



Maryland Department of Environment
Water and Science Administration
Compliance Program
1800 Washington Blvd, Suite 420
Baltimore, MD 21230-1719
410- 537-3510, 1-800-633-6101

Inspector: Shailaja Polasi
AI ID: 3076

Site Name: Patapsco WWTP
Facility Address: 3501 Asiatic Ave, Curtis Bay, MD 21226
County: Baltimore City County

Start Date/Time: December 28, 2021 12:45PM
End Date /Time: December 28, 2021 2:40PM

Media Type(s): NPDES Municipal Major Surface Water

Contact(s):
Neal Jackson, Supervisor Patapsco WWTP
Eric Johnson, Supervisor Patapsco WWTP

NPDES Municipal Major Surface Water

Permit / Approval Numbers: 15DP0580
Inspection Reason: Follow-up (Non-Compliance)
Site Status: Active
Compliance Status: Noncompliance
Site Condition: Noncompliance
Recommended Action: Continue Routine Inspection
Evidence Collected: Photos or Videos Taken, Samples Taken, Visual Observation
Delivery Method: Email
Weather: Dry

Inspection Samples

Parameter	Result	Units	Method	Location	Date	Taken by
Oxygen, Dissolved	4.8	mg/L	Recorder	Final Effluent Chamber	2021-12-28 02:12 PM	James Murray, operator
pH	6.99	standard units	Recorder	Final Effluent Chamber	2021-12-28 02:12 PM	James Murray, operator
Chlorine, Total Residual	0.02	mg/L	Recorder	Final Effluent Chamber	2021-12-28 02:15 PM	James Murray, operator

Inspection Findings:

On this day the writer called Mr. Jackson and discussed for plans for inspection at Patapsco Waste Water Treatment facility. Upon arrival onsite I met with Neal Jackson and Eric Johnson representing Patapsco Wastewater treatment plant. After preliminary introductory meeting I

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began the inspection with the site walk of the treatment plant. The sky was sunny, cold at the time of the inspection. No records were reviewed on this date.

The following was observed during the site walk of the facility.

1. Mr. Jackson stated 2 bar screens on the north side train are sent out for repairs. Mr. Jackson stated once the repairs to the north side train are completed repairs to the south side will begin. Mr. Jackson stated the repairs are taking more time due to the availability of the parts. Mr. Jackson stated they anticipate the repairs to the bar screen to complete by end of January 2022. Pictures are taken.
2. Mr. Jackson stated in addition to the repairs to the bar screens they are working on replacing the trash/rags conveyor belt, skirts and rollers. **Corrective Action:** Submit a letter to the Department explaining the scope of work to the trash/rags conveyor belts. The letter should include when the maintenance work will start and complete and scope of work.
3. On this day I observed puddle of standing wastewater from the rags dumpster outside the rags collection area. Mr. Jackson stated operators clean the standing water daily. Pictures are taken. **Corrective Action:** Necessary steps should be taken to minimize the wash out of the waste water from the trash dumpsters onto paved surface. Submit a letter to the Department explaining how the standing wastewater is cleaned.
4. On this day I observed 4 PST's are online and 2 are on backup. Mr. Jackson stated the PST's are alternated and bought online based on as needed basis.
5. Mr. Jackson stated only the vegetation growth in the clarifiers is cleaned by private contractor. The scum, goose droppings, algae etc deposits are not cleaned at this time. Mr. Jackson stated the scum, algae deposits will be cleaned by in house personnel. Pictures are taken. **Corrective Action:** Submit a letter to the Department when the algae, scum deposits in the clarifiers will be cleaned. The letter should include the facilities periodic maintenance schedule to operate the clarifiers efficiently as per manufacturer recommendation.
6. On this day I observed the skimmer arm in the #2 clarifier, clarifier 5 A are not working effectively to capture the scum and floating particles to the collection area. On this day I observed the skimmer arm is raised to prevent damage to the skimmer arm mechanism. **Corrective Action:** Submit a letter to the Department when the skimmer arms, scum troughs repairs to the clarifiers will be completed. Submit a letter to the Department identifying the clarifiers that are in disrepair; maintenance work required for each clarifier and tentative schedule time when the repairs will start for each clarifier.
7. On this day Mr. Jackson stated nitrification process is being bypassed. Mr. Jackson stated they had blower failure in the nitrification process and all the cells are being bypassed for repairs. Mr. Jackson stated they have notified the Department of bypass today morning.
8. On this day I observed excessive foam in the chlorine contact chamber. Mr. Jackson stated the excessive foam is due to bypass of the nitrification process. Pictures are taken. **Corrective Action:** Advised Mr. Jackson to notify the Department of the excessive foam in the final effluent chamber.
9. Grab samples were collected for Ph, DO and TRC. The facility had low dissolved oxygen at the time of the sampling. Mr. Murray stated it's unclear if DO sample probe was reaching the effluent sample or not due to excessive foam in the final sampling chamber. **Corrective Action:** Notify the Department of the Dissolved Oxygen noncompliance.

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10. On this day I observed the suction hose to the composite sampler had traces of algae deposits inside the sampling hose. **Corrective Action:** Replace the suction hose to the sampler to prevent sample contamination.

With respect to the above MDE NPDES Permit, violations of the Environmental Article, Title 9 were observed on this date:

1. Failed to operate the treatment to minimize upsets and unauthorized discharges as required by NPDES permit General Condition B-3 "Facility Operation and Quality Control".
2. Failed to meet the final effluent limitations at OF-001 as required by Special Conditions II A2 of the NPDES permit.

To bring this site into compliance with Environmental Article Title 9, the following corrective action should be made immediately upon receipt of this report.

1. All the above mentioned corrective actions mentioned above should be corrected immediately.
2. Submit a letter to the Department with the current status of the repairs to the bar screens. Permittee should maintain an SOP for operation and maintenance of the bar screen operations.

Recommendation: Permittee should obtain prior approval for bypass whenever possible and comply with the Bypassing condition of the NPDES permit.

Contact this inspector upon implementation of the requested corrective actions, reasonably necessary to bring the site into compliance. If the corrective actions cannot be completed within the prescribed time frames above, you should continue to advise this inspector, at least every 30 days, of the status of the measures taken to complete the corrective actions.

If you have any questions, need assistance or to request a re-inspection, please contact this inspector at or in writing at [410-537-3521](tel:410-537-3521) or by e-mail at shailaja.polasi@maryland.gov.

Inspector: Shailaja Polasi
Shailaja, Polasi/Date
shailaja.polasi@maryland.gov
410-537-3510

Received by: _____
Signature/Date

Print Name