

## General information

**Public comment period begins:** July 24, 2024  
**Public comment period ends:** August 23, 2024  
**Current permit issued:** June 18, 2018  
**Current permit expiration date:** May 31, 2028

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) Commissioner has made a preliminary determination to modify this permit for a term of approximately 10 years.

<b>Name and address of Permittee:</b>	<b>Facility name and location:</b>	<b>MPCA contact person:</b>
Whispering Ridge Homeowners Association of Zimmerman Inc 8100 Old Cedar Ave S, Ste 300 Bloomington, MN 55425-1858	Whispering Ridge Homeowners Association of Zimmerman Inc Livonia Township Sherburne County T034N, R26W, Section 019	Jon Kolstad Municipal Division Minnesota Pollution Control Agency 7678 College Rd, Ste 105 Baxter, MN 56425 Phone: 218-316-3924 Email: <a href="mailto:jon.kolstad@state.mn.us">jon.kolstad@state.mn.us</a>

A draft modified permit is available for review on the MPCA Public Notices webpage at <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/get-engaged/public-comments>. 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 modified 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:** Mississippi River - St. Cloud

## Description of Whispering Ridge Homeowners Association of Zimmerman, Inc.

This facility consists of two treatment systems; the East Side and the West Side which service a development of single-family homes separated by County State Aid Highway 1.

The West Side System discharges from WS 006 to land via drainfield. The facility is a Class C.

The East Side System discharges from WS 011 to land via drainfield. The facility is a Class C.

Together, the facility is designed to treat:

- an average wet weather (AWW) flow of 0.04545 million gallons per day (MGD);
- five-day carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand (CBOD<sub>5</sub>) of 35.6 pounds per day (lb/day);
- total suspended solids (TSS) of 10.3 lb/day; and
- total nitrogen (TN) of 6.5 lb/day.

The West Side facility consists of a series of four 19,000-gallon Xerxes single-compartment fiberglass septic tanks before flowing to a 19,000-gallon Xerxes single-compartment fiberglass recirculation tank. The recirculation tank alternately directs flows to one of five Advantex geo-textile filter modules, then to a four-way splitter box where a portion of the flow is returned to the first septic tank in series to enhance denitrification while the remaining flow is directed back to the recirculation tank and into a recirculating splitter valve placed in an access riser above the tank. The splitter valve allows the returning filtrate to drain back into the recirculation tank during low flow periods of the day. During the high flow periods, the splitter valve directs a portion of the filtrate to a separate 19,000-gallon dosing tank for disposal to a pressurized dispersal bed. The dispersal bed for the West Side System is 21,306 ft<sup>2</sup> and consists of four main zones. The design flow for the West Side System is 25,650 gallons per day (GPD).

The proposed East Side facility consists of a series of two 19,000-gallon septic tanks, which will then direct flows to either the existing facility or to a proposed 20,000-gallon Sequencing Batch Reactor (SBR) which will receive flows from the second septic tank in series. The SBR will have a waste activated sludge return line to the first septic tank in series. The SBR will direct flows to a decant basin before being discharged into the existing 19,000-gallon dosing tank which distributes flows to the existing three zones of the 17,050 ft<sup>2</sup> pressurized dispersal bed. This is the primary route of treatment at the proposed facility.

The remaining components of the existing facility will remain in place and operational to allow for greater operational control. After the first two septic tanks in series, flows may be directed to a third existing 19,000-gallon septic tank by opening a gate valve between the second and third tanks; flows are then directed to a 19,000-gallon recirculation tank. The recirculation tank alternately directs flows to one of four Advantex geo-textile filter modules, then to a two-way splitter box which can either direct flow to a valve vault, which returns flows to the second and third septic tanks in series, or to a splitter box which directs flows back to the recirculation tank or to the 19,000-gallon dosing tank for disposal to a pressurized dispersal bed. The dispersal bed for the East Side System is 17,050 ft<sup>2</sup> and consists of three main zones. The design flow for the East Side System is 19,800 GPD.

There are no proposed changes to the West Side facility.

The preliminary determination to modify 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 <https://mpca.commentinput.com/comment/search>; or
- 2) By U.S. postal mail to the following address:  
Jon Kolstad  
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency  
7678 College Rd, Ste 105  
Baxter, MN 56425

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.