



# Private Sewage System Notification

Name of Property Owner

Property Owner's Phone Number

Home Mailing Address

Parcel Number of Property

City, State, Zip Code

1/4 1/4 Sec T N R E  
Legal Description of Property

### Wisconsin Fund Program

Marquette County participates in the Wisconsin Fund (Private Sewage System Replacement or Rehabilitation Grant Program). This fund provides financial incentives to protect and improve public health, safety and groundwater quality in Wisconsin. If your principle residence or small business septic system failure is classified as a Category 1 (systems discharging to surface water, groundwater, etc.) or Category 2 (systems discharging to ground surface) as designated by a County Zoning representative, you may be eligible for a grant under this program provided that all of the following requirements are met:

- 1) The failure of your existing system is classified as a Category 1 or 2 failure by a County Zoning representative prior to replacement of the existing system.
- 2) The residence is your principle residence (occupied greater than 51% of the year).
- 3) The private sewage system was constructed prior to July 1, 1978.
- 4) The income of all owners of the principle residence is less than \$45,000 and for small commercial establishment less than \$362,500.

### Maintenance

1. All private sewage system components shall be maintained a minimum of once every three years by an individual certified to service Private Sewage Systems under s. 281.48 Wis. Stats.
2. The septic tank shall have its contents removed when the volume of sludge and scum in the tank exceeds 1/3 the liquid volume of the tank. If the contents of the tank are not removed at the time of the triennial assessment, maintenance personnel shall advise the owner of when the next service needs to be performed to maintain less than the maximum scum and sludge accumulation in the tank. Contents of the septic tank shall be disposed of in accordance with NR 113, Wis. Adm. Code.
3. Maximum daily wastewater influent flow and strength shall not exceed the design capacity of the system.
4. The outlet filter on the septic tank shall be cleaned as necessary to ensure proper operation. The filter cartridge should not be removed unless provisions are made to retain solids in the tank that may slough off the filter when removed from its enclosure. Check the manufacturer's recommendations for servicing intervals of filter.
5. Observation tubes are placed in the drainfield to monitor for effluent ponding. If ponding occurs, the system should be evaluated to determine the cause of the ponding.
6. Some systems are equipped with a pump or dosing chamber that flood the absorption field in controlled doses rather than allowing the effluent to continuously trickle from the septic tank. The pump (dosing) tank shall be inspected a minimum of once every three years. All switches, alarms, and pumps shall be tested to verify proper operation.
7. Property owners who have holding tanks installed must comply with the Holding Tank Agreement and Servicing Contract which were submitted as part of the Sanitary Permit Application.

### ***PROPER MAINTENANCE WILL PROLONG THE LIFE OF YOUR PRIVATE SEWAGE SYSTEM***

I, the undersigned, am the owner of the above stated property, agree to comply with the maintenance requirements as stated above and will notify any future assignees of my property of this Maintenance Program. I further agree to allow free and unlimited access to the above described property at any time by a County Zoning representative who is investigating compliance with the Statutes and/or County Codes.

Signature of Property Owner

Date

----SEE BACK SIDE FOR MORE INFORMATION----

### **FOR YOUR SAFETY**

1. Exposed access openings greater than 8 inches in diameter shall be secured by an effective locking device to prevent accidental or unauthorized entry into a tank or other treatment component.
2. No one should ever enter a septic or pump tank since dangerous gases may be present that could cause death.
3. If ponding of effluent on the ground surface occurs in area of the drainfield, you should notify a plumber. Contact with raw sewage can be hazardous to health. If animals come in contact with raw sewage, they can transfer viruses and bacteria to humans.

### **CONTINGENCY PLAN**

In the event the septic tank or any of the system components fail and cannot be repaired, the system must be evaluated to determine the cause of failure. Determining the cause of failure is important so that adjustment can be made to eliminate the chance for future failures and to prolong the life of the system.

In the event that the system cannot be repaired or reconstructed in its current location, additional land area shall be evaluated within the property boundaries. The evaluation will determine soil and site suitability for a replacement system. When a new private sewage system is installed, it shall be installed in accordance with all applicable codes and located in the suitable area. The replacement system may vary drastically from the failed system when comparing installation and maintenance cost, as well as visual appearance.

### **DO NOT:**

- Drive on or around the private sewage system components. Traffic on the system is not recommended since soil compaction may hinder aeration of the infiltrative surface and snow compaction in the winter will promote frost penetration.
- Use chemicals to clean or "sweeten" your system. They may interfere with the biological action in the septic tank, clogging the drainfield by flushing sludge and scum into the field or adding toxic chemicals to groundwater. Starters are not necessary for new tanks or after pumping existing tanks.
- Discharge water softener recharge into the treatment tank unless accounted for in the design.
- Discharge clear water or gauge floor drains into the treatment tank unless accounted for in the design.
- Discharge grease, antibiotics, disinfectants, paint products, degreasers, etc. and slowly or non-biodegradable products such as coarse fruit and vegetable peelings, sanitary napkins, cigarette filters, etc. into the septic tank.
- Plant trees or shrubbery in the drainfield area because the roots may get into the lines and plug up the system.
- Use caustic drain openers for opening clogged drains.

### **DO:**

- Divert surface water drainage away from the private sewage system components.
- If you have a garbage disposal system in your kitchen, use it sparingly.
- Limit the water entering your septic tank. Use water saving fixtures. Fix the toilet float valves, leaks, and dripping faucets. Reduce the amount of clothes washing whenever possible.
- Space clothes washing over the entire week.
- Use commercial cleaning products in moderation and consider using products that are potentially less damaging to your system and the environment.
- Use boiling water or a drain snake to open clogged drains.