

MARSHALL COUNTY REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT (MCRSD)

Phone: 574-200-0049

Website: marshallcountyrdsd.com

July 24, 2025

Dear Property Owner,

As the Marshall County Regional Sewer District (MCRSD) continues its work, we write to highlight that the purpose of the sewer project in Priority Service Area 1 (PSA 1) has ALWAYS been to address the small lot sizes, poor soils and the inability to obtain permits for new septic systems once the current ones fail. This information can be found throughout published documents and public meetings from 2022 prior to the MCRSD being formed. An added benefit to moving to public sewer is improved water quality in the lakes, but that has NEVER been the primary purpose of the project in PSA1. To paraphrase the District's legal purpose: *The District was formed to reduce pollution and ensure safe drinking water by eliminating inadequate septic systems.*

Statements about the good water quality of the lakes do not change the fact that:

- Indiana code (IAC 410) requires a minimum 50-foot isolation area between an existing private potable water well and any element of an onsite septic system.
- **Over 85%** of the home sites within PSA1 cannot comply with this isolation requirement (from their septic system or perhaps their neighbors) and would be ineligible for a replacement well. This requirement also negatively affects a property owner's ability to procure a repair or replacement permit for a private septic system.
- A little over 2/3 of the onsite septic systems within PSA1 are not documented by the Marshall County Health Department. This means that they were either built without permitting, or that they are old enough to pre-date long-term record keeping procedures and are likely to have aged well beyond the generally accepted design life of the same. ***(Properly maintained private septic systems, in ideal soil conditions, have a generally accepted design life of 20-40 years.)***

A number of exaggerated claims regarding the cost of hook-up and monthly usage bills have been circulating. Each Trustee currently serving on the MCRSD Board are future customers of the District and are committed to providing these services at a reasonable monthly cost to residents.

Much has been made of the significant amount of money already spent. Federal money is NOT available unless a project has fully completed plans, environmental impact studies, project specifications, etc. In order to even apply for these federal funds, that will significantly reduce the cost to the homeowner, the MCRSD has had to hire consultants and experts to guide us through the process and complete the grant application. We ask for your patience and understanding in this somewhat lengthy process. Your support is vitally important to the success of this project.

More detailed information about the project can be found on our website at: marshallcountyrdsd.com.

Sincerely,

The Board of Trustees
Marshall County Regional Sewer District