

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

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Washington County

Application for State Discharge Permit 22DP3198, NDPES Permit MD0067741:

City of Hagerstown, 51 W. Memorial Blvd., Hagerstown, Maryland 21740, submitted to renew their application to discharge an average of 1,050,000 gallons per day of backwash from cleaning treatment filters from the W.M. Breichner Water Treatment Plant, located at 12136 Crystal Falls Dr., Smithsburg, MD 21783 to Antietam Creek (Use III-P waters). The plant is currently not operating and has not discharged since 2014.

The Department proposes to issue the permit with limits on Outfall 001 for total suspended solids (20 mg/L average, 30 mg/L maximum); total recoverable aluminum (4.0 mg/L average, 6.0 mg/L maximum); total residual chlorine (0.019 mg/L maximum); and pH (range of 6.5-8.5).

Monitoring without limits is proposed for flow and temperature. The permit includes requirements to avoid use of nutrient containing additives and requirements for potential lagoon decommissioning.

This facility is located on a census tract with an Environmental Justice (EJ) Score in the 26th percentile of all tracts in Maryland. This EJ score has been calculated considering a combination of the following factors: pollution burden exposure, pollution burden environmental effects, sensitive populations, and socioeconomic indicators (<https://mdewwp.page.link/EJ>).

A copy of the draft permit, draft fact sheet, and permit application may be downloaded from the Department's website at <https://mdewwp.page.link/wwpportal>. At that webpage, search for State Number 22DP3198, click "More Info," and then select the desired document(s) to 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 **December 4, 2024 from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.** at the **Smithsburg Public Library Community Room** located at **66 W. Water St., Smithsburg, MD 21783.**

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 December 17, 2024.**
All comments will be considered in making a final determination.

Written comments should be addressed to the **Maryland Department of the Environment, Water and Science Administration, 1800 Washington Blvd., Baltimore, Maryland 21230-1708, Attn.: Mr. Jonathan Rice, Chief, Industrial and General Permits Division.** The supporting information for the tentative determination, including the draft permit and fact sheet, may be reviewed by contacting Mr. Rice at the above address or by telephone at (410) 537-3859 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. Rice at the address or telephone number listed above. Such requests may also be emailed to **jonathan.rice@maryland.gov**.

To Be Published on: October 28 and November 4, 2024

Newspaper: **The Herald-Mail**