

General information

Public comment period begins: December 18, 2024
Public comment period ends: February 18, 2025
Current permit issued: July 31, 2012
Current permit expiration date: June 30, 2017

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:	Facility name and location:	MPCA contact person:
City of La Salle PO Box 143 La Salle, MN 56056-0143	La Salle Wastewater Treatment Facility Cty Rd 27 La Salle, MN 56056 Watonwan County T107N, R31W, Section 016	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
		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: Watonwan River

Receiving water: Watonwan River (Class 2B, 3C, 4A, 4B, 5, 6 Water)

Description of permitted facility

The existing facility has a continuous discharge from SD 001. The facility is a Class C. The facility is designed to treat:

- an average wet-weather (AWW) flow of 0.015 million gallons per day (MGD);
- an average dry-weather (ADW) flow of 0.012 MGD;
- a five-day carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand (CBOD₅) of 280 milligrams per liter (mg/L); and
- total suspended solids (TSS) of 214 mg/L.

The facility consists of a 25,000-gallon, two-compartment septic tank, a 20,000-gallon, two-compartment septic tank, effluent screens, and a recirculating gravel filter consisting of eight gravel filter cells. The total gravel filter area is 4,800 square feet. The water is disinfected by an ultraviolet disinfection unit before it is discharged to a storm drain (on Broadway and First Street) and flows via gravity to the final discharge pipe to the Watonwan River. Biosolids are transferred to another facility for treatment and disposal. There are no designed bypass points in the treatment system.

The MPCA has evaluated the treatment components of the facility with regards to the phosphorus limits in the permit. At the time of permit issuance, the facility is operating at less than the permitted AWW design flow of 0.015 MGD and is demonstrating the capability of meeting the phosphorus effluent limit of 0.2 kilograms per day (kg/day) (effective June-September). As the facility approaches its AWW design flow it may need infrastructure improvements and/or operational changes to maintain compliance. The Special Requirements section of this permit includes additional reporting requirements to ensure compliance with the phosphorus effluent limit as the facility's influent flows and/or pollutant loadings increase.

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 <https://mpca.commentinput.com/comment/search>; 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.