

**MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT
WATER AND SCIENCE ADMINISTRATION**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Queen Anne's County

Application for State Discharge Permit 22DP0547, NDPES Permit MD0023485:

Queen Anne's County Department of Public Works Sanitary District applied for renewal of the permit to discharge an average of 3.30 million gallons per day (MGD) of treated wastewater from the Kent Narrows/Stevensville/Grasonville WWTP located at 310 Bateau Drive, Stevensville, MD 21666 to the Chesapeake Bay, designated as Use II water, which is protected for estuarine and marine aquatic life, and for shellfish harvesting. The Department is proposing a Tentative Determination (TD) to reissue the discharge permit with the following effluent limitations: BOD₅, 30 mg/l maximum monthly average and 45 mg/l maximum weekly average; Total Suspended Solids, 30 mg/l maximum monthly average and 45 mg/l maximum weekly average and 274,100 pounds/year maximum annual load; BOD₅ and TSS Percent Removed, 85 % minimum monthly average; Total Phosphorus (TP) as P, 2,741 pounds/year maximum annual load; Total Nitrogen (TN) as N, 36,547 pounds/year net maximum annual load; Fecal Coliform, 14 MPN/100 ml maximum monthly median value; Total Residual Chlorine, nondetectable level of less than 0.1 mg/l maximum (when chlorine compounds are used in wastewater treatment); Dissolved Oxygen, 5.0 mg/l at any time (year-round) and 6.0 mg/l minimum weekly average (2/1 – 5/31); and pH maintained between 6.5 and 8.5.

The annual maximum loading rate limits for TN, TP, and TSS are in conformance with the Chesapeake Bay TMDL for Nitrogen, Phosphorus, and Sediment, accepted by EPA on 12/29/2010. At the end of each calendar year, the TN net annual loading rate shall be calculated as TN gross annual load discharged by the facility minus TN annual credit load of 1,461 pounds/year (generated by retiring 166 Onsite Sewage Disposal Systems under Phases 1 and 2 and connecting them to the Kent Narrows/Stevensville/Grasonville WWTP).

The effluent limits are established to ensure compliance with State water quality standards. The minimum monitoring and reporting requirements for effluent and raw wastewater influent are mandated to ensure compliance with the permit requirements.

Per MD Environmental Article § 1-602(a)(2), an EJ score was calculated for this facility. The EJ Score is 18.2. This score has been calculated considering a combination of the following factors: Pollution Burden Exposure Percentile, Pollution Burden Environmental Effects Percentile, and Sensitive Population Percentile. For more information on how the

score was calculated, launch the MDEnviroScreen tool from this website - <https://mdewwp.page.link/EJ>.

The public hearing documents, including the permit application, draft permit, and Summary Report & Fact Sheets (SRFS), are available on MDE's website at <https://mdewwp.page.link/WWPPortal>. Search for "22DP0547" under "State Num" and click on the "More Info" button for the permit entry of your interest to generate a list of available documents for download.

The Department has received a request for a public hearing on the tentative determination for the above permit and has scheduled the hearing for **Wednesday, February 25, 2026, at 05:30 PM**. The Public Hearing will be conducted **virtually** through the **Google Meet** platform, with an option to listen only by phone. To participate online, you must register using the following link: <https://mdewwp.page.link/PublicMeetings>. Alternatively, those who want to monitor the virtual hearing in listen-only mode can call **+1 585-308-1781** and enter this **PIN: 967109707#**. The hearing will be recorded and transcribed.

Persons who wish to present information regarding the tentative determination may speak at the public hearing, submit written comments at the public hearing, or submit a written statement to the Department no later than **5 p.m. on March 2, 2026**. All comments will be considered in making a final determination. Comments received via any submission mechanism will be given equal weight.

Written comments can also be mailed to the **Maryland Department of the Environment, Water and Science Administration, 1800 Washington Blvd., Ste. 455, Baltimore, Maryland 21230-1708, Attn.: Mr. Yen-Der Cheng, Chief, Municipal Permits Division** or emailed to **Yen-Der.Cheng@Maryland.gov**. The supporting information for the tentative determination, including the draft permit and fact sheet, may be reviewed by contacting Mr. Cheng at the above address or by telephone at (410) 537-3363 or 1-800-633-6101 to schedule an appointment. Copies of documents may be procured at a cost of \$0.36 per page.

Any hearing-impaired person may request an interpreter to be present at the public hearing by giving ten working days' notice to Mr. Cheng at the address or telephone number listed above.

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