



**Environmental
Protection Agency**

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

October 22, 2010

RE: MEL'S AND MARY'S COTTAGES
OHIO EPA PERMIT 3PR00311*BD
CLARK TOWNSHIP, HOLMES COUNTY
COMPLIANCE INSPECTION EVALUATION

Mr. Mel Raber and Mr. Leon Troyer, Owners
Mel and Mary's Cottages
2972 Township Road 190
Baltic, OH 43804

Dear Mr. Raber and Mr. Troyer:

On October 19, 2010, a site inspection was conducted at the above referenced facility at 2972 Township Road 190, Clark Township, Holmes County. The inspection was conducted by John Schmidt of this office, as well as Kraig Bucklew and Vaughn Anderson of the Holmes County Health Department. 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 October 29, 2008.

The system consists of a trash trap, Orenco™ re-circulating textile filter and ultraviolet disinfection. The facility discharges to an unnamed tributary to the South fork of Sugar Creek southeast of the facility. No backup power is provided to the facility, however the facility is provided with alarms.

Observations

The following observations were made during the inspection.

1. The design flow of the plant is 1,500 gallons per day. The re-circulating textile filter operates on a timer. The pumps were cycled and found in operable condition. The plant was not discharging at the time of the inspection.
2. The wastewater treatment area was heavily overgrown with weeds, making the inspection difficult (see attached pictures). The process equipment should be trimmed to keep surrounding vegetative overgrowth from encroaching on the system.
3. The ultraviolet disinfection system was found in operable condition at the time of the inspection. The tank contents were clear.

Mr. Mel Raber and Mr. Leon Troyer
Mel and Mary's Cottages
October 22, 2010
Page 2

4. The final discharge pipe at the unnamed tributary to the South Fork of Sugar Creek southeast of the plant was not observed due to a lack of flow. The final effluent in the disinfection system was observed as of satisfactory visual quality; however it had a noticeable ammonia odor.
5. The container for the onsite inspection forms for the facility was present, but was empty.
6. Ohio EPA understands that Kevin Dean of Kevin's Backflow Service monitors the facility, and performs the routine sampling and submission of the electronic discharge monitoring report (eDMR) through Ohio EPA's Web-based application.

NPDES Permit Compliance Review

Mel and Mary's Cottages WWTP operates under Permit 3PR00311*BD. A review of the electronic discharge self-monitoring reports (eDMRs) received by Ohio EPA for the period October 1, 2008 through October 1, 2010 indicates apparent noncompliance of the terms and conditions of your NPDES permit as identified below:

Limit Violations

The following limit violation was noted for the reporting period reviewed:

Station	Reporting Code	Parameter	Limit Type	Limit	Reported Value	Violation Date
001	00300	Dissolved Oxygen	1D Conc	6.0	5.4	12/4/2008

This effluent limit violation should be explained, along with measures to ensure that it is not repeated.

Reporting Violations

No reporting code or reporting frequency violations were noted for the reporting period reviewed.

Compliance Schedule Violations

No compliance schedule violations were noted for the reporting period reviewed.

Based on the above information, Mel and Mary's Cottages is considered to be in substantial compliance with the terms and conditions of its NPDES permit for its WWTP; however the above items must be addressed.

Mr. Mel Raber and Mr. Leon Troyer
Mel and Mary's Cottages
October 22, 2010
Page 3

Comments

Operator of Record Designation - Pursuant to Part II, Item A of your NPDES permit, the wastewater treatment works must be under the supervision of a Class I State Certified Operator as required by OAC 3745-7-02. Ohio EPA understands that Mel and Mary's Cottages contracts with Dean's Backflow Services as its operator of record. An examination of Ohio EPA's records indicates that no operator of record is designated for this facility. I have attached an operator of record form which must be completed and returned to Ohio EPA.

Please inform this office, in writing, within 30 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 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

att: Operator of Record Notification Form, rev 02/2008

pc: Kraig Bucklew, Holmes County Health Department
Kevin Dean, Dean's Backflow Service

File: Semipublic/Holmes/Clark Twp/Mel and Mary's Cottages



Vegetative Growth around Orenko System



UV Disinfection System