

Permit Fact Sheet

General Information

Permit Number	WI-0030490-09-0
Permittee Name and Address	City of Waupaca 111 S Main St, Waupaca, WI 54981
Permitted Facility Name and Address	Waupaca Wastewater Treatment Facility 325 S. Oborn Street, Waupaca, Wisconsin
Permit Term	April 01, 2026 to March 31, 2031
Discharge Location	Approximately ½ mile downstream of Shearer Bridge. Latitude 44° 21' 16" North, Longitude 89° 4' 31" West
Receiving Water	Waupaca River in Waupaca River of Wolf River in Waupaca County
Stream Flow (Q _{7,10})	77 cfs
Stream Classification	Warm Water Sport Fish (WWSF) community, non-public water supply, recreational use, and exceptional resource water (ERW)
Discharge Type	Existing, Continuous
Annual Average Design Flow (MGD)	1.5 MGD
Industrial or Commercial Contributors	Gusmer Enterprises
Plant Classification	A1 - Suspended Growth Processes; B - Solids Separation; C - Biological Solids/Sludges; P - Total Phosphorus; D - Disinfection; L - Laboratory; SS - Sanitary Sewage Collection System
Approved Pretreatment Program?	N/A

Facility Description

The City of Waupaca wastewater treatment facility (WWTF) provides wastewater treatment for the City of Waupaca, Chain 'O Lakes Sanitary District, Gusmer Enterprises, and the King Veteran's Home along with Waupaca Foundry landfill leachate, septage and grease trap waste. The WWTF is designed to treat an annual average flow of 1.5 million gallons per day (MGD) and a monthly max flow of 1.85 MGD. Treatment processes include preliminary treatment by mechanical fine screening and grit removal, primary clarification, activated sludge secondary treatment and secondary clarification. Phosphorus and ammonia removal are accomplished with biological nutrient removal. Ferrous sulfate is added to assist with phosphorus removal when necessary. Seasonally, final clarifier effluent is disinfected using sodium hypochlorite solution and required dechlorination is achieved with sodium bisulfite. Effluent is discharged on a continuous basis via Outfall 001 to the Waupaca River, approx. 0.5 mi downstream of the Shearer St. Bridge. Primary sludge and waste activated sludge are stabilized in a mixed, heated, mesophilic anaerobic digester. Liquid stabilized

sludge is thickened on a gravity belt thickener and stored on-site in a storage tank with a capacity of approximately 1.6 million gallons. Sludge from the holding tank is land applied during spring and fall by a contract hauler.

Substantial Compliance Determination

After a desk top review of all discharge monitoring reports, CMARs, CMOM, land app reports, compliance schedule items, and a site visit on September 18, 2025, this facility has been found to be in substantial compliance with their current permit.

Compliance determination made by Barti Oumarou, Compliance Engineer, on September 29, 2025.

Sample Point Descriptions

Sample Point Designation		
Sample Point Number	Discharge Flow, Units, and Averaging Period	Sample Point Location, Waste Type/Sample Contents and Treatment Description (as applicable)
701	1.03 MGD (2022-2024)	INFLUENT: 24-Hr flow proportional samples collected at the preliminary building directly downstream of the aerated grit chamber. Flow is measured with a Parshall flume in the pretreatment building.
111	N/A	FIELD BLANK: Collect the mercury field blank using standard sampling handling procedures.
001	1.04 MGD (2022-2024)	EFFLUENT: 24-Hr flow proportional samples collected from the effluent channel directly after the dechlorination basin. Grab samples are taken in the effluent channel proceeding the Parshall flume. Flow meter is located directly proceeding the dechlorination basin.
002	208 dry metric tons/yr	LAND APPLICATION: Anaerobically digested, thickened liquid, Class B sludge. Representative sludge samples shall be collected at the storage tank.

Permit Requirements

1 Influent – Monitoring Requirements

1.1 Sample Point Number: 701- INFLUENT

Monitoring Requirements and Limitations					
Parameter	Limit Type	Limit and Units	Sample Frequency	Sample Type	Notes
Flow Rate		MGD	Daily	Continuous	
BOD5, Total		mg/L	Monthly	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	
CBOD5		mg/L	3/Week	24-Hr Flow	

Monitoring Requirements and Limitations					
Parameter	Limit Type	Limit and Units	Sample Frequency	Sample Type	Notes
				Prop Comp	
Suspended Solids, Total		mg/L	3/Week	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	
Mercury, Total Recoverable		ng/L	Quarterly	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	

1.1.1 Changes from Previous Permit:

Influent limitations and monitoring requirements were evaluated for this permit term and the no changes were required in this permit section.

1.1.2 Explanation of Limits and Monitoring Requirements

Monitoring of influent flow, BOD5 and total suspended solids is required by s. NR 210.04(2), Wis. Adm. Code, to assess wastewater strengths and volumes and to demonstrate the percent removal requirements in s. NR 210.05, Wis. Adm. Code, and in the Standard Requirements section of the permit.

2 Inplant - Monitoring and Limitations

2.1 Sample Point Number: 111- FIELD BLANK

Monitoring Requirements and Limitations					
Parameter	Limit Type	Limit and Units	Sample Frequency	Sample Type	Notes
Mercury, Total Recoverable		ng/L	Quarterly	Blank	

2.1.1 Changes from Previous Permit:

In-plant limitations and monitoring requirements were evaluated for this permit term and no changes were required in this permit section.

2.1.2 Explanation of Limits and Monitoring Requirements

Mercury Field Blank- Monitoring is included in the permit pursuant to s. NR 106.145, Wis. Adm. Code. Field blanks must meet the requirements under s. NR 106.145(9) and (10), Wis. Adm. Code. The permittee shall collect a mercury field blank for each set of mercury samples (a set of samples may include a combination of influent, effluent or other samples all collected on the same day). Field blanks are required to verify a sample has not been contaminated during collection, transportation or analysis.

3 Surface Water - Monitoring and Limitations

3.1 Sample Point Number: 001- EFFLUENT

Monitoring Requirements and Limitations					
Parameter	Limit Type	Limit and Units	Sample Frequency	Sample Type	Notes
Flow Rate		MGD	Daily	Continuous	
CBOD5	Weekly Avg	40 mg/L	3/Week	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	
CBOD5	Monthly Avg	25 mg/L	3/Week	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	
Suspended Solids, Total	Weekly Avg	45 mg/L	3/Week	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	
Suspended Solids, Total	Monthly Avg	30 mg/L	3/Week	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	
Suspended Solids, Total	Weekly Avg	500 lbs/day	3/Week	Calculated	
Suspended Solids, Total	Monthly Avg	360 lbs/day	3/Week	Calculated	
Suspended Solids, Total		lbs/month	Monthly	Calculated	Calculate the Total Monthly Discharge of TSS and report on the last day of the month on the DMR. See TMDL Calculations section in the permit.
Suspended Solids, Total		lbs/yr	Monthly	Calculated	Calculate the 12-month rolling sum of total monthly mass of TSS discharged and report on the last day of the month on the DMR. See TMDL Calculations section in the permit.
pH Field	Daily Max	9.0 su	5/Week	Grab	
pH Field	Daily Min	6.0 su	5/Week	Grab	
Fecal Coliform	Geometric Mean - Monthly	400 #/100 ml	Weekly	Grab	Interim limit effective May through September annually until the final E. coli limit goes into effect per the Effluent Limitations for E. coli Schedule.
E. coli		#/100 ml	2/Week	Grab	Monitoring only May through September until the final limit goes into effect per the Effluent Limitations for E. coli Schedule.

Monitoring Requirements and Limitations					
Parameter	Limit Type	Limit and Units	Sample Frequency	Sample Type	Notes
E. coli	Geometric Mean - Monthly	126 #/100 ml	2/Week	Grab	Limit Effective May through September beginning in 2030 per the Effluent Limitations for E. coli Schedule.
E. coli	% Exceedance	10 #/100 ml	2/Week	Grab	Limit Effective May through September beginning in 2030 per the Effluent Limitations for E. coli Schedule. See the E. coli Percent Limit section in the permit. Enter the result in the DMR on the last day of the month.
Chlorine, Total Residual	Daily Max	38 ug/L	5/Week	Grab	Limit Effective May through September annually.
Chlorine, Total Residual	Monthly Avg	38 ug/L	5/Week	Grab	Limit Effective May through September annually.
Chlorine, Total Residual	Weekly Avg	38 ug/L	5/Week	Grab	Limit Effective May through September annually.
Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3-N) Total		mg/L	3/Week	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	Monitoring only June – September.
Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3-N) Total	Daily Max	30 mg/L	3/Week	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	Limit effective October - May.
Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3-N) Total	Weekly Avg	30 mg/L	3/Week	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	Limit effective October - May.
Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3-N) Total	Monthly Avg	19 mg/L	3/Week	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	Limit effective April and May.
Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3-N) Total	Monthly Avg	30 mg/L	3/Week	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	Limit effective October - March.
Phosphorus, Total	Monthly Avg	1.0 mg/L	3/Week	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	
Phosphorus, Total	Monthly Avg	7.5 lbs/day	3/Week	Calculated	Monitoring only upon permit effective date. Final TMDL-based mass limits go into effect per the phosphorus compliance schedule. See Phosphorus

Monitoring Requirements and Limitations					
Parameter	Limit Type	Limit and Units	Sample Frequency	Sample Type	Notes
					TMDL section.
Phosphorus, Total	6-Month Avg	2.5 lbs/day	3/Week	Calculated	Monitoring only upon permit effective date. Final TMDL-based mass limits go into effect per the phosphorus compliance schedule. See Phosphorus TMDL section.
Phosphorus, Total		lbs/month	Monthly	Calculated	Calculate the Total Monthly Discharge of phosphorus and report on the last day of the month on the DMR. See TMDL Calculations section.
Phosphorus, Total		lbs/yr	Monthly	Calculated	Calculate the 12-month rolling sum of total monthly mass of phosphorus discharged and report on the last day of the month on the DMR. See TMDL Calculations section.
Mercury, Total Recoverable		ng/L	Quarterly	Grab	Monitoring only.
PFOS		ng/L	1/ 2 Months	Grab	Monitoring only. See PFOS/PFOA Minimization Plan Determination of Need schedule.
PFOA		ng/L	1/ 2 Months	Grab	Monitoring only. See PFOS/PFOA Minimization Plan Determination of Need schedule.
Chloride		mg/L	Monthly	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	Monitoring in 2028 only.
Nitrogen, Total Kjeldahl		mg/L	Quarterly	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	
Nitrogen, Nitrite + Nitrate Total		mg/L	Quarterly	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	
Nitrogen, Total		mg/L	Quarterly	Calculated	Total Nitrogen shall be calculated as the sum of reported values for Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen and

Monitoring Requirements and Limitations					
Parameter	Limit Type	Limit and Units	Sample Frequency	Sample Type	Notes
					Total Nitrite + Nitrate Nitrogen.
Acute WET		TUa	See Listed Qtr(s)	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	See WET Section.
Chronic WET		9.1 TUC	See Listed Qtr(s)	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	See WET Section.

3.1.1 Changes from Previous Permit

Effluent limitations and monitoring requirements were evaluated for this permit term and the following changes were made from the previous permit. See additional explanation of limits under “Explanation of Limits and Monitoring Requirements” below.

- **Total Suspended Solids TMDL Limits** - Mass based TSS limits of 500 lbs/day as a weekly average and 360 lbs/day as a monthly average have been added to the permit to comply with requirements of the Upper Fox Wolf River TMDL. Effluent concentration (mg/L) shall be monitored and reported 3 times per week upon permit reissuance and will be used to calculate amounts reported for mass-based limits. An additional reporting requirement for lbs/month will be used to calculate the facility’s 12-month rolling sum of total monthly discharge, which can be compared directly to the facility’s designated WLA.
- **pH** – Sampling frequency changed from “3/week” to “5/week”.
- **E. coli**- Fecal coliform monitoring and limits will be replaced with Escherichia coli (E. coli) monitoring and limits following compliance schedule.
- **Residual Chlorine** – Sampling frequency changed from “3/week” to “5/week”.
- **Phosphorus TMDL Limits** - An interim limit of 1.0 mg/L remains in effect upon reissuance unless a more stringent limit is required at a future permit issuance by ss. NR 217.13 and NR 217.16(2), Wis. Adm. Code, or the limit is relaxed following procedures outlined in ch. NR 207, Wis. Adm. Code. Discharge effluent concentration (mg/L) shall be reported 3 times per week upon permit reissuance and will be used to calculate amounts reported for mass-based parameters. An additional reporting requirement for lbs/month will be used to calculate the facility’s 12-month rolling sum of total monthly discharge, which can be compared directly to the facility’s designated WLA. Final TMDL WLA-based effluent limits of 2.5 lbs/day as a six-month average and 7.5 lbs/day as a monthly average will go into effect in accordance with Water Quality Based Effluent Limits (WQBELs) for Total Phosphorus compliance schedule.
- **Mercury** – Removed the alternative effluent limit (AEL) for mercury due to the reasonable potential analysis; however, monthly monitoring and pollutant minimization efforts are required to continue during the reissued permit term to maintain effluent quality at or below current levels.
- **PFOS and PFOA** – Monitoring once every two months is included in the permit in accordance with s. NR 106.98(2)(a), Wis. Adm. Code.
- **Chloride** – Monthly monitoring in 2028 has been added to ensure sufficient sample results are available at the next permit issuance to meet the data requirements of s. NR 106.85, Wis. Adm. Code.
- **Total Nitrogen Monitoring (TKN, N02+N03 and Total N)**- Annual monitoring is required in specific quarters as outlined in the permit.

3.1.2 Explanation of Limits and Monitoring Requirements

Detailed discussions of limits and monitoring requirements can be found in the attached water quality-based effluent limits (WQBEL) memo dated July 10, 2025.

Monitoring Frequencies- The Monitoring Frequencies for Individual Wastewater Permits guidance (April 12, 2021) recommends that standard monitoring frequencies be included in individual wastewater permits based on the size and type of the facility, in order to characterize effluent quality and variability, to detect events of noncompliance, and to ensure consistency in permits issued across the state. Guidance and requirements in administrative code were considered when determining the appropriate monitoring frequencies for pollutants that have final effluent limits in effect during this permit term. pH and Residual Chlorine have had their sampling frequencies updated from 3/week to 5/week to align with the monitoring frequency guidance.

Expression of Limits- In accordance with the federal regulation 40 CFR 122.45(d) and s. NR 205.065, Wis. Adm. Code, limits in this permit are to be expressed as weekly average and monthly average limits whenever practicable.

Upper Fox Wolf River Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) - The permitted facility is located within the Upper Fox Wolf River Basin Total Maximum Daily Load (UFWRB TMDL), which was approved by EPA February 27, 2020. The TMDL establishes Waste Load Allocations (WLAs) for point source dischargers and determines the maximum amounts of phosphorus and total suspended solids that can be discharged and still protect water quality. The final effluent limits and monitoring expressed in the permit were derived from and comply with the applicable water quality criterion and are consistent with the assumptions and requirements of the EPA-approved WLAs in the TMDL, which are 779 lbs/yr for phosphorus and 88,777 lbs/yr for TSS for the permitted facility.

The approved TMDL expresses WLAs as lbs/year and lbs/day (maximum annual load divided by 365 days). As outlined in Section 4.6 of the department's 2020 TMDL Implementation Guidance for Wastewater Permits, TMDL limits must be given in the permit that are consistent with the TMDL WLA permit limits derived from the TMDL and need to be expressed as specified by 40 CFR 122.45 (d), s. NR 212.76 (4), and s. NR 205.065 (7), Wis. Adm. Code, unless determined to be impracticable. Impracticability has already been determined for phosphorus limits as laid out in the phosphorus impracticability agreement that was approved by USEPA in 2012 (see NPDES MOA Addendum dated July 12, 2012 at <https://apps.dnr.wi.gov/swims/Documents/DownloadDocument?id=167886175>).

For phosphorus, continuously discharging facilities covered by the UFWRB TMDL are given monthly average mass limits. If the equivalent effluent concentration is less than or equal to 0.3 mg/L, six-month average mass limits (averaging period of May through October and November through April) are also included. The equivalent effluent concentration of 0.17 mg/L was calculated for the facility, thus, TMDL based mass limits are expressed as a six-month average and a monthly average equal to three times the six-month average limits.

For TSS, continuously discharging municipal/industrial facilities covered by the UFWRB TMDL are given monthly average and weekly average/daily max mass limits.

Facilities with UFWRB TMDL based effluent limits for phosphorus and TSS must report the 12-month rolling sum of total monthly discharge (lbs/yr). If reported 12-month rolling sums exceed the facility's max annual WLA, the facility's mass limits (monthly average and six-month average) may be recalculated using more appropriate CVs or monitoring frequencies when the permit is reissued to bring discharge levels into compliance with the facility's given WLA.

Mercury – In the previous permit term(s) the permittee was granted a mercury variance. The currently available effluent data from the previous five years indicates that reasonable potential to exceed mercury limits has not been demonstrated. The permittee is required to continue the actions in the pollutant minimization plan to maintain effluent quality at or below current levels. This limit removal meets the antidegradation/antibacksliding requirements of ch. NR 207, Wis. Adm. Code, because mercury PMP efforts are recommended to continue in the reissued permit.

PFOS and PFOA – NR 106 Subchapter VIII – Permit Requirements for PFOS and PFOA Dischargers became effective on August 1, 2022. At the first reissuance of a WPDES permit after August 1, 2022, the new rule requires WPDES permits for major municipal dischargers with an average flow rate greater than 1 MGD but less than 5 MGD, at a minimum sample effluent once every two-months for PFOS and PFOA pursuant s. NR 106.98(2)(b), Wis. Adm. Code.

A sample frequency of 1/2 months means one sample is taken during any two-month period. Examples of 1/2 month sample would be every other month (Jan, March, May, etc.) or back-to-back months with a break in between (February & March, May & June, Aug & Sept, etc.). DMR Short Forms will be generated for the following time periods: January-February, March-April, May-June, July-August, September-October, and November-December. At a minimum one sample result will be present on each form.

The initial determination of the need for sampling shall be conducted for up to two years in order to determine if the permitted discharge has the reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of the PFOS or PFOA standards under s. NR 102.04(8)(d)1, Wis. Adm. Code.

4 Land Application - Monitoring and Limitations

Municipal Sludge Description						
Sample Point	Sludge Class (A or B)	Sludge Type (Liquid or Cake)	Pathogen Reduction Method	Vector Attraction Method	Reuse Option	Amount Reused/Disposed (Dry Tons/Year)
002	B	Liquid	Fecal Coliform	Injection	Land Application	208
Does sludge management demonstrate compliance? Yes						
Is additional sludge storage required? No						
Is Radium-226 present in the water supply at a level greater than 2 pCi/liter? No						
If yes, special monitoring and recycling conditions will be included in the permit to track any potential problems in landapplying sludge from this facility						
Is a priority pollutant scan required? No						

4.1 Sample Point Number: 002- Liquid Sludge

Monitoring Requirements and Limitations					
Parameter	Limit Type	Limit and Units	Sample Frequency	Sample Type	Notes
Solids, Total		Percent	Annual	Composite	
Arsenic Dry Wt	Ceiling	75 mg/kg	Annual	Composite	
Arsenic Dry Wt	High Quality	41 mg/kg	Annual	Composite	
Cadmium Dry Wt	Ceiling	85 mg/kg	Annual	Composite	
Cadmium Dry Wt	High Quality	39 mg/kg	Annual	Composite	
Copper Dry Wt	Ceiling	4,300 mg/kg	Annual	Composite	
Copper Dry Wt	High Quality	1,500 mg/kg	Annual	Composite	
Lead Dry Wt	Ceiling	840 mg/kg	Annual	Composite	

Monitoring Requirements and Limitations					
Parameter	Limit Type	Limit and Units	Sample Frequency	Sample Type	Notes
Lead Dry Wt	High Quality	300 mg/kg	Annual	Composite	
Mercury Dry Wt	Ceiling	57 mg/kg	Annual	Composite	
Mercury Dry Wt	High Quality	17 mg/kg	Annual	Composite	
Molybdenum Dry Wt	Ceiling	75 mg/kg	Annual	Composite	
Nickel Dry Wt	Ceiling	420 mg/kg	Annual	Composite	
Nickel Dry Wt	High Quality	420 mg/kg	Annual	Composite	
Selenium Dry Wt	Ceiling	100 mg/kg	Annual	Composite	
Selenium Dry Wt	High Quality	100 mg/kg	Annual	Composite	
Zinc Dry Wt	Ceiling	7,500 mg/kg	Annual	Composite	
Zinc Dry Wt	High Quality	2,800 mg/kg	Annual	Composite	
Nitrogen, Total Kjeldahl		Percent	Annual	Composite	
Nitrogen, Ammonium (NH ₄ -N) Total		Percent	Annual	Composite	
Phosphorus, Total		Percent	Annual	Composite	
Phosphorus, Water Extractable		% of Tot P	Annual	Composite	
Potassium, Total Recoverable		Percent	Annual	Composite	
PCB Total Dry Wt	Ceiling	50 mg/kg	Once	Composite	Once in 2028.
PCB Total Dry Wt	High Quality	10 mg/kg	Once	Composite	Once in 2028.
PFOA + PFOS		ug/kg	Once	Calculated	Report the sum of PFOA and PFOS. See PFAS Permit Sections for more information.
PFAS Dry Wt			Once	Grab	Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances based on updated DNR PFAS List. See PFAS Permit Sections for more information.

4.1.1 Changes from Previous Permit:

Sludge limitations and monitoring requirements were evaluated for this permit term and the following changes were made from the previous permit. See additional explanation of limits under “Explanation of Limits and Monitoring Requirements” below.

PFAS –Monitoring is required once pursuant to s. NR 204.06(2)(b)9., Wis. Adm. Code.

4.1.2 Explanation of Limits and Monitoring Requirements

Requirements for disposal, including land application of municipal sludge, are determined in accordance with ch. NR 204, Wis. Adm. Code. Ceiling and high-quality limits for metals in sludge are specified in s. NR 204.07(5). Requirements for pathogens are specified in s. NR 204.07(6) and in s. NR 204.07 (7), Wis. Adm. Code for vector attraction requirements. Limitations for PCBs are addressed in s. NR 204.07(3)(k), Wis. Adm. Code.

PFAS- The presence and fate of PFAS in municipal and industrial sludges is an emerging public health concern. EPA has developed a draft risk assessment to determine future land application rates and released this risk assessment in January of 2025. The department is evaluating this new information. Until a decision is made, the “Interim Strategy for Land Application of Biosolids and Industrial Sludges Containing PFAS” should be followed

Collecting sludge data on PFAS concentrations from a wide range of wastewater treatment facilities will help protect public health from exposure to elevated levels of PFAS and determine the department’s implementation of EPA’s recommendations. To quantitate this risk, PFAS sampling has been included in this WPDES permit pursuant to ss. NR 214.18(5)(b) and NR 204.06(2)(b)9., Wis. Adm. Code.

5 Schedules

5.1 Water Quality Based Effluent Limits (WQBELs) for Total Phosphorus

The permittee shall comply with the WQBELs for Phosphorus as specified. No later than 14 days following each compliance date, the permittee shall notify the Department in writing of its compliance or noncompliance. If a submittal is required, a timely submittal fulfills the notification requirement.

Required Action	Due Date
<p>Operational Evaluation Report: The permittee shall prepare and submit to the Department for approval an operational evaluation report. The report shall include an evaluation of collected effluent data, possible source reduction measures, operational improvements or other minor facility modifications that will optimize reductions in phosphorus discharges from the treatment plant during the period prior to complying with final phosphorus WQBELs and, where possible, enable compliance with final phosphorus WQBELs by April 1, 2029. The report shall provide a plan and schedule for implementation of the measures, improvements, and modifications as soon as possible, but not later than April 1, 2029 and state whether the measures, improvements, and modifications will enable compliance with final phosphorus WQBELs. Regardless of whether they are expected to result in compliance, the permittee shall implement the measures, improvements, and modifications in accordance with the plan and schedule specified in the operational evaluation report.</p> <p>If the operational evaluation report concludes that the facility can achieve final phosphorus WQBELs using the existing treatment system with only source reduction measures, operational improvements, and minor facility modifications, the permittee shall comply with the final phosphorus WQBEL by April 1, 2029 and is not required to comply with the milestones identified below for years 3 through 9 of this compliance schedule ('Preliminary Compliance Alternatives Plan', 'Final Compliance Alternatives Plan', 'Final Plans and Specifications', 'Treatment Plant Upgrade to Meet WQBELs', 'Complete Construction', 'Achieve Compliance').</p> <p>STUDY OF FEASIBLE ALTERNATIVES - If the Operational Evaluation Report concludes that the permittee cannot achieve final phosphorus WQBELs with source reduction measures, operational improvements and other minor facility modifications, the permittee shall initiate a study of feasible alternatives for meeting final phosphorus WQBELs and comply with the remaining required actions of this schedule of compliance. If the Department disagrees with the conclusion of the report, and</p>	<p>10/01/2026</p>

<p>determines that the permittee can achieve final phosphorus WQBELs using the existing treatment system with only source reduction measures, operational improvements, and minor facility modifications, the Department may reopen and modify the permit to include an implementation schedule for achieving the final phosphorus WQBELs sooner than April 1, 2035.</p>	
<p>Compliance Alternatives, Source Reduction, Improvements and Modifications Status: The permittee shall submit a 'Compliance Alternatives, Source Reduction, Operational Improvements and Minor Facility Modification' status report to the Department. The report shall provide an update on the permittee's: (1) progress implementing source reduction measures, operational improvements, and minor facility modifications to optimize reductions in phosphorus discharges and, to the extent that such measures, improvements, and modifications will not enable compliance with the WQBELs, (2) status evaluating feasible alternatives for meeting phosphorus WQBELs.</p>	04/01/2027
<p>Preliminary Compliance Alternatives Plan: The permittee shall submit a preliminary compliance alternatives plan to the Department.</p> <p>If the plan concludes upgrading of the permittee's wastewater treatment facility is necessary to achieve final phosphorus WQBELs, the submittal shall include a preliminary engineering design report.</p> <p>If the plan concludes Adaptive Management will be used, the submittal shall include a completed Watershed Adaptive Management Request Form 3200-139 without the Adaptive Management Plan.</p> <p>If water quality trading will be undertaken, the plan must state that trading will be pursued.</p>	10/01/2027
<p>Final Compliance Alternatives Plan: The permittee shall submit a final compliance alternatives plan to the Department.</p> <p>If the plan concludes upgrading of the permittee's wastewater treatment is necessary to meet final phosphorus WQBELs, the submittal shall include a final engineering design report addressing the treatment plant upgrades, and a facility plan if required pursuant to ch. NR 110, Wis. Adm. Code.</p> <p>If the plan concludes Adaptive Management will be implemented, the submittal shall include a completed Watershed Adaptive Management Request Form 3200-139 and an engineering report addressing any treatment system upgrades necessary to meet interim limits pursuant to s. NR 217.18, Wis. Adm. Code.</p> <p>If the plan concludes water quality trading will be used, the submittal shall identify potential trading partners.</p> <p>Note: See 'Alternative Approaches to Phosphorus WQBEL Compliance' in the Surface Water section of this permit.</p>	04/01/2028
<p>Progress Report on Plans & Specifications: Submit progress report regarding the progress of preparing final plans and specifications. Note: See 'Alternative Approaches to Phosphorus WQBEL Compliance' in the Surface Water section of this permit.</p>	10/01/2028
<p>Final Plans and Specifications: Unless the permit has been modified, revoked and reissued, or reissued to include Adaptive Management or Water Quality Trading measures or to include a revised schedule based on factors in s. NR 217.17, Wis. Adm. Code, the permittee shall submit final construction plans to the Department for approval pursuant to s. 281.41, Stats., specifying treatment plant upgrades that must be constructed to achieve compliance with final phosphorus WQBELs, and a schedule for completing construction of the upgrades by the complete construction date specified below. (Note: Permit modification, revocation and reissuance, and reissuance are subject to s. 283.53(2), Stats.)</p> <p>Note: See 'Alternative Approaches to Phosphorus WQBEL Compliance' in the Surface Water section</p>	04/01/2029

of this permit.	
Treatment Plant Upgrade to Meet WQBELs: The permittee shall initiate construction of the upgrades. The permittee shall obtain approval of the final construction plans and schedule from the Department pursuant to s. 281.41, Stats. Upon approval of the final construction plans and schedule by the Department pursuant to s. 281.41, Stats., the permittee shall construct the treatment plant upgrades in accordance with the approved plans and specifications. Note: See 'Alternative Approaches to Phosphorus WQBEL Compliance' in the Surface Water section of this permit.	10/01/2029
Construction Upgrade Progress Report #1: The permittee shall submit a progress report on construction upgrades. Note: See 'Alternative Approaches to Phosphorus WQBEL Compliance' in the Surface Water section of this permit.	04/01/2030
Construction Upgrade Progress Report #2: The permittee shall submit a progress report on construction upgrades. Note: See 'Alternative Approaches to Phosphorus WQBEL Compliance' in the Surface Water section of this permit.	10/01/2030
Complete Construction: The permittee shall complete construction of wastewater treatment system upgrades. Note: See 'Alternative Approaches to Phosphorus WQBEL Compliance' in the Surface Water section of this permit.	01/01/2031
Achieve Compliance: The permittee shall achieve compliance with final phosphorus WQBELs. Note: See 'Alternative Approaches to Phosphorus WQBEL Compliance' in the Surface Water section of this permit.	03/01/2031

5.1.1 Explanation of Schedule

Subchapter NR 217.17, Wis. Adm. Code, allows the department to provide a schedule of compliance for water quality-based phosphorus limits where the permittee cannot immediately achieve compliance. This compliance schedule requires the permittee to comply with the final water quality-based phosphorus limits within 5 years.

The permittee may be required to meet the final phosphorus WQBEL sooner than March 31, 2031 (less than 5 years) if the required “Operational Evaluation Report” concludes that the phosphorus WQBEL can be met using the existing treatment system with only source reduction measures, operational improvements and minor facility modifications. Also, the permittee will conduct a “Study of Feasible Alternatives” to determine whether Water Quality Trading or Adaptive Management, either alone or in combination with plant upgrades will allow the plant to meet the phosphorus WQBEL.

The department believes that the compliance schedule suggested in the draft permit provides the appropriate length of time for the permittee to evaluate these options, implement the chosen option and meet the final phosphorus limits (WQBELs).

5.2 Effluent Limitations for E. coli

The permittee shall comply with surface water limitations for E. coli as specified. No later than 14 days following each compliance date, the permittee shall notify the Department in writing of its compliance or noncompliance. If a submittal is required, a timely submittal fulfills the notification

Required Action	Due Date
Status Update: The permittee shall submit information within the discharge monitoring report (DMR) comment section documenting the steps taken in preparation for properly monitoring and testing for E. coli including, but not limited to, selected test method and location of sampling.	10/01/2026
Operational Evaluation Report: The permittee shall prepare and submit an Operational Evaluation Report to the Department for review and approval. The report shall include an evaluation of collected effluent data and proposed operational improvements that will optimize efficacy of disinfection at the	04/01/2027

<p>treatment plant during the period prior to complying with final E. coli limitations and, to the extent possible, enable compliance with the final E. coli limitations. The report shall include a plan and schedule for implementation of the operational improvements. These improvements shall occur as soon as possible, but not later than April 1, 2027. The report shall state whether the operational improvements are expected to result in compliance with the final E. coli limitations.</p> <p>The permittee shall implement the operational improvements in accordance with the approved plan and schedule specified in the Operational Evaluation Report and in no case later than April 1, 2028.</p> <p>If the Operational Evaluation Report concludes that the operational improvements are expected to result in compliance with the final E. coli limitations, the permittee shall comply with the final E. coli limitations by April 1, 2029 and the permittee is not required to comply with subsequent milestones identified below in this compliance schedule ('Submit Facility Plan', 'Final Plans and Specifications', 'Treatment Plant Upgrade to Meet Limitations', 'Construction Upgrade Progress Report', 'Complete Construction', 'Achieve Compliance').</p> <p>FACILITY PLAN - If the Operational Evaluation Report concludes that operational improvements alone are not expected to result in compliance with the final E. coli limitations, the permittee shall initiate development of a facility plan for meeting final E. coli limitations and comply with the remaining required actions in this schedule of compliance.</p> <p>If the Department disagrees with the conclusion of the report and determines that the permittee can achieve final E. coli limitations using the existing treatment system with only operational improvements, the Department may reopen and modify the permit to include an implementation schedule for achieving the final E. coli limitations sooner than April 1, 2029.</p>	
<p>Submit Facility Plan: If the Operational Evaluation Report concluded that the permittee cannot achieve final E. coli limitations with operational improvements alone, the permittee shall submit a Facility Plan per s. NR 110.09, Wis. Adm. Code. The permittee may submit an abbreviated facility plan if the Department determines that the modifications are minor.</p>	10/01/2027
<p>Final Plans and Specifications: If necessary, the permittee shall submit final construction plans to the Department for approval pursuant to ch. NR 108, Wis. Adm. Code, specifying treatment plant upgrades that must be constructed to achieve compliance with final E. coli limitations and a schedule for completing construction of the upgrades by the complete construction date specified below.</p>	04/01/2028
<p>Achieve Compliance: The permittee shall achieve compliance with final E. coli limitations.</p>	04/01/2029

5.2.1 Explanation of Schedule

A compliance schedule is included in the permit to provide time for the permittee to investigate options for meeting new effluent E. coli water quality-based effluent limits while coming into compliance with the limits as soon as reasonably possible.

5.3 Mercury Pollutant Minimization Program

As a condition of the variance to the water quality based effluent limitation(s) for mercury granted in accordance with s. NR 106.145(6), Wis. Adm. Code, the permittee shall perform the following actions.

Required Action	Due Date
<p>Final Mercury Report: Submit a report summarizing the mercury pollutant minimization measures implemented during the current permit term and the success in maintaining effluent quality at or below the current concentrations. The report shall include an analysis of trends in quarterly and annual average mercury concentrations and total mass discharge of mercury based on mercury</p>	09/30/2030

sampling and flow data covering the current permit term. The report shall also include an analysis of how influent and effluent mercury varies with time and with significant loadings of mercury such as loads from industries or collection system maintenance.	
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5.3.1 Explanation of Schedule

The permittee is required to continue pollutant minimization measures to maintain effluent quality at or below current levels. This schedule requires a report documenting the continued measures.

5.4 Land Application Management Plan

A management plan is required for the land application system.

Required Action	Due Date
Land Application Management Plan Submittal: Submit an update to the management plan to optimize the land application system performance and demonstrate compliance with ch. NR 204, Wis. Adm. Code, by the Due Date. This management plan shall 1) specify information on pretreatment processes (if any); 2) identify land application sites; 3) describe site limitations; 4) address vegetative cover management and removal; 5) specify availability of storage; 6) describe the type of transporting and spreading vehicle(s); 7) specify monitoring procedures; 8) track site loading; 9) address contingency plans for adverse weather and odor/nuisance abatement; and 10) include any other pertinent information. Once approved, all landspreading activities shall be conducted in accordance with the plan. Any changes to the plan must be approved by the Department prior to implementing the changes.	04/01/2027

5.4.1 Explanation of Schedule

An up-to-date Land Application Management Plan is required that documents how the permittee will manage the land application of biosolids consistent with ch. NR 204, Wis. Adm. Code.

Attachments

Water Quality Based Effluent Limitations for the Waupaca Wastewater Treatment Facility WPDES Permit No. WI-0030490-09-0, Michael Polkinghorn, dated July 10, 2025

Justification Of Any Waivers From Permit Application Requirements

No waivers requested or granted as part of this permit reissuance

Prepared By: Ashley Clark, Wastewater Specialist

Date: January 8, 2026