

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO REISSUE A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No.WI-0060925-11-0

Permittee: Stone Lake Sanitary District, P.O. Box 193, Stone Lake, WI, 54876

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Stone Lake Sanitary District, Stone Lake Road - North, Near Stone Lake, WI

Receiving Water And Location: The Groundwater within the Trego Lake and Middle Namekagon River Watershed in the St. Croix River Drainage Basin in Washburn County

Brief Facility Description and Summary of Proposed Changes: Stone Lake Sanitary District owns and operates a domestic wastewater treatment system. The plant designed to treat 30,000 gallons per day, currently treats an average of 14,000 gallons per day (2019- 2023 data). The treatment system consists of two clay-lined stabilization ponds operated in series. In each pond naturally occurring bacteria already in the wastewater treat the waste stream by metabolizing the organic matter. From the ponds the treated water (called effluent) is discharged intermittently to a seepage cell. Due to the large capacity of the stabilization ponds and pond leakage effluent is discharged to the seepage cells on average two days each year in October. The sandy soil in the bottom of the seepage cell continues to treat the water as it percolates through the soil eventually reaching groundwater. There are three monitoring wells located around the seepage cells that can be used 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, 2029. 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 effluent monitoring frequency for Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen, Total Organic Nitrogen, Total Ammonia Nitrogen, Total Nitrite + Nitrate Nitrogen and Total Nitrogen has been reduced from twice a month to monthly. [2] Groundwater monitoring has been reinstated for monitoring well 802, 803 and 804 and Preventative Action Limits (PALs) and Enforcement Standards (ES) found in NR 140.10 Table 1 and NR 140.12 Table 2, Wis. Adm. Code have been included. [3] Sludge monitoring for List 1 (Metals), PCB and PFOA+PFOS is required during the second full year of the permit term (2026). [4] A schedule to assess lagoon leakage has been included.

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: Arthur Ryzak, DNR, N4103 Highway 27, Ladysmith, WI 54848, (715) 403-2924, arthur.ryzak@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: Sawyer County Record, PO Box 919, Hayward, WI 54843-0919

Date Notice Issued: Wednesday, August 14, 2024