



April 15, 2026

The Honorable Cory Mason
 Mayor's Office
 730 Washington Ave
 Racine WI 534703

Subject: 2026 Documentation of Reporting Requirements for the City of Racine Diversion of Great Lakes Water

Dear Mayor Mason:

On March 6, 2026, the Department of Natural Resources (the DNR) received the *2025 City of Racine Annual Report on Water Diversion* (Report).

The DNR issued the diversion approval on April 25, 2018, that requires the City of Racine (City) to submit annual reporting information to the DNR by March 1st of the following year. Thank you for submitting your report. The following is a summary table of the information provided in the City's diversion report for the reporting year 2025.

Lake Michigan Diversion	25,610,223 gallons
Wastewater returned to Racine Wastewater Utility WWTP	9,243,564 gallons
Diversion area consumptive use	64%
Residential per capita water use per day	38 gallons per person per day
Ratio of maximum day water demand to average day water demand	1.56
Non-revenue water	12.6%

Below, the DNR approval reporting requirements are in italics, followed with a summary of our review of the City's annual report.

1. *The total amount of water sold within the approved diversion area.* The City sold 25,610,223 gallons of water in the diversion area in 2025 (or an average of 70,165 gallons per day). The City is authorized to divert up to an average of 7,000,000 gallons per day.
2. *The total monthly sewerage flow to the City of Racine Wastewater Plant from the diversion area.* The City reports that 9,243,564 gallons of water from the diversion area was returned to the City of Racine wastewater plant in 2025, based on the measurements from the Hwy H meter. The wastewater meter reports between the wastewater meter at Hwy H and the wastewater meter for Foxconn are inconsistent. These meters have been tested but are designed to measure flow much greater than the current wastewater flow. The wastewater return flow amount is likely not precise due to meter design.
3. *The total consumptive use.* The Report indicates that the total consumptive use in 2024 was 64%. The Foxconn consumptive use is reported as 31.5%, however the wastewater flow measurements likely have errors making the actual consumptive use uncertain. See report for details.
4. *Water use intensity metrics.* See table above.

5. *A summary of the impacts of the implementation of conservation and efficiency measures.* Table 11 of the Report details the City's efforts to implement water conservation and efficiency measures.
 - The City replaced 12,357 feet of water main, surveyed 21% of the City's water mains for leak and repaired all water main leaks found. The City's leak detection and repair program has resulted in a decreasing trend of non-revenue water from 2019 – 2024 (12.6% in 2024). Note: Data for non-revenue water from 2025 was not available at the time the Report was submitted.
6. *A description of any additional conservation and efficiency measures implemented.* Water conservation measures may apply to the entire City, not just the diversion area.
 - The City has eliminated or reduced the need for water main flushing in the diversion area by recirculating water through the diversion area. The City began this practice in 2022 and continued the practice through 2025. The water recycling reduced flushing in the diversion area by 3-4 million gallons.
 - The City will review landscaping/watering rules with served communities.

The diversion report provided indicated that water use is still very low in the diversion area. In addition to the reporting requirements above, the City has also submitted documentation demonstrating compliance with Tier 3 water conservation as required by section 6 of the Approval and ch. NR 852, Wis. Admin. Code. The information provided in the Report appears to meet the annual reporting requirements. The City's 2025 Annual Report is to be submitted to the DNR by March 1, 2027.

The DNR recommends the following additions to future reports:

- Information and education outreach: The weblink provided for water conservation and efficiency includes a description of why water conservation is important, but did not readily provide links to information on what water conservation and efficiency practices the City recommends. Links to information from [EPA WaterSense](#) are one source of comprehensive water conservation information that the City could link to for customer education.
- Residential/Commercial/Industrial Demand management: Please include information on the number of notifications sent to residential and commercial/industrial customers due to high water use.
- Commercial and Industrial Demand management: Please include more details on efforts to work with communities in the water service area on landscaping watering requirements.

Please contact Shaili Pfeiffer, shaili.pfeiffer@wisconsin.gov, (608) 219-2216, with any questions regarding your annual reporting.

Sincerely,



Adam Freihoefer
 Manager, Water Use Section
 Bureau of Drinking Water and Groundwater

cc.

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