

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO REISSUE A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No.WI-0060313-12-0

Permittee: Lake Wapogasset Bear Trap Lake S. D., 1236 72nd Ave, AMERY, WI, 54001

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Lake Wapogasset Bear Trap Lake S D, 1236 72nd Ave, Amery, Wisconsin 54001

Receiving Water And Location: The groundwater of the Balsam Branch Watershed in the St. Croix River Drainage Basin in Polk County

Brief Facility Description and Summary of Proposed Changes: The Lake Wapogasset Bear Trap Lake Sanitary District owns and operates a domestic wastewater treatment system. The plant designed to treat 150,000 gallons per day currently treats an average of 47,000 gallons per day (2020-2024 data). The treatment system consists of two primary aerated cells operated in series, a secondary polishing cell, and two seepage cells. Historically there has never been a discharge to the seepage cells. The leaking of the three bentonite lined treatment lagoons has worked as an equivalent to absorption ponds, negating the need to transfer the waste to the two seepage cells. There are 6 groundwater monitoring wells around the perimeter of the facility to assess any groundwater impacts of the discharge.

It is the Department's intention to renew the permit for another term. The proposed new permit expiration date will be September 30, 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] The facility will be required to upgrade the facility to correct the leaking within the treatment lagoons. [2] Effluent limits will be added to total dissolved solids, chloride and total nitrogen once the facility upgrade is complete. [3] The parameter nitrite + nitrate has been added to outfall 001. [4] Sludge monitoring for metals, PCB and PFAS is required during the permit term.

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: Carson Johnson, 810 W Maple St, Spooner, WI 54801, (715) 205-7507, carson.johnson@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 OF PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER AND ADDRESS OF PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: Free Press, PO Box 424, Amery, WI 54001

Date Notice Issued: June 24, 2025