Bypasses and Upsets, 5-Day Written Report

567 Iowa Administrative Code Rule 63.6(455B)

Facility Name: City of Muscatine **NPDES Permit No:** 7048001

Why is this Required?

Pursuant to 567 IAC 63.6(3), the owner or operator of a treatment facility or collection system shall notify the DNR by telephone as soon as possible but not later **than 24 hours after the onset or discovery** of a bypass or upset due to a mechanical failure or acts beyond the control of the owner or operator, e.g., a wet weather event. Basement backups are reportable bypasses unless they are caused by problems with the building lateral or private sewer line.

Note: Requests for anticipated bypasses must be submitted to the DNR in accordance with Subrule 567 IAC 63.6(2).

Notify the DNR

Contact the appropriate DNR Field Office during normal business hours to report the bypass or upset. **After hours, call the DNR Emergency Response line at 515-725-8694.**

Date reported: 9/20/2026 Time reported: 6:00 AM DNR staff member contacted: Jeremiah Kaufmann

Follow-Up Written Report

A written report must be submitted to the appropriate DNR Field Office **within five days** of the bypass. **This form may be used for your written report as long as the required information is provided.** Additional information or longer comments can be attached in a separate document.

Reason for the bypass: See Attachment

Was this precipitation induced? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, rainfall amount: 4.14 Inches Rainfall duration: 9/19/26 to 9/20/26

Date: 9/20/26 and time: 12:35 AM of ☒ onset or ☐ discovery of the bypass:

Date: 9/20/26 and time: 8:00 AM bypass ended

Estimated amount of untreated or partially treated wastewater discharged: 0.5 to 1.0 MGD gal

Location of the bypass (address/ditch/road/storm sewer/etc.): Papoose Lift Station

Did the bypassed wastewater enter a storm sewer or surface water body? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, name of water body affected by the bypass: Mississippi River

What is being done to prevent further bypasses? See Attachment

Additional Information or Action Required

Per 567 IAC 63.6(4), additional information may be required after a bypass occurs, including but not limited to:

- Additional monitoring, sampling, or analysis of the bypass or upset;
- Public notice;
- Temporary disinfection;
- Cleanup of any debris and waste materials deposited in the area affected by the bypass.

Samples collected? ☒ None ☐ Bypass ☐ Water body upstream of bypass ☐ Water body downstream of bypass

Sampling results? ☒ None ☐ Attached ☐ Not yet received (Submit copies to the DNR Field Office once received.)

Public notice required? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, public notice date(s): _____ Method(s) of distribution: _____

Disinfection of affected area? ☒ Not required ☐ Lime application ☐ Chlorine solution

Signature: Scott Swift **Date:** 9/22/26

MUSCATINE

1202 Musser Street
Muscatine, IA 52761-1645
(563) 263-2752
Fax (563) 263-3720

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PLANT

muscatineiowa.gov

September 22, 2026

To: Iowa Department of Natural Resources

From: Scott Swift Director, WPCP

Sunday September 20 at approximately 12:35 AM a bypass valve was opened to relieve back-up pressure from the sewer interceptors which sent untreated sewage/stormwater to the Mississippi River. This valve was regulated to keep as much flow going to the Papoose Lift Station as possible. The #1 and #3 Pumps were running at 100% (Maximum pumps able to run at once).

The bypass valve was closed at 8:00 AM Sunday September 20 which stopped the bypass. Muscatine received 4.14 inches of rain Saturday into Sunday. The Mississippi River level increased from 5.79 ft. to 8.49 ft. during this time period. Due to the rain and time of bypass, no public notification was issued.

It was discovered that the lift station fell behind on pumping due to the rubber lining from the interceptors peeling off the walls of the pipe, restricting the flow to the station. The restriction then broke loose sending a large quantity of water and rubber to the lift station. The lift station wet well went from 8 ft. to 18.7 ft. in less than 10 minutes. The amount of rubber against the bar screen caused the automatic bar screen rake to pop off its track, disabling the rake. Staff repaired the bar screen rake Sunday (9/20), but due to the amount of rubber, was not able to run the rake.

Monday morning staff began to remove the rubber from the screen by hand. Staff thought enough rubber lining had been removed to run the automatic rake, but there was more than they anticipated and it caused the rake to jump off track again, causing damage to the rake chain link. A company has been hired to repair/replace the chain links on both sides of the rake structure that were damaged.

The Muscatine City Administrator was notified of the lining issue and will discuss next possible steps with Muscatine City Council.

Pictures of the rubber pipe lining and bar screen rake have been attached.




WARNING



