

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO REISSUE A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No.WI-0029386-11-0

Permittee: Land O' Lakes Sanitary District #1, P O Box 246, Land O' Lakes, WI, 54540

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Land O Lakes Sanitary District #1, 6388 Chippewa Drive, Land O' Lakes, Wisconsin

Receiving Water And Location: Groundwater of Upper Wisconsin River via Seepage Cells in Tamarack Pioneer River of Wisconsin River (upper) in Vilas County

Brief Facility Description and Summary of Proposed Changes: The Land O'Lakes Sanitary District owns and operates a domestic wastewater treatment system. The plant designed to treat 85,000 gallons per day currently treats an average of 37,000 gallons per day.

The treatment system consists of a 3-cell settling/septic tank with 2 parallel channels where solids can settle. The wastewater flows to a dosing/recirculating pump station where it mixes with some recirculated wastewater. It is then evenly distributed over one of four filter beds constructed of layers of fine sand and gravel. Naturally occurring microorganisms living on the filter media metabolize and reduce organic solids. The water from the filters may be recirculated back to the dosing/recirculating pump station and filtered again or discharged to one of three seepage cells. The permeable soil in the cells removes additional organic waste and suspended solids. The treated wastewater soaks into the groundwater. There are seven monitoring wells located around the seepage cells to assess any groundwater impacts of the discharge. The solids from the septic tanks are pumped regularly to prevent the discharge of accumulated solids to the seepage cells. These solids are considered septage and are regulated under NR 113, Wisconsin Administrative Code, for septage disposal.

It is the Department's intention to renew the permit for another term. The proposed new permit expiration date will be March 31, 2030. Limitations and conditions which the Department believes adequately protect the receiving water are included in the proposed permit. Changes from the previous permit include: [1] Based on groundwater background the preventative action limits based on nitrite+nitrate, pH, organic nitrogen and total dissolved solids have been adjusted. [2] The parameter alkalinity no longer needs to be monitoring in the groundwater monitoring wells. [3] Schedules include an updated land treatment management plan; operation and maintenance improvements to optimize reduction of total nitrogen; and a groundwater monitoring well survey and map submittal.

Permit Drafter's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Sheri A. Snowbank, DNR, 810 W Maple St, Spooner, WI, 54801, (715) 635-4131, Sheri.Snowbank@wisconsin.gov

Basin Engineer's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Michelle BalkLudwig, DNR, 810 W Maple St, Spooner, WI, 54801, (715) 939-9034, Michelle.Balkludwig@Wisconsin.gov

Persons wishing to comment on or object to the proposed permit action, or to request a public hearing, may write to the Department of Natural Resources at the above-named permit drafter's address. All comments or suggestions received no later than 30 days after the publication date of this public notice will be considered along with other information on file in making a final decision regarding the permit. Anyone providing comments in response to this public notice will receive a notification of the Department's final decision when the permit is issued. Where designated as a reviewable surface water discharge permit, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is allowed up to 90 days to submit comments or objections regarding this permit determination. If no comments are received on the proposed permit from anyone, including U.S. EPA, the permit will be issued as proposed.

The Department may schedule a public informational hearing if requested by any person and shall schedule a public informational hearing if a petition requesting a hearing is received from 5 or more persons or if response to this notice indicates significant public interest pursuant to s. 283.49, Wis. Stats. Requests for a public informational hearing shall state the following: the name and address of the person(s) requesting the hearing; the interest in the proposed permit of the person(s) requesting the hearing; the reasons for the request; and the issues proposed to be considered at the hearing.

Information on file for this permit action, including the draft permit, fact sheet and permit application, may be inspected and copied at either the above-named permit drafter's office or the above named basin engineer's office, Monday through Friday (except holidays), between 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Please call the permit drafter or basin engineer for directions to their office location, if necessary. Information on this permit action may also be obtained by calling the permit drafter at (715) 635-4131 or by writing to the Department. Reasonable costs (15 cents per page for copies and 7 cents per page for scanning) will be charged for information in the file other than the public notice, permit and fact sheet. Permit information is also available on the internet at:

<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wastewater/PublicNotices.html>. Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, reasonable accommodation, including the provision of informational material in an alternative format, will be made to qualified individuals upon request.

NAME AND ADDRESS OF PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: Vilas County News Review, PO Box 1929, Eagle River, WI 54521-1929

Date Notice Issued: Wednesday, January 29, 2025