



Pickkerel Lake  
Sanitary District

# PLSD

## Fall/Winter 2022 Update

### 2023 PLSD Trustees:

- Iver Finnesand, *President*
- Josh Bartos, *Vice President*
- Kim Remily, *Trustee*

### 2023 Meeting Dates:

- April 14, 2023
- May 12, 2023
- June 9, 2023
- July 14, 2023
- August 11, 2023
- September 8, 2023
- October 13, 2023
- November 10, 2023

Agenda is posted on the website 24 hours prior to the meeting.

### Pickkerel Lake Sanitary District

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Grenville, SD 57239  
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605.467.1503 (Maintenance)  
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### PLSD Receives Additional Funding for System Upgrades

During DANR's April meeting, PLSD was offered an initial grant/loan package totaling \$2,963,000 with a ratio of 72% grant (\$2,158,000) and 28% loan (\$805,000). The loan package is at a rate of 2.125% over 30 years. PLSD is working with Northeast Council of Governments (NECOG) and Helms Engineering to take the next steps necessary to initiate the first phase of the project that includes upgrading the system. Helms Engineering conducted the project bid opening on September 7th and because of higher than estimated project costs, PLSD submitted a supplemental funding request in the amount of \$1,300,000 to the DANR. During their September 29<sup>th</sup> meeting, DANR awarded PLSD additional project funding in the amount of \$1,300,000 in the form of a State Revolving Fund (SRF) loan at a rate of 2.125% over 30 years. This brings the total project cost to \$4,263,000 with funding from a \$2,158,000 grant and a \$2,105,000 low interest loan. Once all the steps have been taken to finalize the funding, the project will be completed in phases with upgrading the existing lift stations beginning in 2023.

### PLSD Conducts Smoke Test

To confirm the integrity of the system, PLSD conducted a smoke test in phases during August and September. The South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems (SDARWS) assisted with the test which checked for ground water infiltration into the sewer lines. Infiltration can overload the system during heavy rains. The smoke used was a special non-toxic material which didn't cause health problems or damage property.

If your property experienced any issues, you were notified by PLSD as to the nature of the issue. It is important that you make any necessary repairs on your property to ensure your cabin is safe and free of any sewer gas. PLSD asked you to complete the necessary repairs by September 30th and notify us when they had been completed, so we need to hear from you if have reached out to us yet. You can notify manager Justin Carlson by phone (605-467-1503) or email ([justin@plsdistrict.org](mailto:justin@plsdistrict.org)).

### PLSD Prepares for Winter

PLSD has completed its winter readiness tasks. We are ready, are you? Whether you're a fulltime lake resident or just a summer visitor, there are steps you should take to safeguard your place from damage caused by power outages. [Ottertail Power Company](#) has storm center resources on their website, including an [outage map](#). LREA also maintains a [live outage map](#). [Tips](#) for snowbirds can be found on the internet and to learn more about weatherization, visit [Energy.gov](http://Energy.gov).

### Sanitary System Tips:

You are responsible for maintaining a healthy septic environment on your property to ensure the system works properly.

### **DON'T FLUSH:**

- **wipes of any kind, flushable and non-flushable**
- feminine hygiene products, condoms, contraceptives
- excessive fats, oil, grease
- bandages, wrappings
- cigarette butts and coffee grounds
- disposable diapers and dryer sheets
- ear swabs, cotton balls, dental floss
- facial tissue, paper towels, scrubbing pads
- hair
- medication
- pet waste, kitty litter
- automotive fluid, paints, solvents, sealants, thinners
- poisons, hazardous waste
- plastic of any kind
- inorganic materials
- syringes, needles, sharp objects

To learn more about your septic system and how to maintain a healthy environment, check out our resources page of the About Us section on PLSD website:

[www.plsdistrict.org/statutory-documents](http://www.plsdistrict.org/statutory-documents)

### PLSD Updates Text Alert System

PLSD continues to utilize an alert system offered by Text-Em-All to notify cabin owners in urgent situations such as emergency repairs, power outages, and system maintenance. Considering the rise in text scams, PLSD updated the toll-free number previously assigned by the alert system, to now display as our local office number, 605-486-0069. This change should help you more easily identify us as the text source and improve our communications with you in urgent situations.

### PLSD Reminds You to Provide Access

As we continue to make improvements, PLSD reminds all cabin owners that you must maintain your property free of encroachments on system components such as manholes, lift stations, and clean out accesses. Examples of obstruction include landscaping, fences, arbors, lamp posts, signs, swing sets, sidewalks, retaining walls, garages, out buildings, etc. PLSD will remove any encroachments to gain access, as needed, at the cabin owner's expense.

### PLSD Allows Sump Pump Discharge During Winter Months

PLSD Ordinance 13 allows sump pumps to discharge into the sanitary sewer system November 1<sup>st</sup> – April 1<sup>st</sup>. Customers in need of sump pumps over the winter months should move their sump pump discharge hoses to the outside by April 1<sup>st</sup>. PLSD reminds you that you must complete a sump pump permit as required by the ordinance. You can find the permit form under the Customer Information section under [Rates and Fees](#).

### 2023 Budget Approved

The Board reviewed the proposed 2023 budget during the August meeting and voted to approve the budget as presented. The 2023 budget is based on 2022 rates of \$375 per semi-annual billing period. The rates may be adjusted to incorporate the loan repayment surcharge once the system project is completed. For more details, view the budget [here](#).

### PLSD Offers Automatic Withdrawal Payment Option

It's not too late to sign up for automatic withdrawal the 2023 billing periods, March 1<sup>st</sup> and September 1<sup>st</sup>. PLSD's bank (Dacotah Bank) drafts your account on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of the billing month. It's a safe, secure, and an affordable option we're able to offer you. If you're interested, please complete the enrollment form found on our [website](#), and return to our office via regular or email. We keep all information securely stored in locked cabinets in the office.