

# POWTS OWNER'S MANUAL AND MANAGEMENT PLAN

OWNER'S NAME & ADDRESS:		DESIGN PARAMETERS	
		Number of Bedrooms	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
		Number of Commercial Units	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
SYSTEMS SPECIFICATIONS		Estimated Flow (average)	(gpd)
Septic Tank/Holding Tank Capacity	Gals. <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Design Flow (peak) (Estimated X 1.5)	(gpd)
Septic Tank/Holding Tank Manufacturer	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Soil Application Rate	(gpd)ft <sup>2</sup>
Effluent Filter Manufacturer	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Influent/Effluent Quality Fats, Oil & Grease (FOG) Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD <sub>5</sub> ) Total Suspended Solids	Monthly Average* ≤30 mg/L ≤220 mg/L ≤150 mg/L
Effluent Filter Model	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A		
Pump Tank Capacity	Gals. <input type="checkbox"/> N/A		
Pump Tank Manufacturer	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Pretreated Effluent Quality <input type="checkbox"/> N/A Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD <sub>5</sub> ) Total Suspended Solids (TSS) Fecal Coliform (geometric mean)	Monthly Average** ≤30 mg/L ≤30 mg/L ≤10 <sup>4</sup> cfu/100ml
Pump Manufacturer	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A		
Pump Model	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A		
Pretreatment Unit <input type="checkbox"/> N/A _____ Manufacturer		Maximum Effluent Particle Size	1/8 Inch Diameter
<input type="checkbox"/> Sand/Gravel Filter <input type="checkbox"/> Peat Filter <input type="checkbox"/> Mechanical Aeration <input type="checkbox"/> Wetland <input type="checkbox"/> Disinfection <input type="checkbox"/> Other		* Values typical for domestic (non-commercial) wastewater and septic tank effluent.  ** Values typical for pretreated wastewater	
Dispersal Cells (s) <input type="checkbox"/> In-Ground (gravity) <input type="checkbox"/> In-Ground (pressurized) <input type="checkbox"/> At-Grade <input type="checkbox"/> Mound <input type="checkbox"/> Drip-Line <input type="checkbox"/> Other			

## MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE

SERVICE EVENT	SERVICE FREQUENCY			
Inspect Condition of Tank(s)	At Least Once Every	Months	Year(s)	<b>Maximum 3 Years</b>
Pump Out Contents of Tank(s)	When combined sludge and scum equals one-third(1/3) of tank volume			
Inspect Dispersal Cell(s)	At Least Once Every	Months	Year(s)	<b>Maximum 3 Years</b>
Clean Effluent Filter	At Least Once Every	Months	Year(s)	
Inspect Pump, Pump Control & Alarm	At Least Once Every	Months	Year(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Flush Lateral and Pressure Test	At Least Once Every	Months	Year(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Other:	At Least Once Every	Months	Year(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Other:	At Least Once Every	Months	Year(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A

## MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS

Inspections of tanks and dispersal cells shall be made by an individual carrying one of the following licenses or certifications: Master Plumber, Master Plumber Restricted Sewer, POWTS Inspector, POWTS Maintainer, or Septage Servicing Operator. Tank inspection must include a visual inspection of the tank(s) to identify any missing or broken hardware, identify any cracks or leaks, measure the volume of combined sludge and scum and to check for any back up or ponding of effluent on the ground surface. The dispersal cell(s) shall be visually inspected to check the effluent levels in the observation pipes and to check for any ponding of effluent on the ground surface. The ponding of effluent on the ground surface may indicate a failing condition and require immediate notification of the local regulatory authority.

When combined accumulation of sludge and scum in any tank equals one-third (1/3) or more of the tank volume, the entire contents of the tanks shall be removed by a septage-servicing operator and disposed of in accordance with ch. NR 113, Wisconsin Administrative Code.

The servicing of effluent filters, mechanical or pressurized POWTS components, pretreatment components, and any other maintenance or monitoring at intervals of 12 months or less shall be performed by a certified POWTS Maintainer.

A service report shall be provided to the local regulatory authority within 10 days of completion of any service event.

## START UP AND OPERATION

System start up shall not occur when soil conditions are frozen at the infiltrative surface.

Do not drive or park vehicles over tanks and dispersal cells. Do not drive or park over or otherwise disturb or compact, the area within 15 feet down slope of any mound or at-grade soil absorption area.

Reduction or elimination of the following from wastewater may improve the performance and prolong the life of the POWTS: antibiotics, baby wipes, cigarette butts, condoms, cotton swabs, degreasers, dental floss, diapers, disinfectants, fat, foundation drain (sump pump) water, fruit and vegetable peelings, gasoline, grease, herbicides, meat scraps, medications, oil, painting products, pesticides, sanitary napkins, tampons, and water softener brine.

During power outages, pump tanks may fill above normal highwater levels. When power is restored, the excess wastewater will be discharged to the dispersal cell(s) in one large dose, overloading the cell(s) and may result in the backup or surface discharge of effluent. To avoid this situation have the contents of the pump tank removed by a septage service operator prior to restoring power to the effluent pump or contact a plumber or POWTS maintainer to assist in manually operating the pump controls to restore normal levels within the pump tank.

For new construction, prior to use of the POWTS check treatment tank(s) for the presence of painting products or other chemicals that may impede the treatment process and/or damage the dispersal cell(s). If high concentrations are detected have the contents of the tank(s) removed by a septage-servicing operator prior to use.

### ABANDONMENT

When the POWTS fails and/or is permanently taken out of service the following steps shall be taken to insure that the system is properly and safely abandoned in compliance with ch. Comm 83.33, Wisconsin Administrative Code:

- All piping to tanks and pits shall be disconnected and the abandoned pipe openings sealed.
- The contents of all tanks and pits shall be removed and properly disposed of by a septage-servicing operator.
- After pumping, all tanks and pits shall be excavated and removed or their covers removed and the void space filled with soil, gravel or another inert solid material.

### CONTINGENCY PLAN

If the POWTS fails and cannot be repaired the following measures have been, or must be taken, to provide a code compliant replacement system:

- A suitable replacement area has been evaluated and may be utilized for the location of a replacement soil absorption system. The replacement area should be protected from disturbance and compaction and should not be infringed upon by required setbacks from existing and proposed structure, lot lines and wells. Failure to protect the replacement area will result in the need for a new soil and site evaluation to establish a suitable replacement area. Replacement systems must comply with the rules in effect at that time.
- A suitable replacement area is not available due to setback and/or soil limitations. Barring advances in POWTS technology, a holding tank may be installed as a last resort to replace the failed POWTS.
- The site has not been evaluated to identify a suitable replacement area. Upon failure of the POWTS, a soil and site evaluation must be performed to locate a suitable replacement area. If no replacement area is available, a holding tank may be installed as a last resort to replace the failed POWTS.
- Mound and at-grade soil absorption systems may be reconstructed in place following removal of the biomat at the infiltrative surface. Reconstruction of such systems must comply with the rules in effect at that time.

### WARNING

**SEPTIC, PUMP AND OTHER TREATMENT TANKS MAY CONTAIN LETHAL GASES AND/OR INSUFFICIENT OXYGEN. DO NOT ENTER A SEPTIC, PUMP OR OTHER TREATMENT TANK UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES. DEATH MAY RESULT. RESCUE OF A PERSON FROM THE INTERIOR OF A TANK MAY BE DIFFICULT OR IMPOSSIBLE.**

**ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

#### POWTS INSTALLER

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

#### POWTS MAINTAINER

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

#### SEPTAGE SERVICING OPERATOR/PUMPER (If Known)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

#### LOCAL REGULATORY AUTHORITY

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_