WISCONSIN FUND - PRIVATE ONSITE WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEM REPLACEMENT OR REHABILITATION FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES (Note: Chapter SPS 387 contains complete rules)

1. Read the Dept. of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS) Wisconsin Fund brochure to determine if you are grant eligible.

2. Before correcting the system, have the Racine County Development Services office inspect the failing private sewage system and issue an order to correct it. Correct the failure within one year of date on order.

3. For orders issued in 2012, the annual family income may not exceed **$45,000**. Family income is based on the total combined **adjusted gross** income of all owners and owners' spouses, if any, as computed for Federal income tax purposes for 2011 (or 2012, if advantageous). For 2011 tax returns, the adjusted gross income is listed on line 37 of Form 1040, line 21 of Form 1040A, or line 4 of Form 1040EZ. Grant amounts are reduced if family income is greater than **$32,000**, unless an experimental system was installed. A business, which owns a small commercial establishment (or farm) with a total wastewater flow less than 5,000 gallons per day, has an annual **gross revenue** limit of **$362,500**.

4. Seasonal homes, rental property, government owned structures, private sewage systems installed on or after 7/1/78, and systems that fail solely by causing the backup of sewage into the structure served are **not** grant eligible.

5. Replacement system installation must be completed and proof of payment submitted before grants can be dispersed.

6. If the subject property is involved in a real estate transaction, contact the County for special grant eligibility requirements. A copy of the closing statement with date of sale, and escrow agreement or other documentation showing who has or will incur the cost of the replacement system must be submitted to the Development Services office.

PROCEDURES

1. Contact a Certified Soil Tester to conduct a soil evaluation and complete the Soil Evaluation Report form SBD-8330.

2. Give the completed Soil Evaluation Report form to a master plumber, master-restricted plumber, registered architect, engineer, or registered plumbing designer to design plans for a replacement system. **Note:** A plumber who designs and receives approval for a Private Onsite Wastewater Treatment System (POWTS) plan must also install the system.

3. Obtain State DSPS plan approval for holding tank (or County plan approval, if applicable), mound, in-ground pressure, at-grade, experimental or public building systems. Holding tanks also require separate agreements with the municipality and pumper.

4. After obtaining State plan approval, or if not required, bring the Sanitary Permit Application form (signed by the installing master or master-restricted plumber), Soil Evaluation Report form, system plans and County permit fee to the Development Services office to obtain the sanitary permit. This office is located at 14200 Washington Ave, ¼ mile west of I-94 on the north side of Hwy. 20. Non-holiday weekday office hours are 8 a.m.- Noon & 12:30 p.m.- 4:30 p.m. A POWTS Maintenance Agreement **or** recorded Holding Tank Agreement and Service Contract must be submitted at this time.

5. A grant application for the Wisconsin Fund program can be completed at the Development Services office after the County sanitary permit has been obtained. Complete a Grant Application Form (SBD-9163) and submit a copy of all owners/spouses 2011 Federal tax returns. **January 29, 2013 is the next grant application deadline.** A **$200** application fee will be due to this office before grant distribution. In the event that a grant is denied, a $100 application fee will be due.

6. Grant funding tables are used to determine the maximum grant amount and are based on 60% of the statewide average cost of the system. Grants for non-experimental systems must be for the least costly required system, may not exceed 60% of the actual cost, and can't exceed $7,000. Staff can determine the maximum possible grant amount at time of application.

7. Grant money distribution usually begins in the last quarter of 2013. All eligible applicants will receive grants if sufficient funds are available. If there are insufficient funds, grants may be prorated or denied with no opportunity to reapply for any other year; i.e. there is no guarantee on grant amount, especially on Category 2 failures (see brochure).

QUESTIONS CONCERNING APPLICATION PROCEDURES CAN BE DIRECTED TO BRIAN JENSEN (262) 886-8440