

Public Notice

Written public comment period extended to July 17, 2018

Public Hearing About the City of Molalla's Proposed Recycled Water Use Plan: July 10, 2018 in Molalla

DEQ invites the public to submit written comment on the content of the city of Molalla's proposed Recycled Water Use Plan, which is associated with the wastewater discharge permit for the city's sewage treatment plant.

Summary

During the summer months, the city of Molalla does not send its fully treated wastewater from the sewage treatment plant to the Molalla River. Instead, it provides the fully treated wastewater to properties near the city's discharge pipe for use in irrigating non-food crops with the property owner's and DEQ's approval. This action is the recycling of treated wastewater and it supports many environmental benefits. To assure that rules related to the quality and safe application of recycled water are met, the city has to write a Recycled Water Use Plan. DEQ reviews and approves the plan and then the public has the opportunity to review it and comment on it. The plan can be changed as a result of public comment.

How do I participate?

Attend the public hearing to learn about the changes proposed to the plan, ask any questions you might have and provide verbal or written comments on the proposed plan. You can also submit written comments by mail, fax or email.

Hearing details

When: Tuesday, July 10, 2018
6-8 p.m.

Where: Molalla Adult Center
315 Kennel Avenue
Molalla, OR 97038-8391

Send written comments by mail, fax or email to:

Tiffany Yelton Bram
Water Quality Manager
700 NE Multnomah St., Ste 600
Portland, OR 97232-4100

Fax: 503-229-6957

Email: yelton-bram.tiffany@deq.state.or.us

Written comments due: 5 p.m., Tuesday, July 17, 2018.

About the facility

The city of Molalla has proposed an update to their Recycled Water Use Plan associated with the NPDES permit for their sewage treatment plant located at 12424 Tolliver Rd, Molalla.

Recycled water is regulated under Oregon administrative rules Chapter 340-055. Molalla has had a DEQ approved Recycled Water Use Plan for several years. Currently, the city's plan describes their production of Class A recycled water, which is the highest quality described in the rules, but does not address producing and providing other classes of recycled water. Other classes of recycled water are allowed by rule but those other classes are lower quality. Classes B, C and D are still safe to use for a more limited set of crops and with additional precautions to protect the public from exposure to recycled water. The city would like the option of producing other classes of recycled water.

What types of pollutants does the plan regulate?

This plan sets conditions for how the facility deals with the following pollutants: bacteria, by measuring coliform organisms, and turbidity. The recycled water still goes through the treatment at the sewage treatment plant prior to being delivered to the irrigation site. However, when used per the plan for irrigation, the water may contain more fine particulates and slightly more bacteria than when discharged to the Molalla River.

Would the draft permit change the amount of pollution the facility is allowed to release?

Yes, but only when irrigating sites that are approved for lower quality recycled water and



State of Oregon
Department of
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Quality

NWR Water Quality

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only with precautions to protect public health in place. See table for details.

Substance	Change
Coliform bacteria	From Class A at a 7 day median of 2.2 organisms per 100ml and no more than 23 total organisms in a single 100ml sample to Class C at a 7 day median of 23 organisms per 100ml and no more than 240 total organisms in a single 100ml sample
Turbidity	Measured for Class A but not for other classes

Alternative formats

Documents can be provided upon request in an alternate format for individuals with disabilities or in a language other than English for people with limited English skills. To request a document in another format or language, call DEQ in Portland at 503-229-5696, or toll-free in Oregon at 1-800-452-4011, ext. 5696; or email deqinfo@deq.state.or.us



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How does DEQ determine plan requirements?

DEQ follows the state's rules for recycled water when determining whether a recycled water plan meets the requirements of the rules. The classes and uses of recycled water are defined in the rule and DEQ will not approve plans if these definitions are not included. The Oregon Health Authority also reviews recycled water use plans when Class B, C or D is proposed for production and use. In this case, OHA reviewed Molalla's proposed revision, provided comment and those comments were incorporated into the plan..

How does DEQ monitor compliance with the plan requirements?

This plan would require the facility to monitor pollutants using federally-approved monitoring practices and standards.

What happens after the meeting?

DEQ considers and responds to all comments received and may modify the proposed plan based on comments.

Where can I get more information?

View information about this project online at <http://www.cityofmolalla.com/publicworks/page/molallas-recycled-water-reuse-plan> or contact Gerald Fisher, Molalla Public Works Director, using the following contact information:

Phone: 503-829-6855

Email: gfisher@cityofmolalla.com

View the application and related documents in person at the DEQ office in Portland. For a review appointment, call Tiffany Yelton Bram at 503-229-5219.

