

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF A NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLAN AND INTENT TO REISSUE A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No. WI-0064246-03-0

Permittee: Blaser Farms Inc, 9267 State Hwy 22 E, Gillett, WI, 54124

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Blaser Farms Inc, 9267 Highway 22 East Gillett

Receiving Water And Location: Surface water and groundwater within the Oconto River Watershed

Brief Facility Description : Blaser Farms Inc is an existing Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO). Blaser Farms Inc is owned and operated by members of the Blaser family. It currently has 962 (620 milking & dry cows, 65 heifers, and 110 calves) animal units and is not proposing to expand animal units during the permit term. Based on current herd size, Blaser Farms Inc currently has approximately 264 days of available liquid waste storage and generates approximately 9,344,578 gallons of manure and process wastewater annually. Blaser Farms Inc has a total of 2,593 acres available for land application of manure and process wastewater. Of this acreage, 538 acres are owned and 2,056 acres are controlled through contracts, rental agreements, leases, or manure agreements. Of this acreage, 2,545 are considered spreadable acres.

The Department has tentatively decided that the above specified WPDES permit should be reissued.

Permit Drafter's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Brian Hanson, DNR, 647 Lakeland Rd, Shawano, WI, 54166-3843, (920) 366-3302, Brian.Hanson@wisconsin.gov

Persons wishing to comment on or object to the proposed permit action, the terms of the nutrient management plan, or the application, or to request a public informational hearing may write to the Department of Natural Resources at the 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 re-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 re-issued as proposed.

The Department may schedule a public informational hearing if within 30 days of the public date of this notice, a request for a hearing is filed by any person. The Department shall schedule a public informational hearing if a petition requesting a hearing is received from USEPA or from 5 or more persons or if the Department determines there is significant public interest. 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 and fact sheet (if required), the operation's nutrient management plan and application may be inspected and copied at the permit drafter's office, Monday through Friday (except holidays), between 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Please call the permit drafter for directions to their office location, if necessary. Information on this permit action may also be obtained by calling the permit drafter at (920) 366-3302 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 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 OF PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: Oconto County Times Herald

ADDRESS OF PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: PO Box 87, Oconto Falls, WI 54154-0087

Date Notice Issued: Friday, July 26, 2024