



Environmental  
Protection Agency

John R. Kasich, Governor  
Mary Taylor, Lt. Governor  
Scott J. Nally, Director

Re: Seneca County  
Poplar Village MHP  
Sewerage

June 23, 2011

Mr. Donald Garner  
Poplar Village MHP  
2930 Geer Road; Suite 105  
Turlock, California 95382-1142

Dear Mr. Garner:

On June 8, 2011, an inspection was made of the wastewater treatment facilities which serve Poplar Village Mobile Home Park (MHP). The MHP is located at 12400 West Axline Street, just southeast of Fostoria, Loudon Township. On site at the time of inspection were Lyn McKeever and Randy Ralph both of Makeever & Assoc., Christina Douglas, Uni-Tech Environmental Services, Inc., along with two employees of the MHP. Observations and recommendations noted during the inspection are as follows:

1. It was indicated that the trash trap was recently pumped out. It was reported that solids accumulation in the trash trap had caused the sewer lines to back up.
2. The aeration tank was operational and appeared to have an adequate rate of aeration.
3. One of the two (2) sludge returns was operating. There is no operational skimmer in the clarifier.
4. Some bulking sludge was observed near the clarifier discharge weir. The clarifier effluent weir does not have an adequate baffle.
5. The clarifier hopper walls should be scraped down once per day to increase the solids returned. This will also prevent sludge from bulking and floating to the surface of the tank.
6. The west sand filter bed was in use. Both filter beds were covered with solids and need to be cleaned. It was indicated that an attempt to remove solids had been made, but due to the volume of accumulated sludge and the recent rains the sludge was too wet.
7. It was noted that four (4) stand pipes are located at the south end of the sand filter beds (2/bed). These pipes are not approved and should not be used to short-circuit the filter beds. They should be properly plugged and/or removed from the filters.
8. It was noted that during periods of wet weather, plant flows increase greatly, and the filter beds both were observed to be flooded up to the top of the walls.

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9. Disinfection (chlorine) was not able to be observed at the time of inspection. Disinfection must be provided from May through October.
10. The flow from the filters into the chlorine contact tank appeared to be clear, but the accumulated solids in the tank were dark in color and had a septic odor.
11. It was indicated that accumulated grit, solids and sludge are scheduled to be removed (pumped out) from the clarifier tank and the chlorine contact tank.
12. It was also indicated that the filter sand may be replaced. Please reference the following document regarding filter sand requirements: *Sewage: Collection, Treatment & Disposal Where Public Sewers Are Not Available (Green Book)* at <http://epa.ohio.gov/portals/35/documents/greenbook.pdf>
13. The data being reported on the discharge monitoring reports (DMRs) indicates the same flow every day for several months at a time. Flows are to be reported daily as required by the NPDES permit. A flow meter needs to be provided with daily flow readings reported immediately. Please contact this office regarding the acquisition and installation of this meter.
14. Pictures taken at the time of the inspection are enclosed.

**NPDES Permit Compliance Schedule (2PY00032\*BD):**

As indicated in our previous letters, dated June 22, 2009, and June 28, 2010, the NPDES permit for this facility includes the following compliance schedule items which were to have been submitted but have not yet been received:

06/01/2007 - Submit Permit to Install (PTI) for disinfection facilities. (Event Code 01799)  
Attain operational level of the treatment works to meet the final effluent chlorine limitation not later than May 1, 2007.

05/01/2008 – Submit a sewer system evaluation survey and sanitary sewer infiltration/inflow (I/I) analysis. Items to be included in the I/I analysis are specified in the permit.

11/01/2008 – Submit detail plans and a PTI for sewer system improvements necessary to implement the recommendations of the study to reduce the volume of Infiltration/Inflow entering the collection system.

As also indicated previously, due to the close proximity, we recommend that a sanitary sewer connection to the City of Fostoria sanitary sewer be pursued. Mr. Dan Thornton, City of Fostoria (419-435-9775), should be contacted regarding this connection as soon as possible.

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A review of your discharge monitoring reports (DMRs) has also been conducted. A list of permit violations (June 2010 thru April 2011) is enclosed. Your facility is considered to be in significant noncompliance.

Failure to comply with the NPDES permit and properly operate and maintain the WWTP can be cause for escalated enforcement action that may include penalties. If progress is not made to eliminate the effluent limit and compliance schedule violations, we will have no choice but to recommend that the director pursue enforcement action.

**NPDES Permit Change of Ownership:**

It was indicated that this facility had recently changed ownership. An application for transfer of Ohio NPDES Permit is required for the change of ownership of this facility and is available at: [http://www.epa.ohio.gov/portals/35/permits/NPDESTransferForm\\_fis.pdf](http://www.epa.ohio.gov/portals/35/permits/NPDESTransferForm_fis.pdf). Instructions for Applying to Transfer an Ohio EPA Individual NPDES Permit: [http://www.epa.ohio.gov/portals/35/permits/NPDESTransfer\\_instructions\\_10\\_03\\_s.pdf](http://www.epa.ohio.gov/portals/35/permits/NPDESTransfer_instructions_10_03_s.pdf)  
**The completed NPDES permit transfer application should be mailed to the Ohio EPA Northwest District Office, 347 North Dunbridge Road, Bowling Green, Ohio 43402.**

If there are any questions, please contact me at 419-373-3014.

Yours truly,

  
Mary Beth Cohen  
Division of Surface Water

/cs

Enclosure

pc: Seneca County Health Department  
Manager, Poplar Village MHP  
Christina Douglas, Uni-Tech Environmental Services, Inc.  
Makeever & Assoc., Inc  
[NWDO-DSW File](#)

Poplar Village MHP NPDES permit 2PY00032  
June 2010 - April 2011

Final Effluent (001) Limit Violations

Reporting Period	Reporting Code	Parameter	Limit Type	Limit	Reported Value	Violation Date
June 2010	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3)	30D Conc	1.0	8.55	6/1/2010
June 2010	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3)	30D Qty	0.07	.40452	6/1/2010
June 2010	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3)	1D Conc	1.5	8.55	6/24/2010
June 2010	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3)	1D Qty	0.11	.40452	6/24/2010
November 2010	00530	Total Suspended Solids	30D Conc	12	13.	11/1/2010
December 2010	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3)	30D Conc	3.0	8.	12/1/2010
December 2010	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3)	30D Qty	0.20	.3785	12/1/2010
December 2010	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3)	1D Conc	4.5	8.	12/29/2010
December 2010	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3)	1D Qty	0.30	.3785	12/29/2010
March 2011	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3)	30D Conc	3.0	14.25	3/1/2011
March 2011	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3)	30D Qty	0.20	.6742	3/1/2011
March 2011	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3)	1D Conc	4.5	14.25	3/24/2011
March 2011	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3)	1D Qty	0.30	.6742	3/24/2011
April 2011	00530	Total Suspended Solids	30D Conc	12	114.	4/1/2011
April 2011	00530	Total Suspended Solids	30D Qty	0.9	5.39363	4/1/2011
April 2011	00530	Total Suspended Solids	1D Conc	18	114.	4/21/2011
April 2011	00530	Total Suspended Solids	1D Qty	1.3	5.39363	4/21/2011

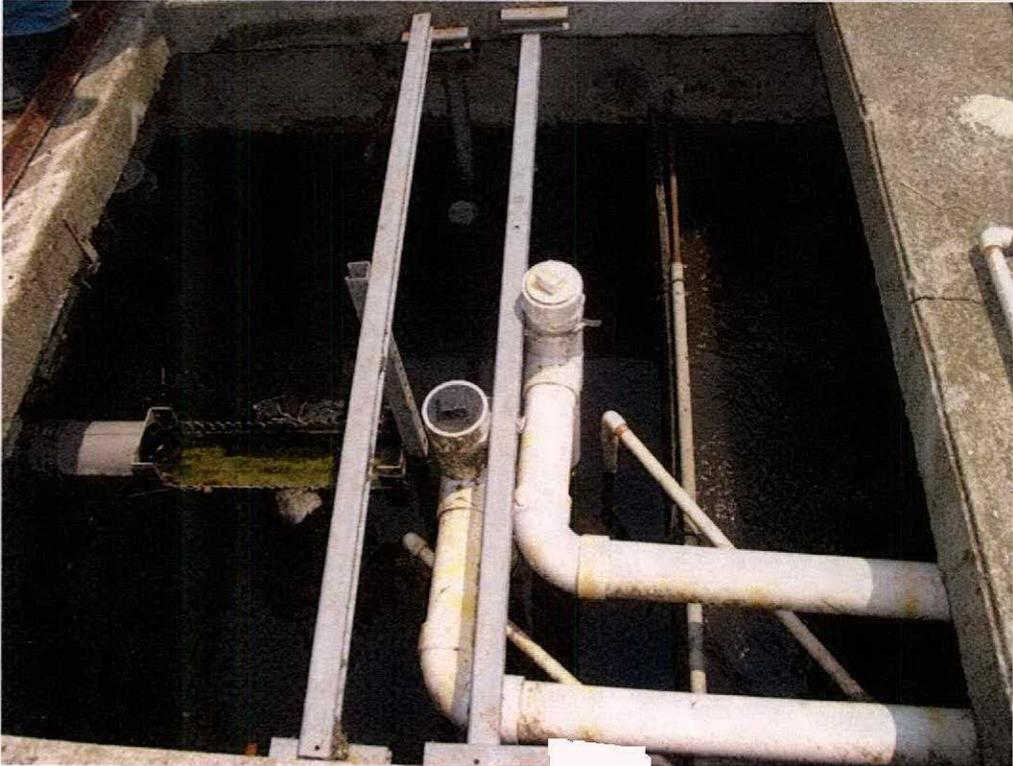
**Poplar Village MHP, Seneca Co.**

taken by M.B.Cohen, 06/08/2011

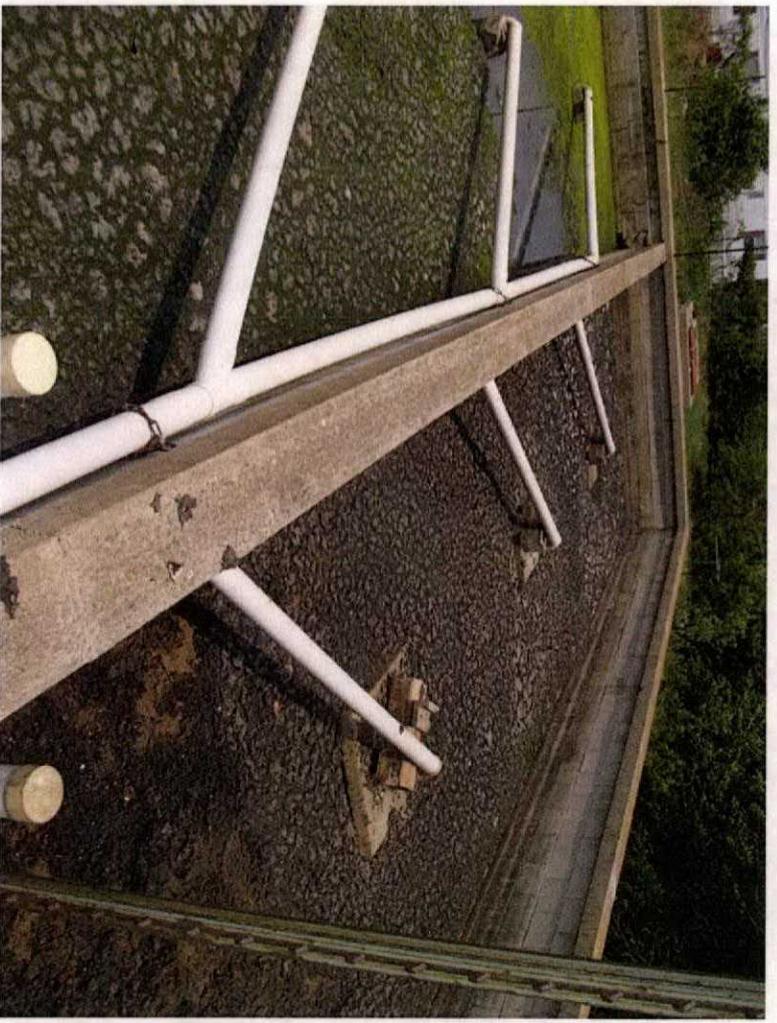
Aeration tank (aeration was just turned off) / Clarifier tank

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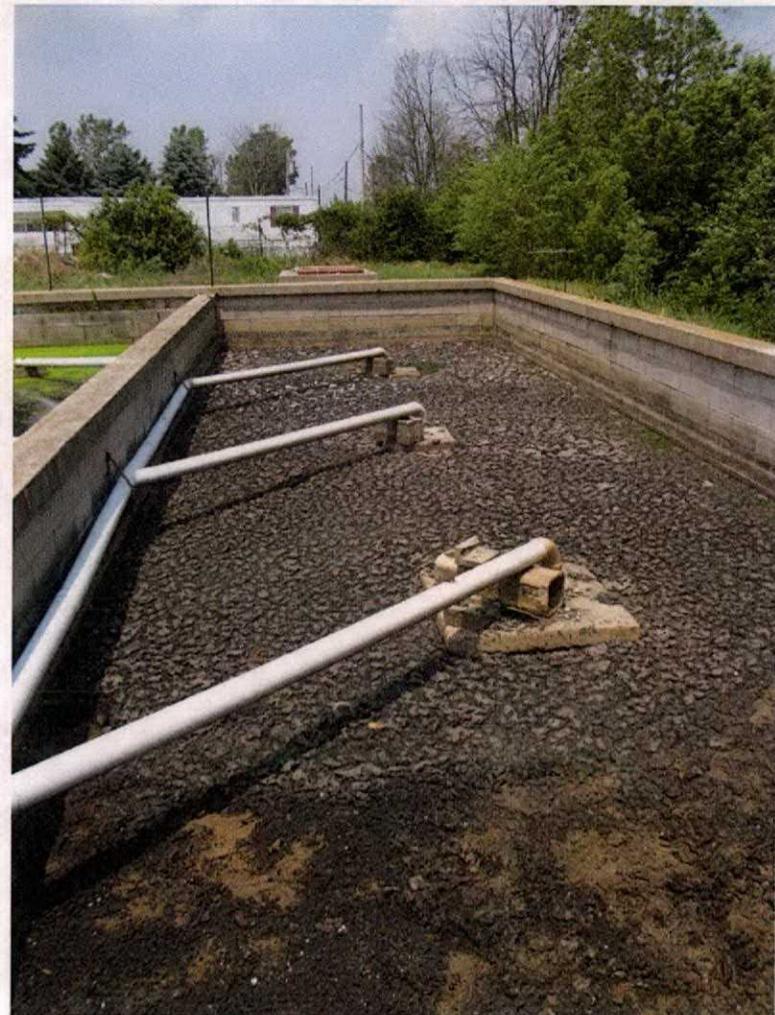




Poplar Village MHP, Seneca Co.  
Sand filters looking north / looking south



Poplar Village MHP, Seneca Co.  
Sand filters looking north



Poplar Village MHP, Seneca Co.

Chlorine contact tank / bucket of sludge pulled from bottom of chl tank

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