airport View Dr SW  
Rochester, MN 55902  
Phone: 507-206-2605  
Email: [nancy.heskett@state.mn.us](mailto:nancy.heskett@state.mn.us)

File manager phone: 651-757-2728 or  
1-844-828-0942

A draft permit is available for review on the MPCA Public Notices webpage at <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publicnotices>. Additional materials relating to the issuance of this permit are available for inspection by appointment at any MPCA office (<https://www.pca.state.mn.us/about-mPCA/contact-us>) between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. The MPCA will mail or email a copy of the draft permit upon request. Comments, petitions, and other requests must be received at the MPCA in writing on or before the public comment period end date and U.S. Mail comments must be received by 4:30 p.m.

**Watershed:** Upper Iowa River

**Receiving water:** Unnamed creek - Class 7, 3, 4A, 4B, 5, 6 water

## Description of permitted facility

The existing Facility has a continuous discharge from SD 004 to an unnamed creek to North Bear Creek. The treatment plant is a class C facility.

The facility is designed to treat:

- an average wet-weather (AWW) flow of 0.378 million gallons per day (MGD);
- five-day carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand (CBOD<sub>5</sub>) of 394 pounds per day (lb/day); and
- total suspended solids (TSS) of 508 lb/day.

The facility consists of two lift stations, bar screen, two primary clarifiers, trickling filter, two secondary clarifiers, chlorine contact tank, aerobic digester, and biosolids holding tank. There are three bypass points that are locked and manually controlled.

The SD 005 discharge is a result of contaminated groundwater being pumped out of the city's old drinking water supply well (City well No. 1). This water is discharged to an unnamed creek to North Bear Creek.

The preliminary determination to reissue this wastewater permit is tentative.

## Procedure for public participation

As stated in Minn. R. chs. 7000 and 7001, there are three formal procedures for public participation in the MPCA's consideration of this matter. Interested persons may:

- 1) Submit written comments on the draft permit.
- 2) Petition the MPCA to hold a public informational meeting.
- 3) Petition the MPCA to hold a contested case hearing.

## Submitting written comments

Comments may be submitted:

- 1) Online at <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publiccomments>; or
- 2) By U.S. postal mail to the following address:

Nancy Heskett  
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency  
7381 Airport View Dr SW  
Rochester, MN 55902

Submitted comments or petitions must state:

- 1) Your interest in the permit application or the draft permit.
- 2) The action you wish the MPCA to take, including specific references to the section of the draft permit you believe should be changed.
- 3) The reasons supporting your position, stated with sufficient specificity as to allow the MPCA to investigate the merits of the position.

## Public informational meeting

A public informational meeting is an informal meeting during which interested persons can ask questions concerning the proposed facility. MPCA staff will be present to provide information. If an interested person would like the MPCA to hold a public informational meeting, the person should include all information identified above and in addition include a statement of the reasons the person desires the MPCA to hold a public informational meeting and the issues that the person would like the agency to address at the public informational meeting.

## Contested Case Hearing

A contested case hearing is a formal proceeding before an administrative law judge empowered to advise the MPCA regarding issues of fact. As described in Minn. R. 7000.1800, persons who submit petitions for a contested case hearing must also state the issues they propose to address in a contested case hearing, the specific relief requested or resolution of the matter, and the reasons (which may be in the form of proposed findings) supporting an MPCA decision to hold a contested case hearing. Failure to comply with these rules exactly may result in a denial of the request. To the extent known, the petitioner may also submit a list of prospective witnesses to be called at a hearing, a proposed list of publications, references, or studies to be introduced at a hearing and the approximate time required for the petitioner to present the matter at a hearing. The decision whether to hold a contested case hearing will be made under Minn. R. 7000.1900.