



**For Immediate Release**  
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## **SANITARY DISTRICT CAPACITY IN QUESTION VILLAGE TO SEEK ANSWERS FROM IEPA**

Last summer, the Village of Campton Hills faced the possibility of being required to take-over the Wasco Sanitary District as required by the 1936 Illinois Sanitary District Act. Accordingly, the Village commissioned the highly-regarded engineering firm of Baxter & Woodman, Inc. to study the condition and capabilities of the sanitary district. While the take-over is no longer under consideration, the ability of the Village to review and permit new development within the area serviced by the sanitary district as well as to consider re-development of the historic Wasco hamlet is being hampered by an apparent lack of treatment and irrigation capacity of the sanitary district. The issues are raised in the report presented at the May 6<sup>th</sup> Village Board meeting.

In addition to providing community water for the Wasco area, the Wasco Sanitary District is a treatment and land-application wastewater processing facility that has a design and permitted capacity of 316,000 gallons per day average. IEPA connection permits issued to date apparently total over 397,000 gallons per day or about 126% of design capacity. The sanitary district contains several residential developments that are permitted but not built-out as well as commercial developments in the planning stages.

The Village is requesting the Illinois EPA to determine if the Baxter & Woodman analysis is correct and to perform a complete review of the capabilities of the plant, storage and irrigation systems. Further questions address the permit violations from last year which included over-chlorinated wastewater and run-off from the Old Burlington Road irrigation field. The Village would like to know how these conditions could be detected earlier in order to prevent endangering the public and contamination of waterways. Finally, the Village is asking what options are available to the Wasco Sanitary District to increase capacity to meet the needs of a growing community.

A meeting between Village officials and the IEPA is expected within the next several weeks. The Baxter & Woodman report and additional reference documentation will be available on the Village web site.

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