



2GC0247320100729

MERCER	NORTHWOODS SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM	2GC02473	2010/07/29	DELANCEY, JUDSON	CELINA
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**Environmental
Protection Agency**

Ted Strickland, Governor
Lee Fisher, Lt. Governor
Chris Korleski, Director

Re: Mercer County
Northwoods Sanitary Sewer System
Construction
Storm Water

July 29, 2010

Mr. Jared Ebbing
Mercer Co Sanitary Department
220 West Livingston Street
Room A 201
Celina, Ohio 45822

Dear Mr. Ebbing,

On June 30, 2010, Sarah Clement and I inspected Northwoods Sanitary Sewer System in the Northwood subdivision, Jefferson Township, in Mercer County. The purpose of our visit was to evaluate compliance of the site with your National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for storm water discharge associated with construction activity, Facility ID No. 2GC02473*AG. The inspection was conducted under the provisions of Ohio's water pollution control statutes, Ohio Revised Code (ORC) Chapter 6111. The Ohio EPA has no record of other permittees for this site.

As a result of the inspection, I have the following comments:

1. At the time of inspection, construction was ongoing. Holes were being dug and pipes were being put into place. Approximately two (2) acres of land were disturbed and barren.
2. Due to the absence of personnel or a construction trailer, the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWP3) and inspection logs were not available for review. Without this information, it is difficult to make detailed recommendations regarding the placement and type of any needed structural controls.
3. All temporary or permanent stabilization has not been established. The amount of weed growth indicates the timeframe for stabilization may have been exceeded. Permit requires: Portions of the construction site which will be inactive for more than 21 days must have temporary stabilization initiated within the first seven. Temporary stabilization is required prior to the onset of winter weather for ground that will be idle over winter. Permanent stabilization is required within seven (7) days on any portion of the site that has reached final grade or will be idle for longer than one (1) year. Soil stabilization practices shall be initiated within two days on inactive, barren areas within 50 feet of a stream. In addition, disturbed areas in residential subdivisions must be stabilized at least seven days prior to transfer of permit coverage for the individual lot(s). Permanent seeding and mulching is required before construction activity is completed throughout the entire site.

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If seasonal conditions prohibit the establishment of vegetative cover, other means, such as mulching and matting, must still be used and maintained until more permanent methods can be implemented. *Failure to do so is a violation of Part III.G.2.b.i of your permit.*

The Rainwater and Land Development Manual states that, "mulch material shall be applied immediately after seeding and permanent seeding shall include irrigation to establish vegetation during dry or hot weather or on adverse site conditions as needed." Optimum seeding dates for Northwest Ohio are generally from April to May, or from mid-August until the end of September, depending on the type of vegetation planted. Permit Requires: All erosion and sediment control practices used to meet the conditions of this permit should meet the standards and specifications of the current edition of Ohio's Rainwater and Land Development Manual (ODNR) or other standards acceptable to Ohio EPA. This is a violation of Part III.G.2.b.i of the permit.

Where vegetative stabilization techniques may cause structural instability or are otherwise unobtainable (due to seasonal conditions), alternative stabilization techniques must be employed and maintained. It is important to note that some type of cover is needed to minimize sediment loss until a sufficient cover of vegetation has been established to prevent erosion. I recommend that all inactive, unstable areas be mulched until the fall/spring, when conditions are more favorable for permanent seeding.

I do not recommend the use of feed/livestock bedding material as mulch, as it may not have been suitably prepared for this type of use (weeds/bacteria). Also, some of the contents, such as corncobs, may cause nitrogen deficiency unless adequately compensated for.

Within 10 days of the date on this letter, please submit to this office **written notification** as to the reasons for the above mentioned comments as well as the actions taken or proposed to prevent any future violations. Your response should include the dates, either actual or proposed, for the completion of actions.

If there are any questions, please contact me at (419) 373-3036.

Sincerely,



Judson M. Delancey IV
Division of Surface Water
Storm Water Program

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NWDO Follow-up File
James A. Wiechart P.E./P.S., Mercer County Engineer
Mercer County SWCD