



# California Regional Water Quality Control Board

## Los Angeles Region



Winston H. Hickox  
Secretary for  
Environmental  
Protection

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320 W. 4th Street, Suite 200, Los Angeles, California 90013  
Phone (213) 576-6600 FAX (213) 576-6640 - Internet Address: <http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb4>

December 13, 2002

Ms. Denise Williams  
Sweetwater Veterinary Clinic, Inc.  
333324 Agua Dulce Canyon Road  
Agua Dulce, CA 91390

CERTIFIED MAIL  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED  
CLAIM NO. 7002 0860 0001 0650 9569

Dear Ms. Williams:

**GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR SMALL COMMERCIAL AND MULTIFAMILY RESIDENTIAL SUBSURFACE SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEMS – SWEETWATER VETERINARY CLINIC, INC., 33324 AGUA DULCE CANYON ROAD, AGUA DULCE, CALIFORNIA (FILE NO. 02-127, CI-8489)**

We have completed our review of your application for Waste Discharge Requirements to discharge domestic wastewater from Sweetwater Veterinary Clinic, Inc. at the subject location.

Regional Board staff have reviewed the information provided and have determined that the proposed discharge meets the conditions specified in Order No. 01-031, "General Waste Discharge Requirements for Small Commercial and Multifamily Residential Subsurface Sewage Disposal Systems," adopted by this Regional Board on February 22, 2001. Refer to the attached Fact Sheet.

Enclosed are your Waste Discharge Requirements, consisting of Order No. 01-031 and Monitoring and Reporting Program No. CI-8489.

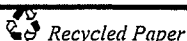
The "Monitoring and Reporting Program" requires you to implement the monitoring program on the effective date of coverage under this permit. The Executive Officer at his discretion may require you to develop a groundwater monitoring program. If this decision is made, you must submit a workplan to implement the groundwater monitoring program within 45 days of such notification. The workplan is subject to the Executive Officer's approval. Once approved it must be implemented within 60 days (See section III on Page T-3 of the Monitoring and Reporting Program CI-8489). All monitoring reports should be sent to the Regional Board, ATTN: Information Technology Unit.

When submitting monitoring or technical reports to the Regional Board per these requirements, please include a reference to "Compliance File No. CI-8489" which will assure that the reports are directed to the appropriate file and staff. Also, please do not combine other reports with your monitoring reports. Submit each type of report as a separate document.

The Regional Board is currently evaluating groundwater monitoring data from the Upper Santa Clara groundwater basins that underlie the location of your project. The review of the monitoring data indicates that the regional groundwater quality objective for nitrogen may be exceeded. Additionally, the upper reaches of the Santa Clara River, downstream from your

**California Environmental Protection Agency**

\*\*\*The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption\*\*\*  
\*\*\*For a list of simple ways to reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see the tips at: <http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/news/echallenge.html>\*\*\*



Our mission is to preserve and enhance the quality of California's water resources for the benefit of present and future generations.

Ms. Denise Williams  
Sweetwater Veterinary Clinic, Inc.

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December 13, 2002

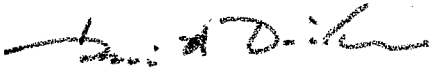
project, are impaired by nitrogen compounds and are listed on the 1998.303(d) list of impaired waterbodies in California. Consequently, the Regional Board is currently developing a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for nutrient compounds in the Santa Clara River in accordance with the Clean Water Act.

The TMDL will identify and quantify nitrogen sources in the Santa Clara River Watershed, including septic tanks in the Acton area. Based on the TMDL studies, the Regional Board may allocate loads and/or waste loads to Dischargers, including the Sweetwater Veterinary Clinic. These load and wasteload allocations may result in discharge limits that will supersede those of Order No. 01-031. In accordance with section 13263(g) of the California Water Code, the Discharger will be required to meet any applicable limits that will be established under the forthcoming TMDL.

We are sending a copy of Order No. 01-031 only to the applicant. A copy of the Order will be furnished to anyone who requests it.

If you have any additional questions, please contact Ms. Dionisia Rodriguez at (213) 620-6122.

Sincerely,



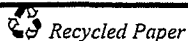
Dennis A. Dickerson  
Executive Officer

Enclosures

cc: Mr. Gordon Innes, Division of Water Quality, State Water Resources Control Board  
Mr. Robert Sams, Office of Chief Counsel, State Water Resources Control Board  
Mr. Michael Lauffer, Office of Chief Counsel, State Water Resources Control Board  
Mr. Richard Wagener, Department of Health Services, County of Los Angeles

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STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
LOS ANGELES REGION  
320 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 200, Los Angeles, California 90013

FACT SHEET  
WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS  
FOR  
SWEETWATER VETERINARY CLINIC, INC.  
33324 AGUA DULCE CANYON ROAD  
AGUA DULCE, CALIFORNIA

ORDER NO. 01-031  
FILE NO. 02-127

**FACILITY ADDRESS**

33324 Agua Dulce Canyon Road  
Agua Dulce, CA 91390

**FACILITY MAILING ADDRESS**

33324 Agua Dulce Canyon Road  
Agua Dulce, CA 91390

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

Sweetwater Veterinary Clinic, Inc. is a small animal and equine veterinary clinic which is owned and operated by Mark and Denise Williams. Domestic wastewater from the facility is discharged to a septic disposal system consisting of a 1,000-gallon septic tank and two seepage pits. Each seepage pit will be five feet in diameter and thirty feet deep.

The direction of the groundwater flow is to the northeast and the depth to groundwater is in excess of 200 feet. It is also anticipated that the groundwater will not rise within 10 feet of the proposed leach line system.

**VOLUME AND DESCRIPTION OF DISCHARGE:**

Approximately 750 gallons per day (on average) of domestic wastewater are discharged to the septic disposal system located at latitude: 34°29'42" and longitude: 118°19'34".

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
LOS ANGELES REGION

MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM NO. CI-8489  
FOR  
SWEETWATER VETERINARY CLINIC, INC.  
33324 AGUA DULCE CANYON ROAD  
AGUA DULCE, CALIFORNIA

ENROLLMENT UNDER REGIONAL BOARD  
ORDER NO. 01-031 (Series No. 024)  
FILE NO. 02-127

I. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

- A. The Discharger shall implement this monitoring program on the effective date of this enrollment (December 13, 2002) under Regional Board Order No. 01-031. The first monitoring report under this program for the reporting period October to December 2002 shall be received at the Regional Board by January 15, 2003.

Monitoring reports shall be received by the dates in the following schedule:

<u>Reporting Period</u>	<u>Report Due</u>
January – March	April 15
April – June	July 15
July – September	October 15
October – December	January 15

- B. If there is no discharge, during any reporting period, the report shall so state. Monitoring reports must be addressed to the Regional Board, Attention: Information Technology Unit.
- C. By January 30 of each year the Discharger shall submit an annual summary report to the Regional Board. The report shall contain both tabular and graphical summaries of the monitoring data obtained during the previous calendar year. In addition, the Discharger shall discuss the compliance record and the corrective actions taken or planned, which may be needed to bring the discharge into full compliance with the waste discharge requirements.
- D. Laboratory analyses – all chemical, bacteriological, and toxicity analyses shall be conducted at a laboratory certified for such analyses by the California Department of Health Services Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELAP). The laboratory must meet the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) Quality Assurance/Quality Control (QA/QC) criteria. Pollutants shall be analyzed using the methods described in 40 CFR 136.3, 136.4, and 136.5; or

December 13, 2002

where no methods are specified for a given pollutant, methods approved by the Regional Board shall be utilized.

- E. The method limits (MLs) employed for effluent analyses shall be lower than the permit limits established for a given parameter, unless the Discharger can demonstrate that a particular ML is not attainable and obtains approval for a higher ML from the Executive Officer. At least once a year, the Discharger shall submit a list of the analytical methods employed for each test and the associated laboratory QA/QC procedures.
- F. Each monitoring report must affirm in writing that "All analyses were conducted at a laboratory certified for such analyses by the California Department of Health Services, and in accordance with current USEPA guideline procedures or as specified in this Monitoring Program." Proper chain of custody procedures must be followed and a copy of the chain of custody shall be submitted with the report.
- G. For every item where the requirements are not met, the Discharger shall submit a statement of the cause(s), and actions undertaken or proposed which will bring the discharge into full compliance with waste discharge requirements at the earliest possible time, including a timetable for implementation of those actions.
- H. The Discharger shall maintain all sampling and analytical results, including strip charts; date; exact place, and time of sampling; dates analyses were performed; analyst's name; analytical techniques used; and results of all analyses. Such records shall be retained for a minimum of three years. This period of retention shall be extended during the course of any unresolved litigation regarding this discharge, or when requested by the Regional Board.
- I. In reporting the monitoring data, the Discharger shall arrange the data in tabular form so that the date, the constituents, and the concentrations are readily discernible. The data shall be summarized to demonstrate compliance with the requirements and, where applicable, shall include results of receiving water observations.
- J. Any mitigation/remedial activity including any pre-discharge treatment conducted at the site must be reported in the quarterly monitoring report.

## II. SEPTIC TANK AND DISPOSAL SYSTEM MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

The quarterly reports shall contain the following information:

1. Average and maximum daily waste flow and average water usage rate for each month of the quarter, in gallons per day.

2. Estimated population served during each month of the reporting period.
3. Results of at least quarterly observations in the disposal area for any over flow or surfacing of wastes.

In addition, the Discharger shall annually submit an operation and maintenance report on the septic systems. The information to be contained in the report shall include, at a minimum, the following:

1. The name and address of the person or company responsible for the operation and maintenance of the facility;
2. Type of maintenance (preventive or corrective action performed);
3. Frequency of maintenance, if preventive;
4. Periodic pumping out of each septic tank; and
5. Maintenance records of each septic disposal system.

### III. GROUNDWATER MONITORING PROGRAM

A groundwater monitoring program will not be required at this time. In the future, the Executive Officer may determine that a groundwater monitoring program is needed to fully evaluate the impact from the wastewater discharge on groundwater. If this determination is made, the Discharger must submit a groundwater monitoring plan to this Regional Board within 45 days of the notification. The groundwater monitoring plan submitted shall be subject to the Executive Officer's approval prior to implementation. The groundwater monitoring wells must be installed in such a way so as to fully assess the background groundwater quality and the downgradient groundwater quality. The plan shall include the exact location of the proposed wells, depths, construction of wells, schedule for the installation and proposed sampling of the wells.

Upon obtaining Executive Officer's approval of an adequate groundwater monitoring network plan, construction and development of the proposed wells shall be completed within 60 days in accordance with the standards in Bulletins 74-81 and 74-90 of California Department of Water Resources. Within 30 days after installation of monitoring wells, a well installation report including a scaled plot plan, soil boring logs, water quality data, well permits and as-built well construction diagrams shall be submitted to this Board. This groundwater monitoring schedule may be subject to revision after completion of the first year of baseline water quality monitoring.

The monitoring program must be prepared under the direction of a California Registered Geologist, or Certified Engineering Geologist, or a California Registered Civil Engineer

with appropriate experience in hydrogeology.

The following shall constitute the groundwater monitoring program:

<u>Constituent</u>	<u>Units*</u>	<u>Type of Sample</u>	<u>Minimum Frequency of Analysis<sup>[1]</sup></u>
pH	pH Units	grab	quarterly
Total coliform	MPN/100mL	grab	quarterly
Fecal coliform	MPN/100mL	grab	quarterly
Enterococcus	MPN/100mL	grab	quarterly
Ammonia-N	mg/L	grab	quarterly
Nitrate-N	mg/L	grab	quarterly
Nitrite-N	mg/L	grab	quarterly
Organic nitrogen	mg/L	grab	quarterly
Total nitrogen	mg/L	grab	quarterly
Total dissolved solids	mg/L	grab	quarterly
Boron	mg/L	grab	quarterly
Chloride	mg/L	grab	quarterly
Sulfate	mg/L	grab	quarterly

[1] If any constituent exceeds the baseline water quality data, then the frequency of analyses shall increase to monthly until at least three test results have been obtained. After which, if no constituents exceed the baseline, the frequency of analyses shall revert back to quarterly.

\* MPN/100mL: Most Probable Number per 100 milliliter; mg/L: milligrams per liter

All groundwater monitoring reports must include, at minimum, the following:

- a. Well identification, date and time of sampling;
- b. Sampler identification, and laboratory identification;
- c. Monthly measurement of groundwater levels, recorded to 0.01 feet mean sea level;
- d. Groundwater contour map depicting the hydraulic gradient and direction of groundwater flow across the subject tract; and
- e. Monthly calculation of vertical separation of groundwater levels to bottom of each septic disposal system (leach field and /or seepage pit).

#### IV. WASTE HAULING REPORTING

In the event that waste sludge, septage, or other wastes are hauled offsite, the name and address of the hauler shall be reported, along with types and quantities hauled during the reporting period and the location of final point of disposal. In the event that no wastes are hauled during the reporting period, a statement to that effect shall be submitted.

V. MONITORING FREQUENCIES

Specifications in this monitoring program are subject to periodic revisions. Monitoring requirements may be modified or revised by the Executive Officer based on review of monitoring data submitted pursuant to this Order. Monitoring frequencies may be adjusted to a less frequent basis or parameters and locations dropped by the Executive Officer if the Discharger makes a request and the request is backed by statistical trends of monitoring data submitted.

VI. CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

Each report shall contain the following completed declaration:

"I certify under penalty of law that this document, including all attachments and supplemental information, was prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gathered and evaluated the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of a fine and imprisonment.

Executed on the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Title)"

These records and reports are public documents and shall be made available for inspection during normal business hours at the office of the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region.

Ordered by:



Dennis A. Dickerson  
Executive Officer

Date: December 13, 2002