



Devils Lake Water Improvement District

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Board of Directors Resolution 2010 – 03

A Resolution rescinding Resolution 2010 – 01 in favor of a revised resolution in wider support of a Septic Tank Inspection Program being developed by the City of Lincoln City

Whereas the Devils Lake Water Improvement District Mission states as its primary objective “To Improve and Maintain Water Quality”; and whereas the Devils Lake Water Improvement District in 1993 participated with a wide variety of stakeholders including the US Forest Service, the City of Lincoln City, Lincoln County, the Preservation Association of Devils Lake, the Lincoln Soil and Water Conservation District, private timber, and Oregon Department of State Lands, and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife in a Comprehensive Resource Management Plan (CRMP); and whereas in that plan septic tanks were ranked as the number one priority to be addressed for nutrient control; and whereas the Devils Lake Water Improvement District’s Board of Directors reaffirmed septic tanks as a priority issue in 1996 through its annual goal setting workshop; and whereas in 2008 the Devils Lake Water Improvement District established the goal of identifying and prioritizing all controllable items that effect water quality in Devils Lake and to further identify and aggressively pursue all blatant sources of contamination into Devils Lake; and whereas the Devils Lake Water Improvement District in 2008 as part of that prioritization affirmed that Septic Tank Revitalization should be the number one watershed priority within the Devils Lake Plan; and whereas the Devils Lake Water Improvement District in 2009 began partnering with the University of Oregon’s Resource Assistance for Rural Environments (RARE) program in part to implement the Septic Tank Revitalization Program; and whereas the Devils Lake Water Improvement District realizes that in order to achieve its objectives it must partner with agencies and entities such as the City of Lincoln City, Lincoln County, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality; and whereas the Devils Lake Water Improvement District has determined that Septic Tank Inspections are a vital component of the revitalization plan; and whereas the Devils Lake Water Improvement District has further considered viable options to require inspections:

Be it Resolved that the Devils Lake Water Improvement District does hereby rescinds Resolution 2010-01 in favor of a less restrictive resolution providing broader support of the City of Lincoln City and its efforts to partner with not only the District, but also Lincoln County, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Lincoln Soil and Water Conservation District, and the Salmon Drift Creek Watershed Council to create a septic tank inspection program which may include the termination of water service as a mechanism for requiring septic tank inspections, and that further the District provides the following recommendations for the development of such a program:

Recommendations for inclusion for inspection ordinance

- All septic systems in the watershed that do not have a record on file with the county.
- All septic systems in the watershed with tanks made of materials other than steel that have not had repair or replacement in the last 25 years.
- All septic systems in the watershed with steel tanks greater than 10 years old.
- Priority for inspection shall be placed on properties within 250' of Devils Lake or tributaries to the lake. Those properties shall have their inspections within 24 months of the passing of the ordinance.
- Secondary priority for inspection shall be all other properties in the watershed meeting the above criteria. These properties would have up to five years to complete the inspection.
- That the program shall allow for a property owner to provide historical evidence of a recent inspection in lieu of obtaining an inspection currently.
- The ordinance would not sunset, and as properties passed the 10 or 25 year thresholds, they would be required to get an inspection within a given timeframe.
- That DEQ certified, bonded & insured inspectors also be eligible to do inspections with the provision that those contractors would be barred from making repairs.
- That the Devils Lake Water Improvement District with existing stakeholders develop the criteria for the inspections.
- That property owners affected by the ordinance be considered part of the stakeholders who further develop a draft ordinance.
- That Vacation Rental Dwellings continue to be an allowed use of onsite systems, but potentially with specialized criteria of increased inspection or pumping.

DLWID board and staff look forward to working with the public, City of Lincoln City, and other regulatory agencies to ensure that the program accomplishes the goal of identification and correction of failing septic tanks in the watershed.

Signed this 4th Day of February 2010.

Brian Green, Chair

Randy Weldon, Secretary/Treasurer