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PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

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**CRESCENT TOWN LAKES COMMITTEE TO HOST “PUBLIC FORUM ON POWTS”
SATURDAY, JUNE 7, FROM 10 AM - 12:30 PM**

The Crescent Town Lakes Committee is excited to host a public forum on “all things septic” this Saturday beginning at 10 am at the Crescent Town Hall. Residents and property owners in Oneida County will have a unique opportunity to learn more about regulations governing private on-site wastewater treatment systems (“POWTS”), to review how proper maintenance protects our lands and waters, and to prepare owners of aging systems for the future. A wide range of highly experienced professionals will be on hand to answer questions. Invited speakers include: [Karl Jennrich](#), Director of Oneida County Planning & Zoning Department, [Len LaFrenier](#) of LaFrenier Septic, [Russ Johnson](#) of Dick Johnson, Inc., [Tom Arts](#) of A1 Septic, and [Rick Johnson](#) of Concrete Products, Inc.

Topics of discussion may include:

- A review of state and county regulations governing POWTS;
- An explanation of the Oneida County POWTS database;
- The special significance of POWTS systems installed prior to 1980;
- How lake associations can elect for enhanced protection through “lake prioritization”;
- Steps in the county's enforcement of POWTS regulations;
- Potential funding assistance opportunities for low-income residents in replacing older systems;
- Everyday best practices in POWTS maintenance;
- Popular myths and misconceptions about septic systems;
- What different levels of inspection entail;
- Technical improvements in new systems;
- What property owners can expect in upgrading or replacing an aging systems...

...and anything else that comes up!

After a series of short presentations, the forum will break out into question and answer sessions. This is an opportunity to learn “everything you've ever wanted to know about septic systems but were afraid to ask.” To ensure candor, attendees may get the opportunity to ask questions one-on-one. The goal of the meeting is simply to assist property owners in making better informed decisions. Accordingly, this is a “clean slate” forum: to ensure an open exchange of questions and ideas, no enforcement actions or complaints will result from the meeting. Individuals unable to attend are still welcome to forward their inquiries. Time permitting, we will try to get them answered. Please email questions directly to Town Lakes Committee chair Joel Knutson at jfknutson@gmail.com.

Refreshments will be provided courtesy of Oneida County Lakes & Rivers Association.
Technical assistance is provided by University of Wisconsin-Extension. The meeting will be held at the Crescent Town Hall, located at 3231 Golf Course Road, approximately five minutes west of Rhinelander just off Highway 8. Any questions regarding the event may be directed to Joel Knutson, at (608) 332-5635.