

General information

Public comment period begins: December 13, 2024
Public comment period ends: January 13, 2025
Current permit issued: July 22, 2022
Current permit expiration date: June 30, 2032
Modification Date: TBD

Name and address of Permittee:

Natural Systems Utilities LLC
17818 Hwy 65 NE Ste 100
Ham Lake, MN 55304-4341

Facility name and location:

Woods at Eagle Lake Wastewater
Treatment Facility
238th Ave NW
Big Lake, MN 55309
Sherburne County
T034N, R27W, Section 030

MPCA contact person:

Jon Kolstad
Municipal Division
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
7678 College Rd, Ste 105
Baxter, MN 56425
Phone: 218-316-3924
Email: jon.kolstad@state.mn.us

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

A draft 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 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 permitted facility

The Woods at Eagle Lake Wastewater Treatment facility (facility) is located in the SW ¼ of the SW ¼ of Section 30, Township 34 North, Range 27 West, Orrock Township, Sherburne County, Minnesota. This is a Class C facility.

Existing Facility

The existing facility was built to serve forty-two, three- and one-half bedroom homes and has an average wet weather design flow of 14,175 gallons per day. Currently, there are 26 homes connected to the facility.

The application and plans indicate that the facility consists of a pressure sewer collection system utilizing individual GP 2010-124 Simplex grinder pump stations at each house with service lines to the treatment system. The collection system consists of 3,900 linear feet of force main with pipe diameters varying from 1.25 inches to 3.0 inches. At the end of the collection system, there is an uncompartmentalized 12,000-gallon septic tank followed by a compartmentalized 12,000-gallon septic tank operated in series. These tanks are followed by an 8,000-gallon filter tank, and a 2,870 square foot recirculating gravel filter (vertical flow wetland) with Forced Bed Aeration™, lined with 30 mil PVC. An 8,000-gallon recirculation tank with two pumps doses the recirculating gravel filter and an 8,000-gallon dosing tank with four dosing pumps pressure doses the drainfield zones. The trench system is 3 feet wide by 14,040 feet long, equaling 42,120 square feet of total trench infiltration area. The drainfield will be phased up to full capacity as more houses are added to the development.

No bypass points are known to exist at this facility. The facility transfers its septage to a permitted regional treatment facility for final treatment and disposal.

The facility is further described in plans and specifications on file with the MPCA and in an engineering report prepared by North American Wetland Engineering, P.A., dated April 24, 2002.

Proposed Facility Changes

The facility discharges from WS 002 to land via drainfield. The facility is a Class C.

The facility is designed to treat:

- an average wet weather (AWW) flow of 0.0114 million gallons per day (MGD);
- five-day carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand (CBOD₅) of 28.5 pounds per day (lb/day);
- total suspended solids (TSS) of 28.5 lb/day; and
- total nitrogen (TN) of 7.13 lb/day.

The Proposed changes to the facility consist of the conversion of the second 12,000 septic tank in series to a flow equalization tank. A proposed 15,000-gallon sequencing batch reactor will receive flow from the equalization tank pumps before directing treated flow to the existing effluent dosing tank for disposal via the existing drainfield. The existing 8,000-gallon filter tank and 8,000-gallon recirculation tank are proposed to be converted to sludge storage, receiving waste sludge from the SBR via a WAS line. The existing vertical flow wetland will be abandoned.

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.