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Reconnection to an Existing System

- 1) Call the Buffalo County Zoning Office for any records of the original installation.
- 2) In most cases, if there is documentation on file, a certified soil test is not required.
 - Have the tank pumped and its' condition checked by a licensed pumper for code compliance.
 - Contact a plumber of choice. The plumber is responsible for acquiring the reconnection permit and to evaluate the soil absorption system for code compliance.
- 3) If there is no documentation on file:
 - Have the tank pumped and its' condition checked by a licensed pumper for code compliance.
 - A Certified Soil Test is required.
 - Soil must be evaluated to a depth of 3 feet below the bottom of the soil absorption component. If groundwater, bedrock, mottling or other limiting factor is observed within 3 feet of the bottom of the drainfield, the system will be discontinued and a new system must be installed.
 - If groundwater monitoring shows mottling is not due to seasonal saturation of the soil, reconnection may still be possible.
 - The Certified Soil Tester must document the depth of the soil absorption component and provide a plot plan mapping out the location of the soil absorption system showing square footage and all related setbacks to wells, property lines, buildings, etc.
 - If the system is found to be code compliant, the certified soil test may be taken to a plumber of choice, and the plumber may apply for a permit for reconnection.
- 4) Documentation shall be provided to verify that:
 - A) The existing private sewage system is not a failing system as defined in Section 145.245(4) of Wisconsin Statutes and has sufficient sizing and soil conditions to accommodate the wastewater flow and load as specified in Section 132.22; and
 - B) Structures meet setbacks from all system components as required in Comm 83 Wisconsin Administrative Code.
- 5) A county reconnection permit shall be issued after all documentation required is submitted and demonstrates that the private sewage system and all components comply with sizing and setback Administrative Code requirements in effect at the time the system was installed.

If you have any other questions, please call the zoning office at (608) 685-6218 or 6217.

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