

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-0066621-02-
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Permittee: SCHEPS DAIRY INC, 1631 4th St, Almena, WI, 54805

Receiving Water And Location: Unnamed stream (WBIC 5005995) within the Hay River Watershed of the Lower Chippewa River Basin, and groundwaters of the state.

Brief Facility Description: Scheps Dairy Inc is an existing Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) located in the Township of Almena, Barron County. Scheps Dairy consists of two production sites: the Main Dairy located at 1631 4th St., Almena, WI 54805 and the Heifer Site located at 1620 4th St., Almena, WI 54805. The operation is owned and operated by Dan and Ken Scheps, with a current herd size of 3,483 animal units (1,863 milking/dry cows, 882 heifers and 400 calves). There is no expansion planned over the upcoming permit term. Approximately 31 million gallons of liquid manure/process wastewater and 10,000 tons of solid manure are projected to be produced annually at the current herd size. Manure and process wastewater is stored in four (4) liquid waste storage facilities. The total usable storage capacity is approximately 23 million gallons or 270 days of storage capacity for liquid manure and at least 59 days for solid manure. Scheps Dairy owns or rents 3,436 acres of cropland, of which 3,335.7 acres are available for manure applications.

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

Permit Drafter's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Todd Prill, DNR, 1300 W Clairemont Ave, Eau Claire, WI, 54701, (715) 214-8576, Todd.Prill@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 (715) 214-8576 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: Chronotype

Date Notice Issued: June 25, 2025