

FACT SHEET

WASTEWATER FACILITY PLAN

VILLAGE OF ROCKLAND

A. WHAT IS THE VILLAGE WORKING ON?

The Village has partnered with MSA Professional Services, Inc. to develop a Wastewater Facility Plan. The plan includes:

- Analysis of historical treatment performance and compliance issues
- Projections of flows and loadings over a 20-year planning period
- Evaluation of the existing equipment and treatment processes
- Recommendations for equipment rehabilitation and replacement to meet effluent limits
- Evaluation of alternatives to meet future needs in a cost-effective manner
- Review of potential funding sources, including loans, principal forgiveness, and grants

B. WHY ARE UPGRADES NEEDED?

- In the years 2024-2025, the WWTF has received WDNR Notice of Violation (NOV) and Notice of Noncompliance (NON) for copper, TSS, and BOD exceedances, and for violating their dissolved oxygen limit.
- Clarifier performance issues have caused solids washout and permit violations
- Much of the equipment is beyond its useful life
- No permanent standby power source exists
- Upcoming WPDES permit will require effluent disinfection
- Additional sludge storage will be required to meet the Wisconsin administrative code, with population projections
- Structural and electrical safety concerns need to be addressed

C. WHAT IS BEING RECOMMENDED AND HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

A detailed cost estimate was prepared and included in the facilities plan. The cost estimate includes all capital costs and professional services (design, funding, and construction-related services). It also includes a contingency to account for unknowns that arise during the project's design and phases. Multiple alternatives were considered to address the Village's future wastewater needs. The two major alternatives included upgrades to the existing WWTF and regionalization, in which the Village's wastewater is pumped to a nearby community. It was determined that the most cost-effective solution was upgrades to the existing WWTF. The list below summarizes the recommended upgrades.

Estimated Capital Cost: \$6,256,000

- Recommended Upgrades:
 - Influent screen
 - Oxidation ditch upgrades
 - Clarifier upgrades
 - Digester installation and sludge storage tank rehabilitation
 - RAS/WAS and scum pump upgrades
 - UV disinfection system
 - Post-aeration system
 - New control building and electrical improvements
 - Permanent standby generator

D. HOW WILL THE PROJECT BE FUNDED?

Potential funding sources have been evaluated for the proposed upgrades with the goal of minimizing rate impacts to the greatest extent practical. Below is a summary of the most favorable funding sources. A detailed analysis is included in the Facilities Plan.

- USDA Rural Development Loan and Grant Program
 - 40-yr loan
 - Grant up to 45% of project cost
- WDNR Clean Water Fund (CWF)
 - 20 to 30-year loan
 - Estimated maximum PF of 40%
 - Up to \$2,100,000 general principal forgiveness

The CWF is a feasible funding source for the recommended upgrades. To pay the debt service on the required loan, the Village would need to increase sewer user rates.

- Estimated current rate: **\$120/quarter (\$40/month)** for the average residential user
- Estimated rate increase: \$156-204/quarter (\$52-68/month)
- Estimated new rate: **\$276-324/quarter (\$92-108/month)**

The Rural Development Loan and Grant Program is also a feasible funding source for the recommended upgrades. To pay the debt service on the required loan through RD, the Village would need to increase sewer user rates.

- Current rate: **\$120/quarter (\$40/month)** for the average residential user
- Estimated rate increase: \$141/quarter (\$47/month)
- New rate: **\$261/quarter (\$87/month)**

The estimated rate increases assume the entire upgrade will be financed with a through CWF or RD loans and do not account for other grants or other local funding. It is recommended that the Village consult with a municipal advisor to determine final rates and provide a cash flow analysis prior to loan closing.

E. WHAT IS THE PROPOSED SCHEDULE?

A proposed schedule is included in the table below.

Item	Approximate Date
Facility Plan Public Hearing	December 2025
Submit Final Facility Plan to WDNR	December 2025
Submit Plans and Specs for Upgrade	September 2026
Submit Funding Application to WNDR CWFP	September 2026
Bidding Phase	January 2027
Commence Construction	March 2027
Complete Construction	November 2028