

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO REISSUE A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No.WI-0024201-11-0

Permittee: Village of Hawkins, 509 Main Street, Hawkins, WI, 54530

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Village of Hawkins, 105 Homestead, Hawkins, Wisconsin

Receiving Water And Location: The South Fork of Main Creek within the Main Creek Watershed in the Upper Chippewa River Basin, Rusk County

Brief Facility Description and Summary of Proposed Changes: The Village of Hawkins owns and operates a domestic wastewater treatment system. The annual average design flow is 118,000 gallons per day with actual flows averaging 67,000 gallons over the past five years (2019 – 2023 data). The treatment system consists of two aerated lagoons operated one after another (in series) followed by a storage pond. Within these ponds naturally occurring bacteria and organisms already present in the wastewater metabolize organic solids. The treated wastewater (effluent) is transferred to the storage pond until discharged. Normal discharges occur in the spring and/or the fall to the South Fork of Main Creek.

It is the Department's intention to renew the permit for another term. The proposed new permit expiration date will be June 30, 2029. Limitations and conditions which the Department believes adequately protect the receiving water are included in the proposed permit. Significant changes from the previous permit include: [1] Effluent BOD5 and Total Suspended Solids limits have been replaced by effluent limits protective of Limit Forage Fish communities as described in s. NR 104.02(3)(a), Wis. Adm. Code. [2] An effluent flow limit is no longer needed and has been removed. [3] Effluent weekly and monthly average ammonia limits will become effective at the end of a corresponding schedule. [4] One effluent sample of PFOS and PFOA is required in 2025. [5] Effluent annual monitoring for the Nitrogen Series (nitrate +nitrite, total Kjeldahl nitrogen and total nitrogen) has been added to the permit. [6] Sludge monitoring for metals and PFAS is required in 2026.

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, 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: Ladysmith News, PO Box 189, Ladysmith, WI 54848-0189

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