



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Southeast District Office

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Ted Strickland, Governor
Lee Fisher, Lieutenant Governor
Chris Korleski, Director

December 8, 2009

Re: Gallia County
City of Gallipolis
Wastewater Collection
NPDES 0PD00001*MD
Correspondence (PWW)

Mr. Randall Finney, City Manager
City of Gallipolis
518 Second Avenue
Gallipolis, Ohio 45631

Dear Mr. Woodall:

On November 20, 2009, I inspected the following problems with your sanitary sewer collection system.

1. Near the intersection of Cruzet Avenue and Riverview Drive, at a point along the Ohio River about 30 ft. downriver of the Gallipolis wastewater treatment plant outfall 001, there is a sewage discharge coming from a metal pipe in the river bank. It appears to be of a low flow but may represent a number of sources that are connected to this pipe.
2. There is an intermittent but considerable problem with sewage discharging from a large pipe near the Spruce St. lift station. The pipe appears to be an overflow from the sewer line which leads to the Spruce Street lift station wet well. In addition, it appears that this overflow and adjacent manhole were installed without informing Ohio EPA. The ditch which is carrying sewage away from this overflow point had sewage pooled in it which had a sewage odor. No discharge from the pipe was occurring at the time. The ditch leads about ¼ mile to Chickamauga Creek. We have been investigating water quality problems in Chickamauga Creek and have found that this is one of the potential sources.

In addition, our Water Quality Section personnel conducted water sampling in and around Gallipolis in recent months. The results for sites within Gallipolis, including the two sites listed above, are as follows:

1. Ohio River #1

| | | | | |
|----------------|------------|----------------|--------|------------|
| August 5, 2009 | 0955 hours | Fecal coliform | 60,000 | (#/100 ml) |
| | | E. coli | 80,000 | (#/100 ml) |

- Sample is from a pipe in Ohio River bank 30 ft. from Gallipolis outfall 001
- This discharge is discussed in #1 above. Photos were taken.

2. Drainage tributary from Spruce Street lift station to Chickamauga Creek

| | | | | |
|----------------|------------|----------------|---------|------------|
| July 22, 2009 | 0910 hours | Fecal coliform | 130,000 | (#/100 ml) |
| | | E. coli | 98,000 | (#/100 ml) |
| August 5, 2009 | 1015 hours | Fecal coliform | 60,000 | (#/100 ml) |
| | | E. coli | 80,000 | (#/100 ml) |

- Sample is from drainage tributary from Spruce Street lift station to Chickamauga Creek.
- This is the drainage ditch discharge discussed in number two (2) above.
- Notes: pooled black water, with sludge deposits, sludge worms, and strong sewage odors.

3. Chickamauga Creek at State Route 7

| | | | | |
|---------------|------------|----------------|------|----------|
| July 22, 2009 | 0925 hours | Fecal coliform | 120 | #/100 ml |
| | | E. coli | < 10 | #/100 ml |

Notes: this location had backwaters to the Ohio River and was impounded.

4. Chickamauga Creek at Spruce Street

| | | | | |
|---------------|------------|----------------|-----|----------|
| July 22, 2009 | 0900 hours | Fecal coliform | 300 | #/100 ml |
| | | E. coli | 10 | #/100 ml |

Notes: sluggish flow and oily sheen highly apparent

5. Ohio River #2

| | | | | |
|----------------|------------|----------------|-----|----------|
| August 5, 2009 | 0956 hours | Fecal coliform | 520 | #/100 ml |
| | | E. coli | 230 | #/100 ml |

Notes: sample was from the iron pipe which had a large flow from leaking fittings. The pipe continues into the Ohio River (photos taken). This is the Gallipolis WWTP outfall 001 discharge.

6. Ohio River #3

| | | | | |
|----------------|------------|----------------|--------|----------|
| August 5, 2009 | 1035 hours | Fecal coliform | 60,000 | #/100 ml |
| | | E. coli | 80,000 | #/100 ml |

Notes: discharge was from a black plastic corrugated pipe about 5 feet from the Ohio River location N 38.80270, W 82.21016 (photo taken)

Please investigate the issues with sites number one, two, and six above, and reply in writing to this letter within 14 days, stating your findings and how you intend to correct the problems.

The sampling results for sites numbered one (1) and six (6) above, indicate unsanitary conditions and probable violations of Ohio Water Quality Standards. The sampling for site number two above indicates a public health nuisance and a violation of Ohio water quality standards.

With regard to what appears to be an overflow from the sewer line leading into the Spruce Street lift station, all sanitary sewer overflows are prohibited except under emergency conditions where the overflow occurs in full compliance with all of the provisions of 40 CFR 122.41 (m) and Part III Item 11 of the NPDES permit.

You must monitor and report any such overflows in accordance with your NPDES permit under Outfall OPD00001300 (see permit page 4), and follow the condition (E) in Part II of the permit. You have not reported any recent overflows from the collection system.

Helpful information and forms for noncompliance notification can be found on our web site at:

<http://www.epa.ohio.gov/dsw/permits/permits.aspx#noncompliance>

If you have any questions, please contact me at (740) 380-5218.

Sincerely,



Dan Messerly
District Representative
Division of Surface Water

DM/dh

- c: Barb Bradley, Gallia County Health Department
- c: John Westfall, Supervisor, City of Gallipolis
- c: Dan Dudley, CO, DSW