

General information

Public comment period begins: January 23, 2025

Public comment period ends: March 24, 2025

Current permit issued: September 4, 2014

Current permit expiration date: August 31, 2019

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 Blooming Prairie
PO Box 68
Blooming Prairie, MN 55917-0068

Facility name and location:

Blooming Prairie Wastewater Treatment Plant
10023 750th St
Blooming Prairie, MN 55917
Dodge County
T105N, R18W, Section 31

MPCA contact person:

Melanie Miland
Municipal Division
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
7381 Airport View Dr SW
Rochester, MN 55902
Phone: 507-206-2647
Email: melanie.miland@state.mn.us

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

A draft permit and permit application are 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: Cedar River

Receiving water: Unnamed creek - Class 7, 3, 4A, 4B, 5, 6 water; Cedar River - Class 2Bg, 3, 4A, 4B, 5, 6 water

Description of Permitted Facility

The facility has a continuous discharge from SD 002 to an unnamed creek to the Cedar River. This is a Class B facility.

The facility is designed to treat:

- an average wet-weather (AWW) flow of 0.899 million gallons per day (MGD);
- an average dry-weather (ADW) flow of 0.368 MGD;
- peak hourly wet-weather (PHWW) flow of 2.46 MGD; and
- five-day carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand (CBOD₅) of 1,717 pounds per day (lb/day).

The facility consists of a lift station, equalization tank, manual bar screen, primary clarifier, sequence batch reactors, chlorine disinfection, cascade aeration, gravity belt thickener, aerobic digester, and biosolids holding tanks. There is one designed manual and locked bypass point known to exist in the treatment system.

Changes to the facility may result in an increase in pollutant loading to surface waters or other causes of degradation to surface waters. If a change to the facility will result in a net increase in pollutant loading or other causes of degradation that exceed the maximum loading authorized through conditions specified in the existing permit, the changes to the facility are subject to antidegradation requirements found in Minn. R. 7050.0250 to 7050.0335.

This Permit also complies with Minn. R. 7053.0275 regarding anti-backsliding.

Any point source discharger of sewage, industrial, or other wastes for which a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit has been issued by the MPCA that contains effluent limits more stringent than those that would be established by Minn. R. 7053.0215 to 7053.0265 shall continue to meet the effluent limits established by the permit, unless the permittee establishes that less stringent effluent limits are allowable pursuant to federal law, under section 402(o) of the Clean Water Act, United States Code, title 33, section 1342.

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:

Melanie Miland
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.