

JEFFERSON COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES CAHABA RIVER WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY

CONSTRUCTED: 1970 | PERMITTED AVERAGE CAPACITY: 12 MGD | PEAK FLOW CAPACITY: 35 MGD GRADE IV FACILITY



The Cahaba River WRF is a 12 MGD plant located in south Jefferson County that primarily serves the Hoover area. It is an activated sludge plant with a 5-stage biological nutrient removal (BNR) system. The WRF also has the ability to receive flow and/or send flow through the Al Seier pump station to the Valley Creek WRF.

- Personnel: 15 (8 Grade IV, 1 Grade III, 1 Grade II, clerk, maintenance crew and trainees)
- Plant is staffed 24 hrs per day, 365 days per year
- Regulatory compliance phosphorus limit from April-October is 0.2 mg/L
- Belt filter press used for dewatering of biosolids

History

- 1970: constructed as an activated sludge plant rated at 4 MGD.
- 1984: expanded to 12 MGD plant with a two-stage nitrifying activated sludge system
- 1993: added an influent pump station, headworks, holding basin, and chlorine building.
- 2005: upgraded with a five stage Bardenpho™ system and a chemical feed system for proposed reduced phosphorus limits, an ultraviolet (UV) system, and four holding basins
- 2017: improvements to clarifiers, influent pump station, headworks, and biological nutrient removal system to meet further reduced phosphorus limits and improve the ability to handle more flow during wet weather events



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Project(s) in Planning

- Weather proofing and specialty coatings to restore and maintain assets
- Add a side-stream UV system for low flows conditions to meet stringent E. coli regulatory limits and reduce energy usage
- Modify the flume to handle lower flow measurements and reduce algal growth and buildup
- Investigate seepage into discharge pipeline and repair/demolish old chlorine contact chamber

Director: David Denard | Deputy Director: Margaret Tanner | Plant Manager: Jeremy Creel

