



VOYAGEURS NATIONAL PARK CLEAN WATER JOINT POWERS BOARD

Ash River Sanitary Sewer System Project

The Ash River Sanitary Sewer System, part of Voyageurs National Park Clean Water Joint Powers Board, is in the final stages of design, with a goal to begin construction in 2026. This project, which proposes to construct a community wastewater collection and treatment system, which is crucial for protecting Voyageurs National Park, America's only water-based national park, by addressing non-conformance with existing septic systems and the lack of space for new systems on existing lots.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- As of 2022, approximately \$30 million in clean water projects have been completed for Crane Lake, Rainy Lake, and Kabetogama sewer districts adjacent to the Voyageurs National Park boundary.
- The updated (2022) Sanitary Sewer Comprehensive Plan identifies future district needs.

PROJECT NEEDS

- No room to construct new systems on existing lots.
- Non-conformance with existing septic systems (approximately 78%).

PROJECT STATUS

- The district board has approved the submittal to the MPCA for project certification.
- Preliminary EDU assignments are complete.
- A financial analyst is under contract.
- Over 75% of easements required for construction have been obtained.

FUNDING STRATEGY

ESTIMATED PROJECT COST: **\$30M+**



- MN Bonding Bill
- Congressional Directed Spending
- Water Infrastructure Funding
- Clean Water Council
- Point Source Implementation
- IRRRB
- St. Louis County
- Public Facilities Authority: (Loan)
*If less grant funds are obtained.

This project is crucial for protecting Voyageurs National Park, America's only water-based national park, by addressing non-conformance with existing septic systems ...



Thank you to our many project partners for helping to keep the water clean for visitors and residents in America's only water-based national park!

(MN Clean Water Council, DNR, PFA, MPCA, USDA, Army Corp of Engineer, National Park Service, Clean Water Land and Legacy Amendment)