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PS Form 3800 August 2005 See Reverse for Instructions

7010 1670 0001 8461 1791

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- Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you.
- Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits.

1. Article Addressed to:

LARRY RICHARD, OWNER
 GREAT LAKES MEDIEVAL FAIRE
 PO BOX 376
 ROCK CREEK OH 44084

Hand delivered
 6-22-11.

2. Article Number 7010 1670 0001 8461 1791 (SCHMIDT 5/17/11)
(Transfer from service label)

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 Addressee

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Environmental
Protection Agency

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

May 17, 2011

RE: GREAT LAKES MEDIEVAL FAIRE
OHIO EPA PERMIT 3PR00457
TRUMBULL TWP, ASHTABULA COUNTY
COMPLIANCE INSPECTION EVALUATION

NOTICE OF VIOLATION

CERTIFIED MAIL

Mr. Larry Rickard, Owner
Great Lakes Medieval Faire
P.O. Box 376
Rock Creek, Ohio 44084

Dear Mr. Rickard:

On May 12, 2011, a site inspection was conducted at the above referenced facility at 3033 State Route 534, Trumbull Township, Ashtabula County. The inspection was conducted by John Schmidt of this office and I spoke with Cindy Hotchkiss, Operations Manager, representing Great Lakes Medieval Faire (GLMF) prior to conducting the inspection. The purpose of the inspection was to evaluate the facility's compliance status with respect to the terms and conditions of the facility's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. The last compliance inspection was conducted on June 8, 2010.

The system consists of an extended aeration system with clarifier, slow surface sand filtration, and chlorine disinfection. Sludge removal is from an aerated sludge holding tank when needed to another POTW. The facility discharges to Trumbull Creek adjacent to the north side of the facility. No backup power is provided to the facility, however the facility has alarms.

Observations

The following observations were made during the inspection.

1. The design flow of the extended aeration plant is 11,000 gallons per day and is sized when the facility operated as a Girl Scouts camp. According to Ms. Hotchkiss, the restrooms connected to this wastewater plant are not used by staff, who instead rely upon the porta-potties used during the faire. Currently, the plant receives only a few hundred gallons per day. The plant was not operating at the time of the inspection.
2. Although the medieval faire does not open until July, 2011, the plant receives wastewater flow from the office area, which is currently occupied by staff. The complex is typically not staffed during the winter months. Please verify the dates that the restroom facilities and other sources tributary to this wastewater plant are being used by your staff and contractors.
3. According to Ms. Hotchkiss, the plant is reseeded prior to the commencement of the faire.

4. According to records maintained by Ohio EPA, the plant has Mark Lewis and Roger Osborne of Lewis Wastewater Services listed as the operators of record. It is unclear to Ohio EPA if Lewis Wastewater Services remains as the operator of record. I have contacted Lewis Wastewater Services, and to-date they have not heard from you. GLMF may continue to use Lewis Wastewater Services or utilize another contract operator. The operator of record information should be updated as soon as possible. Forms to be completed by both the owner and the operator may be found at <http://www.epa.ohio.gov/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=7fKxZGllvBY%3d&tabid=3650>. Please note that Ohio EPA has been fining facilities that have failed to obtain an operator of record.
5. Log books and the operation and maintenance manual could not be located at the site and were not available for inspection.
6. The overall condition of the treatment plant during this inspection was unsatisfactory with the plant in disrepair. Although it appears that power is provided to the plant, a rodent nest was located inside the control panel, as was noted during the 2010 inspection (please see attached picture). The alarm was also not functional.
7. Collected trash appears to be containerized for disposal at a solid waste landfill.
8. The content of the aeration tank had a slight septic odor and was a light grey color with no mixing. The blowers were not running and the plant was not receiving any aeration. A medium brown color is more typical for the aeration tank. The blowers were cycled and found not in operating condition. The area around the aeration tank had weeds in excess of four feet, a condition noted during the 2010 inspection (see attached picture).
9. The surface of the clarifier was clear, but had no water going through it. The skimmer was not functioning. Effluent weirs and channels need cleaning.
10. Surface sand filter dosing pumps were cycled and found not in operating condition. It appears that the dosing tank has directly overflowed to Trumbull Creek from this location (see attached pictures).
11. Rapid sand filters were overgrown with weeds, and had no flow through them. Due to lack of dosing pumps, wastewater percolation through the sand could not be evaluated. No sludge was visible on the filter. Accumulated debris should be removed. No discharge to the sand filters was observed during the inspection.
12. The final discharge at Trumbull Creek was observed to flow a trickle. The effluent discharged appears of acceptable visual quality.
13. According to Ohio EPA's records, Mark Lewis of Lewis Wastewater Management, Inc. is your operator of record. Contact with Dustin Lewis of Lewis in 2010 indicates that there is no contract between Lewis and GLMF. Lewis Wastewater Management, Inc. should notify Ohio EPA's Operator Certification Unit to remove themselves as the operator of record for this facility using the operator of record notification form. GLMF must obtain

the services of a licensed "Class A" WWTP Operator or higher to operate the plant and report required data to Ohio EPA's electronic discharge monitoring report (e-DMR) system.

NPDES Permit Compliance Review

Great Lakes Medieval Faire operates the Great Lakes Medieval Faire wastewater treatment plant under NPDES Permit 3PR00457*AD. A review of the electronic discharge self-monitoring reports (eDMRs) received by Ohio EPA for the period May 1, 2010 through April 1, 2011 indicates apparent noncompliance of the terms and conditions of your NPDES permit as identified below:

Limit Violations

No violations were noted for the period reviewed. It should be noted that no information has been submitted to Ohio EPA's e-DMR system to calculate limit violations; therefore Ohio EPA cannot ascertain if current plant performance is resulting in effluent limit violations.

Reporting Violations

No reporting violations were noted for the period reviewed; however it was noted that no flow data was reported in 2009, 2010, or so far in 2011. Flow should be reported as "AL" for "no flow" from the WWTP for any months when there is no discharge from the facility, reflecting times when the facility is not used. On December 9, 2010, Ohio EPA notified Great Lakes Medieval Faire of failure to submit monitoring information as prescribed by your NPDES permit.

Ohio EPA understands that you are required by the Ashtabula County Health Department to have operating restroom facilities for your staff. Ohio EPA notes that GLMF offices are staffed with personnel and contractors that have access to permanent restroom facilities in buildings with flow to this wastewater plant. Please provide a rationale for the failure to report flow and sampling data since 2009.

Compliance Schedule Violations

Based upon a review of Ohio EPA's files, the following is a compliance schedule summary as specified by your permit:

Permit Effective Date	Permit Expiration Date	Schedule Due Date	Completion Date	Event Code	Schedule Type	Schedule Milestone
02/01/2008	01/31/2013	05/01/2009	Not Submitted	01299	Construction	WWTP Effectiveness Eval

From examination of Ohio EPA's files, Ohio EPA has no record of receiving a report on the evaluation of the effectiveness of the treatment system and an assessment of the capability of the system to meet the final effluent limitations. Based upon an examination of the facility during the May 12, 2011 inspection, it appears that at a minimum this facility requires a tablet dechlorinator at the outlet of the chlorine contact tank. As most of the data submitted to the e-DMR indicates reporting codes denoting that the plant was not discharging, it is unclear to Ohio EPA if the plant has achieved its operational level as specified by your NPDES permit.

Mr. Larry Rickard
Great Lakes Medieval Faire
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Please provide Ohio EPA a letter stating that the existing system can meet the final limits supported by data or submit a permit-to-install application for the necessary improvements as prescribed by your NPDES permit.

Other Violations

1. Failure to Contract with a Licensed Wastewater Plant Operator - Pursuant to Part II, Item A of your NPDES permit, the wastewater treatment works must be under the supervision of a Class A State Certified Operator as required by OAC 3745-7-02. GLMF may enter into a contract for the technical services of an appropriately certified operator to inspect, monitor, and supervise the operation thereof provided that a renewable contract, describing the duties and responsibilities of said certified operator, is submitted to and approved by Ohio EPA. Your current operator of record is deceased, and it appears that there is no contract between GLMF and Lewis. For your reference, a list of contract operators may be found at the following web address: http://www.wapp.epa.ohio.gov/dsw/opcert/ORC_list.xls.

Please provide evidence that you have contracted with an appropriately certified operator to operate your WWTP.

2. Failure to Maintain Sanitary WWTP [OAC 3745-7-09, Permit Part III, Item 3]: GLMF has failed to maintain its Sanitary WWTP. From the attached pictures, it is apparent that the WWTP has not been properly maintained or operated for some time.

GLMF must evaluate the system as soon as possible and make immediate repairs as necessary to ensure that components of the sanitary WWTP are properly operating; including blowers, aeration system, sand filters, and disinfection system. Vegetative overgrowth and the rodent nest must be removed.

3. Failure to Submit Annual Sludge Report: Ohio EPA notes that Part II, Item L of your NPDES permit requires you to submit a report no later than January 31st summarizing the sewage sludge disposal, use, storage, or treatment activities during the previous calendar year. The report is required even if no sludge was removed the previous calendar year. Ohio EPA's files reflect that Great Lakes Medieval Faire has never submitted this report since the NPDES permit was issued in 2008. Please submit the report to Chris Moody of this office as prescribed by your NPDES permit.

Ohio EPA will conduct a follow up inspection of your WWTP prior to commencement of your fair in July. Please be advised that failure to submit accurate DMRs, failure to comply with the compliance schedule prescribed in your NPDES permit, and failure to adequately operate and maintain your wastewater treatment plant is cause for an enforcement action pursuant to chapter 6111 of the Ohio Revised Code. Based on the above information, Great Lakes Medieval Faire is considered to be in significant noncompliance with the terms and conditions of the NPDES permit and, therefore, subject to enforcement actions pursuant to Chapter 6111 of the Ohio Revised Code. Such actions can result in fines of up to \$10,000 per day of violation.

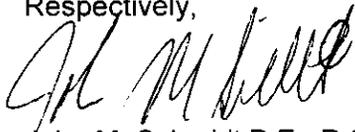
Mr. Larry Rickard
Great Lakes Medieval Faire
May 17, 2011
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Please inform this office, in writing, within 14 days of the date of this letter as to the actions we discussed that have been or will be taken to correct the above noncompliance or explanations if you believe the noncompliance issues noted are in error. Your response to this letter should include the dates that the actions have been or will be completed. Please be advised that past or present issues of noncompliance can continue as subjects of future enforcement actions by Ohio EPA.

If Ohio EPA does not receive a written response to this letter within 14 days of this letter, Ohio EPA Northeast District Office will refer this matter for enforcement.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this inspection, please feel free to contact me at (330) 963-1175.

Respectively,

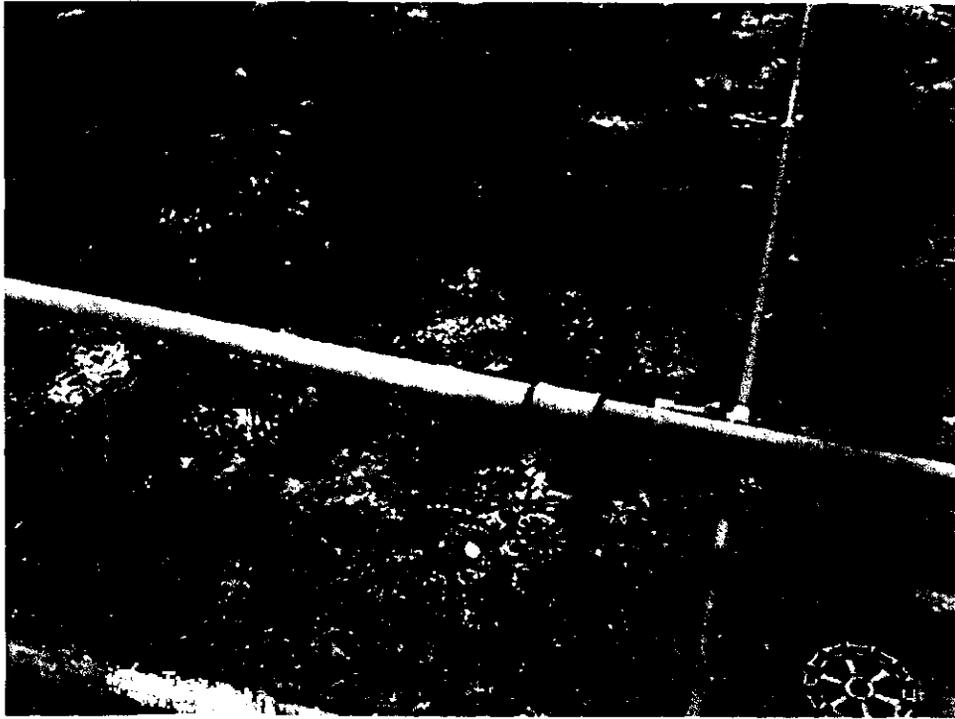


John M. Schmidt P.E., R.S.
Environmental Engineer
Division of Surface Water

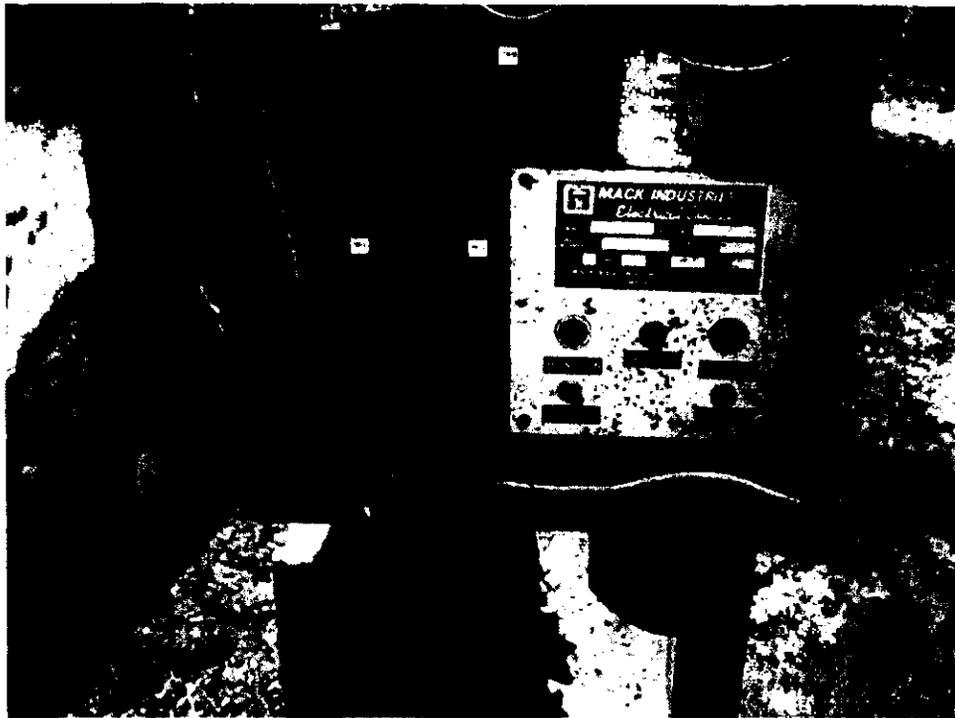
JMS/mt

cc: Dustin Lewis, Lewis Wastewater Management w/encl
Roger Osborne, w/encl

File: SP/Ashtabula/Trumbull Twp./Great Lakes Medieval Faire (3PR00457)



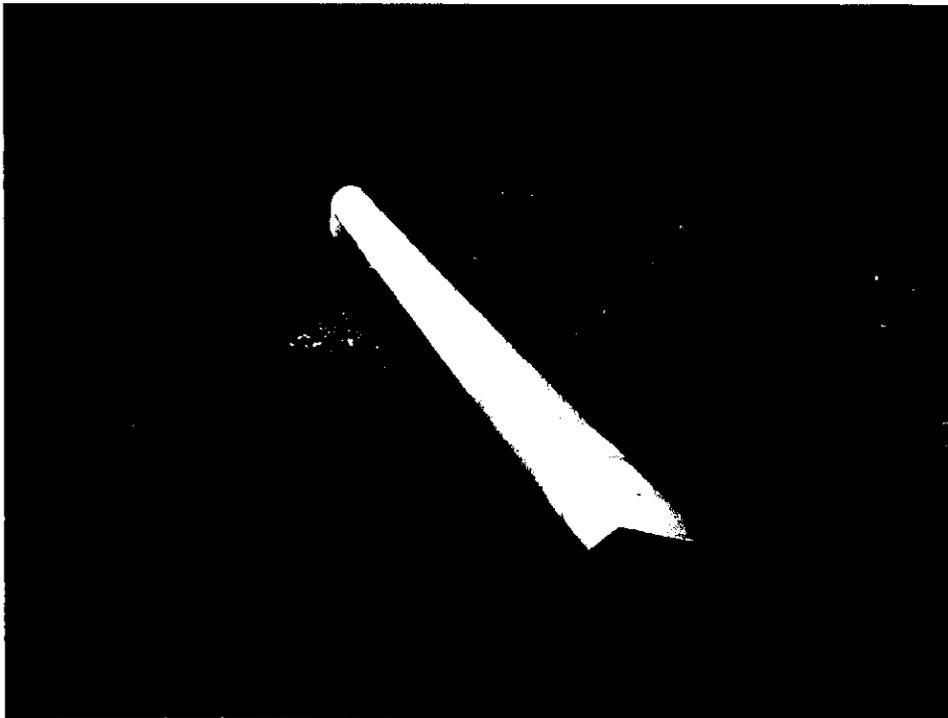
Non-Functioning Aeration Tank



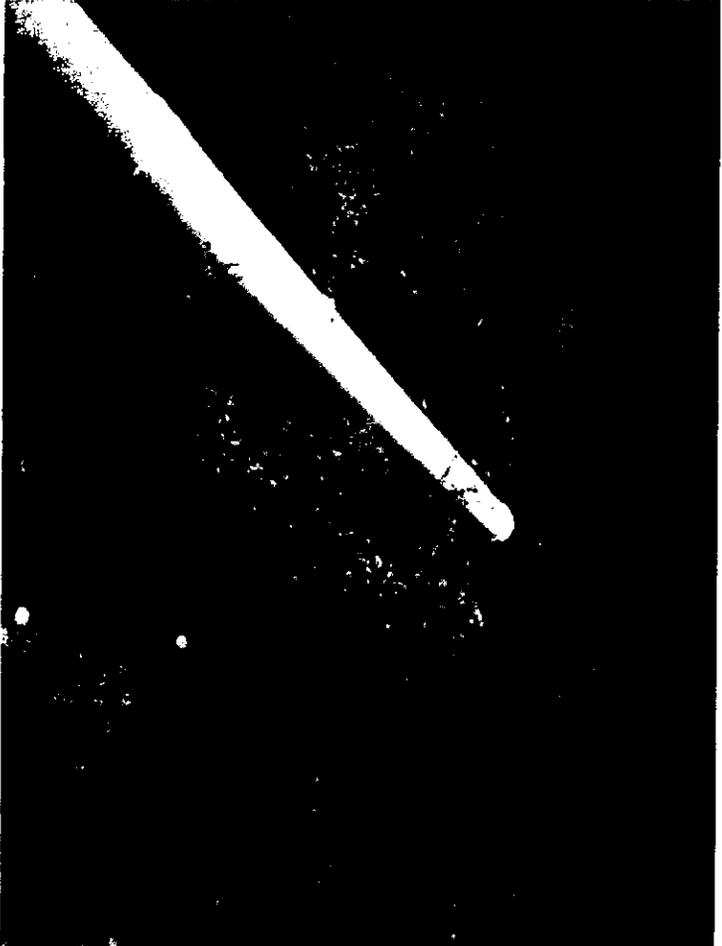
Rodent Nest in WWTP Electrical Panel, Pumps Inoperable



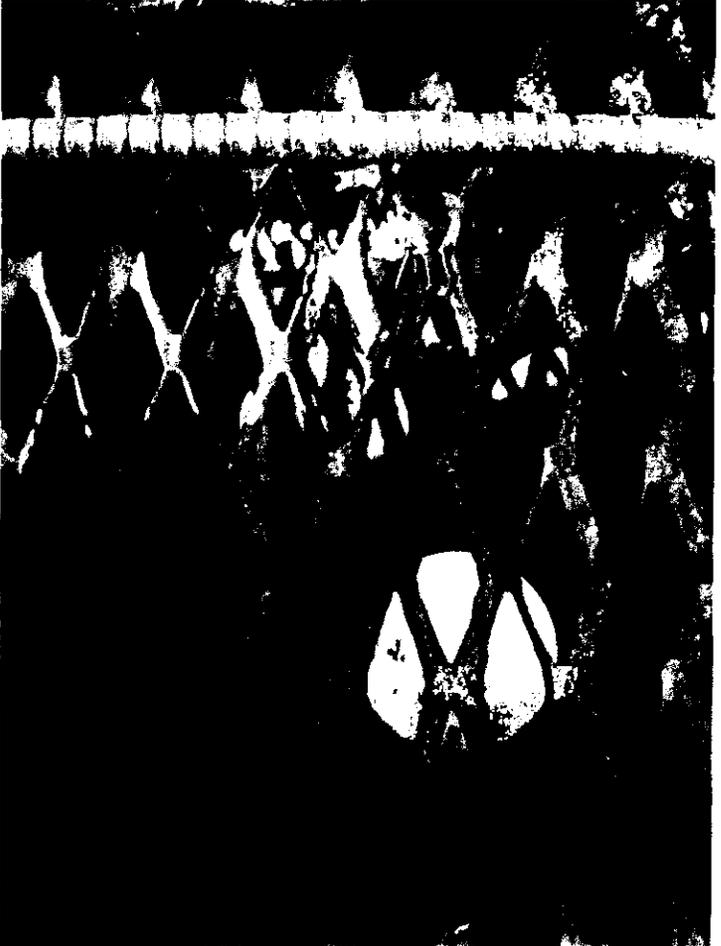
Sand Filter Dosing Tank with Evidence of Discharge



West Sand Filter with Vegetation



East Sand Filter with Vegetation



Chlorination Tank (Dry)



Final Discharge to Trumbull Creek