

ADEQ

ARKANSAS
Department of Environmental Quality

October 2, 2012

Mark Yardley, Public Works Director
City of Alma
811 Fayetteville Ave.
Alma, AR 72921

AFIN: 17-00059

NPDES Permit No.: AR0021466


Dear Mr. Yardley:

On September 19, 2012, I performed a reconnaissance inspection of the collection system in response to a complaint. The complainant alleged that raw sewage had overflowed from the clean-out at the residence located at 1032 Harris Drive in Alma due to blockage in the City's main line. This inspection was conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Clean Water Act, the Arkansas Water and Air Pollution Control Act, and the regulations promulgated thereunder. This inspection revealed the following:

It was apparent that a sewer overflow had occurred in the front yard of the home located at 1032 Harris Drive. Upon arrival I observed that lime had been applied to the impacted area at the residence. The area had been cleaned and I did not observe any raw sewage on the ground. It appeared that the overflow had occurred at the clean-out which was an open ended slotted grate flush with the top of the ground located adjacent to the front porch.

The above item requires your immediate attention. Please submit a written response to this finding to the Water Division Inspection Branch of this Department. This response should be mailed to the address below or e-mailed to Water-Inspection-Report@adeq.state.ar.us. In the response please provide the criteria that the City of Alma uses in determining when a sewer overflow is reported. The written response is due by October 16, 2012.

If I can be of any assistance, please contact me at 479-424-0325 or by email at tyler@adeq.state.ar.us.

Sincerely,


Jeff Tyler
District 4 Field Inspector
Water Division



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Washington, D.C. 20460

NPDES Compliance Inspection Report

Form Approved
OMB No. 2040-0003

Section A: National Data System Coding

Transaction Code	NPDES	Yr/Mo/Day	Inspec. Type	Inspector	Fac. Type
1 <input type="text" value="N"/> 2 <input type="text" value="5"/> 3 <input type="text" value="A"/> <input type="text" value="R"/> <input type="text" value="0"/> <input type="text" value="0"/> <input type="text" value="2"/> <input type="text" value="1"/> <input type="text" value="4"/> <input type="text" value="6"/> <input type="text" value="6"/>	11 <input type="text" value="1"/> 12 <input type="text" value="2"/> <input type="text" value="0"/> <input type="text" value="9"/> <input type="text" value="1"/> <input type="text" value="9"/>	17 <input type="text" value="R"/>	18 <input type="text" value="R"/>	19 <input type="text" value="S"/>	20 <input type="text" value="1"/>
Remarks					
Inspection Work Days		Facility Evaluation Rating		BI	
67 <input type="text" value=""/> <input type="text" value=""/> <input type="text" value=""/> 69		70 <input type="text" value="N"/>		71 <input type="text" value="N"/> 72 <input type="text" value="N"/> 73 <input type="text" value=""/> 74 <input type="text" value=""/> 75 <input type="text" value=""/> <input type="text" value=""/> <input type="text" value=""/> <input type="text" value=""/> 80	

Section B: Facility Data

Name and Location of Facility Inspected (<i>For industrial users discharging to POTW, also include POTW name and NPDES permit number</i>) City of Alma POTW 2500 Orrick Road Alma, AR 72921	Entry Time/Date 0945 September 19, 2012	Permit Effective Date March 1, 2008
Name(s) of On-Site Representative(s)/Title(s)/Phone and Fax Number(s) No representative on-site at time of inspection.	Other Facility Data Site coordinates: N 35 28'30.4" W 94 12' 37.6" PDS #068006	
Name, Address of Responsible Official/Title/Phone and Fax Number Mark Yardley / Public Works Director / 479-632-2254 / fax 479-632-5136 811 Fayetteville Ave. Alma, AR 72921	Contacted Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

Section C: Areas Evaluated During Inspection

(S = Satisfactory, M = Marginal, U = Unsatisfactory, N = Not Evaluated)

S	Permit	N	Flow Measurement	N	Operations & Maintenance	U	Sanitary Sewer Overflow
N	Records/Reports	N	Self-Monitoring Program	N	Sludge Handling/Disposal	N	Pollution Prevention
N	Facility Site Review	N	Compliance Schedules	N	Pretreatment	N	Multimedia
N	Effluent/Receiving Waters	N	Laboratory	N	Storm Water	N	Construction:

Section D: Summary of Findings/Comments (Attach additional sheets if necessary)

Inspection confirmed that a sewer overflow had occurred from the clean-out at the residence, the impacted area had been cleaned and lime had been applied to the ground. I contacted Jay Christello, Operations Manager for the City of Alma. He advised that his office was notified early on the morning of the 19th from the homeowner that an overflow had occurred. City crews responded and jetted the line to remove blockage and cleaned the impacted area. He stated that in the past tree roots in the main line had attributed to this private line overflowing. He advised that the City attempted to jet the line on a weekly basis and added chemicals to reduce the growth of tree roots semi-annually. I asked if the City of Alma planned to report this incident on their monthly SSO report, he advised that their SSO Plan did not require them to report overflows which occur on private lines to individual homes. I discussed with Mr. Christello the type of clean-out that was located at the residence and explained that it was an open ended slotted grate which would allow for an overflow and would allow surface water to enter the collection system. He stated that the City would contact the homeowner and efforts would be made to replace the existing clean-out and install a back flow preventer.

Name(s) and Signature(s) of Inspector(s) Jeff Tyler	Agency/Office/Telephone/Fax AR Dept. of Environmental Quality/ 479-424-0325 / fax / 479-424-0330	Date September 25, 2012
Signature of Reviewer	Agency/Office/Phone and Fax Numbers	Date

Water Division NPDES Photographic Evidence Sheet

Location: 1032 Harris Drive-Alma

Photographer: Jeff Tyler **Witness:** None

Photo # 1 **Of** 4 **Date:** 09-19-12 **Time:** 1222

Description: View of the home located at 1032 Harris Drive in Alma.



Photographer: Jeff Tyler **Witness:** None

Photo # 2 **Of** 4 **Date:** 09-19-12 **Time:** 1223

Description: Location where sewer overflow occurred with evidence of lime applied to impacted area.



Water Division NPDES Photographic Evidence Sheet

Location: 1032 Harris Drive-Alma

Photographer: Jeff Tyler **Witness:** None

Photo # 3 **Of** 4 **Date:** 09-19-12 **Time:** 1223

Description: Two clean-outs located in front of house, note the open ended slotted grate cover.



Photographer: Jeff Tyler **Witness:** None

Photo # 4 **Of** 4 **Date:** 09-19-12 **Time:** 1224

Description: Clean-outs where sewer overflow occurred in front yard.



From: [Jay Christello](#)
To: [Water-Inspection-Report](#)
Cc: [Mark Yardley](#); [Tyler Jeffery](#)
Subject: RE: Response letter Field Inspection 1032 Harris Drive
Date: Thursday, October 18, 2012 9:49:41 AM
Attachments: [Response Letter ADEQ Field Inspection of Overflow 1032 Harris Drive.doc](#)

Dear Sir/Madam,

Please see the attached response letter to your field inspection at 1032 Harris Drive in Alma.

Thanks,

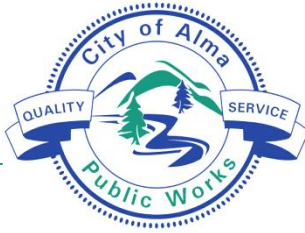
Jay

Jay Christello
Operations Supervisor
Alma Water & Sewer Department
811 Fayetteville Avenue
Alma, AR 72921
P479-632-2254
F479-632-5136
jay@cityofalma.org

_____ Information from ESET NOD32 Antivirus, version of virus signature database 7600 (20121018) _____

The message was checked by ESET NOD32 Antivirus.

<http://www.eset.com>



811 Fayetteville Ave.
Alma, Arkansas 72921

(501) 632-2254
Fax (501) 632-5136

Arkansas Dept of Environmental Quality
5301 Northshore Dr.
North Little Rock, Arkansas 72118-5317

October 15th, 2012

Dear Sir/Madam,

NPDES Permit AR0021466
Harris Drive Sewage Overflow from Residential Clean-Out

I write concerning the field inspection by Jeff Tyler of an apparent sewage overflow at the residence located at 1032 Harris Drive. The overflow discharged from un-capped clean-outs, near the front of the house.

Upon reviewing the actions taken by our personnel, I concur an overflow occurred at this location. However, based on our Sewer Overflow Response Plan (SORP), only overflows occurring within "city" owned collection system infrastructure constitute an overflow. In this particular case, it was not apparent the overflow was completely due to the city owned main being blocked, since past blockages have been both within the service line, and/or the main. A copy of the Alma SORP was sent to the ADEQ on February 3rd, 2009. Please let me know if you would like another copy.

During the field inspection, (2) improper open drain type clean-outs were discovered, which is against City policy. The homeowner has been notified via letter and telephone (a copy of this letter was sent to Jeff Tyler), asking for installation of proper clean-out caps as soon as possible.

The cause for the partial blockage in the main appeared to be a bundle of tri-fold paper towels. This particular location, due to the elevation of the house slab, will back up when less than $\frac{3}{4}$ of the main is full. Visual inspections of the collection system, including looking into manholes, occur in this area on a weekly basis, usually on Friday. These preventative measures usually prevent backups in the area, although occasionally backups still occur at this residence. The homeowner has been encouraged to install a backwater valve to prevent any backups in the future.

Thank you very much for your understanding. If you have any questions, please contact me at your convenience.

Yours sincerely,

Jay Christello
Operations Supervisor

cc: File, Mark Yardley, Jeff Tyler, Eric Flynn

ADEQ

ARKANSAS
Department of Environmental Quality

October 22, 2012

Mark Yardley, Public Works Director
City of Alma
811 Fayetteville Ave.
Alma, AR 72921

AFIN: 17-00059


NPDES Permit No.: AR0021466

Dear Mr. Yardley:

I have reviewed the response pertaining to my September 19, 2012, sewer overflow inspection at 1032 Harris Drive in Alma. The information provided sufficiently addresses the violations referenced in my inspection report. At this time the Department has no further comment concerning this particular inspection. Acceptance of this response by the Department does not preclude any future enforcement action deemed necessary at this site or any other site.

If we need further information concerning this matter, we will contact you. Thank you for your attention to this matter. Should you have any questions, feel free to contact me at 479-424-0325 or you may e-mail me at tyler@adeq.state.ar.us.

Sincerely,



Jeff Tyler
District 4 Field Inspector
Water Division

cc: Water Division Enforcement Branch
Water Division Permits Branch