

## General information

**Public comment period begins:** December 18, 2024

**Public comment period ends:** February 17, 2025

**Current permit issued:** December 17, 2019

**Current permit expiration date:** November 30, 2024

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 Pipestone  
119 2nd Ave SW  
Pipestone, MN 56164

**Facility name and location:**

Pipestone Wastewater Treatment Facility  
101st St between 50th Ave and 60th Ave  
Pipestone, MN 56164  
Pipestone County  
T106N, R46W, Section 015

**MPCA contact person:**

Ashley Wahl  
Municipal Division  
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency  
504 Fairgrounds Rd, Ste 200  
Marshall, MN 56258  
Phone: 507-476-4264  
Email: [ashley.wahl@state.mn.us](mailto:ashley.wahl@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:** Lower Big Sioux River

**Receiving water:** Pipestone Creek - Class 2Bg, 3, 4A, 4B, 5, 6 water

## Description of permitted facility

The existing facility has a controlled discharge from (SD 001). The facility is a Class C.

The facility is designed to treat:

- An average wet weather (AWW) flow of 0.930 million gallons per day (mgd)
- A peak hourly wet weather (PHWW) flow of 4.72 mgd
- Five-day carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand (CBOD<sub>5</sub>) of 1,264 pounds per day (lb/d)
- Total suspended solids (TSS) of 1473 lb/d

The facility consists of a six-cell stabilization pond system (three primary ponds and three secondary ponds) with a total acreage of 125.32 acres. The three primary pond acreages are 18.79, 19.56, and 24.6 acres, measured at the four-foot operating depth. The secondary ponds acreages are 18.87 and 18.75, measured at the four-foot mean operation depth, and 24.75 acres measured at the four and one-half-foot operating depth. The facility provides a total detention time of 180 days at design flow.

The system also includes a collection system with 11 lift stations, one main lift station, approximately 13,400 feet of 16-inch force main, and approximately 12,000 feet of 30-inch gravity outfall pipe.

The facility also includes a Pretreatment Facility to partially treat industrial strength wastewater prior to it entering the stabilization pond system. The Pretreatment Facility consists of a 13,000 gallon surge tank, a 170,000 gallon aeration basin, 160,000 gallons of aerated sludge storage, a 20-foot diameter final clarifier, and ferric chloride chemical addition for phosphorus removal. The Pretreatment Facility is designed to treat 30,000 gallons per day (gpd) of industrial-strength wastewater with a maximum CBOD<sub>5</sub> of 1,500 milligrams per liter (mg/L).

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:  
Ashley Wahl  
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency  
504 Fairgrounds Rd, Ste 200  
Marshall, MN 56258

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.