

# Request for Comments

## Proposed Renewal of NPDES Permit for Yamhill Wastewater Treatment Plant



State of Oregon  
Department of  
Environmental  
Quality

The purpose of this notice is to invite you to provide written comments on this proposed National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit renewal.

### DEQ's Role:

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is responsible for protecting and enhancing Oregon's water and air quality, for cleaning up spills and releases of hazardous materials, and for managing the proper disposal of hazardous and solid wastes. One way DEQ does this is by requiring permits for certain activities. DEQ issues permits to regulate the type and amount of discharge produced at a regulated facility.

### Comments due:

Written comments due: 5 p.m., August 11, 2010

### Where can I send my comments?

Carrie Everett, Permit Coordinator  
Phone: (503) 378-5055 or (800) 349-7677  
750 Front St. NE, Ste. 120  
Salem, OR 97301  
Fax: (503) 373-7944  
Email: [Everett.Carrie@deq.state.or.us](mailto:Everett.Carrie@deq.state.or.us)

### Where can I get technical information?

Mary Pfauth, Water Quality Specialist  
(503) 378-4978 or 1-800-349-7677  
750 Front St. #120  
Salem, OR 97301  
Fax: (503) 373-7944  
[pfauth.mary@deq.state.or.us](mailto:pfauth.mary@deq.state.or.us)

### Where can I get background information?

Information about this project is viewable online by clicking the following link(s):

- [Permit](#)
- [Evaluation Report](#)

You can review hard copies of the draft permit and related documents at the nearest DEQ office in Salem. For a review appointment, call Carrie Everett at (503) 378-5055.

### What is proposed?

DEQ proposes to renew a NPDES permit for Yamhill Wastewater Treatment Plant and is inviting public comment on the proposed

permitting action. During the comment period the public is invited to make comments related to specific conditions within the proposed permit.

The permittee is not proposing changes to the discharge limits in the renewal permit.

### Permit expiration

Oregon law requires facilities with a NPDES permit to renew that permit every 5 years. Upon renewal, this permit will be effective for 5 years, expiring on June 30, 2015.

### Who is the applicant?

City of Yamhill  
PO Box 9  
Yamhill, OR 97148-0009

### Where is the facility located?

450 S. Maple St.  
Yamhill, OR

### Who might have an interest?

People who work, live, and recreate in the area.

### What does Yamhill Wastewater Treatment Plant do that affects water quality?

The City of Yamhill owns and operates a wastewater treatment plant in Yamhill. The plant treats sewage collected from the City and discharges treated disinfected wastewater into the North Yamhill River at the river mile 12.9.

### What legal requirements apply?

Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) 468B and Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) Chapter 340 Division 45 give DEQ the authority to issue permits.

### How does DEQ determine what requirements go in the permit?

Various federal and state regulations apply to a facility depending on the type of industry, the type and amount of wastewater discharged and the location of the facility. All applicable regulations must be contained in the permit, including the appropriate recordkeeping, monitoring, and reporting requirements to ensure compliance with these rules.

### Western Region Water Quality 750 Front St. #120 Salem, OR 97301

Phone: (503) 378-4978  
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Fax: (503) 373-7944  
Contact: Mary Pfauth  
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[pfauth.mary@deq.state.or.us](mailto:pfauth.mary@deq.state.or.us)

[www.oregon.gov/DEQ](http://www.oregon.gov/DEQ)

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Notice Issued: 07/07/2010  
By: Carrie Everett

**What are the known health effects or environmental impacts of the permitted substances discharged by Yamhill STP?**

When operated in accordance with the NPDES permit, the wastewater treatment facility discharge will not have any significant health effects or environmental impacts.

Bacteria and other human pathogens may be present and could impact public health. However, treatment processes including disinfection are performed prior to discharge. The permit prohibits the discharge of raw sewage overflows or bypassing.

Ammonia and chlorine are found in treated domestic wastewater and can be toxic to aquatic organisms. Most of the ammonia is removed in the treatment process and the effluent is dechlorinated prior to discharge. The remaining ammonia and chlorine are required to meet instream water quality standards at the point of discharge.

**How are the permitted substances measured?**

Schedule B of the permit requires monitoring of various influent and effluent parameters at specified minimum frequencies. Sampling and measurement procedures must be done according to EPA requirements.

**Compliance history:**

DEQ issued two Notices of Non-compliance (NON) since the last permit renewal: one in 2008 and another in 2009. DEQ last inspected this facility in December, 2008 and found it to be in compliance with its permit.

**What are the special conditions of this permit?**

The proposed permit includes special conditions requiring the permittee to manage biosolids in accordance with a DEQ approved Biosolids Management Plan, to retain DEQ certified staff to supervise the treatment and collection systems, and to notify DEQ of malfunctions.

**What other DEQ permits are required?**

none

**What similar activities take place in the vicinity of the facility?**

The City of Carlton owns and operates a wastewater treatment plant that also discharges in the winter to the North Yamhill River.

**What other information about this company is related to this permit?**

None

**What happens next?**

DEQ will schedule a public hearing if one is requested by 10 or more people, or by an authorized person representing an organization of at least 10 people. An additional public notice will be published to advertise the public hearing.

If a public hearing is not requested, DEQ will consider and provide responses to all comments received at the close of the comment period. DEQ may modify provisions in the proposed permit, but the permit writers can only modify conditions of the permit in accordance with the rules and statutes under the authority of DEQ. Participation in the rulemaking or the legislative process is the only way to change the rules or statutes. Ultimately, if a facility meets all legal requirements, DEQ will issue the facility's NPDES permit following EPA review.

**Accessibility information**

DEQ is committed to accommodating people with disabilities. Please notify DEQ of any special physical or language accommodations or if you need information in large print, Braille or another format. To make these arrangements, contact DEQ Communications & Outreach (503) 229-5696 or toll free in Oregon at (800) 452-4011; fax to 503-229-6762; or e-mail to [deqinfo@deq.state.or.us](mailto:deqinfo@deq.state.or.us).

People with hearing impairments may call DEQ's TTY number, (503) 378-3684.

