



**Environmental
Protection Agency**

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

Re: **Notice of Violation**
Putnam County
Columbus Grove
NPDES Permit

May 10, 2012

Mr. Jeff Vance
Columbus Grove WWTP
113 East Sycamore Street
Columbus Grove, Ohio 45830

Dear Mr. Vance:

On May 1, 2012, an inspection was conducted at the Village of Columbus Grove's Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). Mr. Bob Huff was present and provided operation and maintenance information on the plant. The final effluent discharge observed into Plum Creek appeared green with no noticeable odor.

It was noted that the construction of the new disinfection building was not completed and that the facility was unable to disinfect the wastewater prior to discharge. May 1, 2012, was the required start of the disinfection season. Please bring the disinfection system on line as soon as possible and inform this office when it is completed.

It was noted that the primary clarifiers have not had sludge wasted from them for several months due to the construction. The clarifiers appeared to be in poor condition. It was stated that the clarifiers are to be cleaned and repaired beginning on May 7, 2012.

A review of the discharge monitoring reports from July 2011 to April 2012 shows that there have been numerous effluent limit violations. The specific instances of non-compliance are enclosed on a separate sheet.

Please inform this office in writing within 30 days as to the steps taken or proposed to prevent any further violations. If these violations continue to occur and if satisfactory progress is not made, we will have no choice but to recommend escalated enforcement action to achieve compliance.

Our completed inspection report along with pictures of the effluent discharge and primary tanks are enclosed. If you have any questions, please contact me at (419) 373-3053.

Sincerely, -

Ryan Gierhart
Division of Surface Water

/jlm

Enclosures

pc: Mayor and Council

ec: Inspection Tracking



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
Southwest District Office

NPDES Compliance Inspection Report

Section A: National Data System Coding					
Permit #	NPDES#	Month/Day/Year	Inspection Type	Inspector	Facility Type
2PC00004*ID	OH0020281	5/01/2012	R	S	1

Section B: Facility Data		
Name and Location of Facility Inspected	Entry Time	Permit Effective Date
Village of Columbus Grove WWTP 1371 N. Defiance Street Ottawa OH 45875	11:00 a.m.	8/1/2008
	Exit Time	Permit Expiration Date
	12:00 p.m.	7/31/2013
Name(s) and Title(s) of On-Site Representatives	Phone Number(s)	
Bobb Huff, Operator	419-659-5740 419-233-3825(Cell) (419) 659-2982	
Name, Address and Title of Responsible Official	Phone Number	
Jeff Vance, Village Administrator 113 E. Sycamore Street Columbus Grove, Ohio 45830	(419) 659-2982	

Section C: Areas Evaluated During Inspection					
(S = Satisfactory, M = Marginal, U = Unsatisfactory, N = Not Evaluated)					
N	Permit	N	Flow Measurement	N	Pretreatment
N	Records/Reports	N	Laboratory	N	Compliance Schedule
M	Operations & Maintenance	U	Effluent/Receiving Waters	N	Self-Monitoring Program
M	Facility Site Review	N	Sludge Storage/Disposal	N	Other
N	Collection System				

Section D: Summary of Findings (Attach additional sheets if necessary)	
<p>Discharge observed at Plum Creek was green. It was noted that the final clarifier was offline and was recently placed back online. The operator noted that the green effluent was likely from the clarifier growing algae while it was offline.</p> <p>Primary Clarifiers were in poor condition. Sludge has not been wasted from them for several months.</p> <p>Both trickling filters were in operation during the inspection.</p> <p>New Disinfection building appeared to be close to completion but was not up and running for start of disinfection season (May 1st).</p> <p>Headworks building with new fine screen appeared to be close to completion.</p>	
Inspector	Reviewer
 Ryan Gierhart Environmental Specialist II Division of Surface Water Northwest District Office	 Thomas Poffenbarger, P.E. Water Quality Engineer II/Unit Supervisor Division of Surface Water Northwest District Office
Date 5-8-12	Date 5/8/12





Get New Data

Permit No	Reporting Period	Station	Reporting Code	Parameter	Limit Type	Limit	Reported Value	Violation Date
2PC00004*ID	July 2011	001	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3)	30D Conc	2.0	5.5025	7/1/2011
2PC00004*ID	July 2011	001	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3)	7D Conc	3.0	6.25	7/1/2011
2PC00004*ID	July 2011	001	00556	Oil and Grease, Freon	1D Conc	10	11.	7/5/2011
2PC00004*ID	July 2011	001	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3)	7D Conc	3.0	5.275	7/8/2011
2PC00004*ID	July 2011	001	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3)	7D Conc	3.0	4.305	7/15/2011
2PC00004*ID	July 2011	001	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3)	7D Conc	3.0	6.18	7/22/2011
2PC00004*ID	September 2011	001	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3)	30D Conc	2.0	3.31	9/1/2011
2PC00004*ID	September 2011	001	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3)	7D Conc	3.0	5.425	9/1/2011
2PC00004*ID	September 2011	001	31648	E. coli	7D Conc	362	2419.49	9/1/2011
2PC00004*ID	September 2011	001	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3)	7D Conc	3.0	4.715	9/8/2011
2PC00004*ID	October 2011	001	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3)	30D Conc	2.0	3.75778	10/1/2011
2PC00004*ID	October 2011	001	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3)	7D Conc	3.0	4.45	10/8/2011
2PC00004*ID	October 2011	001	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3)	7D Conc	3.0	6.505	10/15/2011
2PC00004*ID	February 2012	001	00400	pH	1D Conc	9.0	9.39	2/1/2012
2PC00004*ID	February 2012	001	00400	pH	1D Conc	9.0	9.54	2/2/2012
2PC00004*ID	February 2012	001	00400	pH	1D Conc	9.0	9.83	2/3/2012
2PC00004*ID	February 2012	001	00400	pH	1D Conc	9.0	9.78	2/4/2012
2PC00004*ID	February 2012	001	00400	pH	1D Conc	9.0	9.81	2/5/2012
2PC00004*ID	February 2012	001	00400	pH	1D Conc	9.0	9.02	2/9/2012
2PC00004*ID	February 2012	001	00400	pH	1D Conc	9.0	9.16	2/11/2012
2PC00004*ID	February 2012	001	00400	pH	1D Conc	9.0	9.85	2/16/2012
2PC00004*ID	February 2012	001	00400	pH	1D Conc	9.0	9.33	2/17/2012
2PC00004*ID	February 2012	001	00400	pH	1D Conc	9.0	9.21	2/18/2012
2PC00004*ID	February 2012	001	00400	pH	1D Conc	9.0	9.02	2/20/2012
2PC00004*ID	February 2012	001	00400	pH	1D Conc	9.0	10.21	2/23/2012