# Septage Receiving Operating Plan



# I. AUTHORIZATION

This Operating Plan for the Gogebic-Iron Wastewater Authority (Authority) Septage Facility is established pursuant to Act 381 PA of 2004 and Part 117 of 1994 PA 451, as amended, being MCL 324.11701 *et seq.*, and the rules promulgate there under by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality.

It must be noted that liquid waste haulers, licensed and providing service within the State of Wisconsin are not affected by the above sited regulations

# II. **DEFINITIONS**

- A. "Domestic septage" means liquid or solid material removed from a septic tank, cesspool, portable toilet, type III marine sanitation device, or similar storage or treatment works that receives only domestic sewage. Domestic septage does not include liquid or solid material removed from a septic tank, cesspool, or similar facility that receive either commercial wastewater or industrial wastewater and does not include grease removed from a grease interceptor, grease trap, or other appurtenance used to retain grease or other fatty substances contained in restaurant waste.
- B. "Septage Receiving Facility Procedures Manual" means specific criteria established by the Authority detailing procedures for such items as; registration and bonding requirements of licensed septage haulers, sampling requirement, billing procedures, capacity priority, and general operation and maintenance for the Authority's Receiving Facility
- C. "Operating Plan" means a plan developed by the Authority in accordance with PA 381 of 2004 by the Authority for receiving septage waste that specifies the location; categories of septage waste that will be received; capacity; the service area; and hours of operation.

# III. PURPOSE

This Operating Plan sets forth the general rules for the operation of the Authority's Septage Receiving Facility for the purpose of receiving septage from liquid waste haulers, with specific provisions for haulers accepting waste within the State of Michigan.

#### IV. BACKGROUND

Since 1986, the Authority has operated a regional facility to provide wastewater treatment services for its Members and the surrounding area. Because of its unique relationship with its Member, the City of Hurley Wisconsin, the Authority provides septage treatment to Wisconsin residents through septage

service providers as long as they are also licensed by the State of Michigan. Typically, the volume of septage received for treatment from within the State of Wisconsin is about 150,000 gallons per year.

# V. LOCATION AND CONTACT INFORMATION

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# VI. SERVICE AREA

The Septage Receiving Facility shall accept and receive for treatment septage waste generated in:

- A. Gogebic County Michigan
- B. Iron County Wisconsin
- C. The Facility will also receive septage waste generated outside of its service area, providing adequate capacity is available. Should demand exceed treatment capacity, waste generated within the Contributing Members service area will be given first priority.

# VII. CATEGORIES OF WASTE TYPES:

The Septage Receiving Facility will accept of wastes similar in characteristics to that of domestic and non-processed commercial wastewater.

# A. Waste Types Accepted Include:

- 1. Domestic and non-processed commercial septage
- 2. Portable Toilets
- 3. Other Storage or treatment works that receive domestic and non-processed commercial sewage

# B. Wastes Types Not Accepted:

- 1. Grease Traps
- 2. Forest Service vault toilets

# 3. Food establishment septage

# C. Other Wastes

The Authority does accept other types of liquid wastes, but only on case by case bases. Prior to granting approval to accept other waste types, each waste is pre-screening through a process that characterizes the material for treatability and suitability to meet discharge limitations.

# VIII. RECEIVING FACILITY CAPACITY

During normal flow conditions, the Authority shall allow for the treatment of a maximum of 38,000 gallons of septage waste per day. During periods of wet weather when hydraulic condition limit the treatment facility's capacity, the maximum volume of septage waste accepted for treatment will be restricted to reflect current flow conditions.

In the event flow conditions restrict or eliminate the treatment of septage waste, at the Authority discretion, the Authority may provide for the temporary storage of up to 144,000 gallons of septage waste is the Waste Holding Tanks that are available on site.

# IX. HOURS OF OPERATION

**Weekdays** – 7:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m. After 4:00 p.m. the gates MAY be closed and locked for security reasons. From 4:00 P.M. until 5:00 P.M. call by telephone at 906-932-5348 or 906-932-5322 to confirm that the facility is open unless prior arrangements have been made.

**Weekends/Holidays** – 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The main gate may be closed, preventing entry, unless prior arrangements have been made with the on-duty operator.

**Springtime/Wet Weather events:** During times of springtime snowmelt or excessive rainfall which results in the treatment facility at full hydraulic capacity, there will be NO dumping.

Also see the Liquid Waste Acceptance Application and Permit as well as Appendix A to the Acceptance Permit.

# X. SEPTAGE WASTE HAULERS

In general, the Facility shall only receive septage waste from a licensed septage waste hauler using al licensed septage waste vehicle. For a more comprehensive review of the rules and regulations septage waste haulers must follow see the Liquid Waste Acceptance Application and Permit as well as Appendix A to the Acceptance Permit.

#### XI. OPERATOR

The Septage Receiving Facility will be operated by the staff of the Gogebic-Iron Wastewater Board.

# XII. OPERATING CONDITIONS

Access, Transfer, Discharge, Testing and Maintenance policies and procedures are outlined in the Liquid Waste Acceptance Application and Permit as well as Appendix A to the Acceptance Permit.

# XIII. FEES AND BILLING

As per the Liquid Waste Acceptance Permit:

"Charges for liquid wastes accepted at the Gogebic-Iron Wastewater Authority's treatment facility will be billed out on the first of each month for wastes received during the previous month. The volume billed is based on the loads recorded on the Liquid Waste Log Sheets.

<u>PAYMENTS:</u> Checks should be made payable to: *Gogebic-Iron Wastewater Authority*. Payment in full must be received on or before the last day of the month in order to avoid interest charges. All past due balances will be subject to interest charged at the rate of 1.5% per month or 18% per annum.

<u>CHARGES:</u> Costs for dumping Liquid Waste into the Gogebic-Iron Wastewater Authority's treatment facility is subject to a schedule of charges based on the strength and nature of a particular type of liquid waste. Rates are subject to change and may be adjusted periodically as required. Responsible parties wishing to obtain an estimate of costs for a particular type of liquid waste, should contact the Plant Manager"

Effective August 1, 2018 the charge for septage waste will be \$92.86/1,000 gallons

# XIV. APPROVAL AND MODIFICATION

This Operating Plan shall not take effect until approved the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality. Any major modifications to this Operating Plan must also be approved by the MDEQ.

# **APPENDIX A**

Map of Service Area

