



WISCONSIN LIQUID WASTE CARRIERS ASSOCIATION

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Special Committee on Highway Weight Limits
Rep. Mark Gottlieb, Chairman
P.O. Box 8952
Madison WI 53708

Dear Chairman Gottlieb,

My name is Bill Dyer and I am owner of Herzog/Dyer Excavating and Sanitation Inc. of Niagara, Wis., located in northeastern Wisconsin. I also serve as vice president of the Wisconsin Liquid Waste Carriers Association, a trade association comprised of 190 septage hauler companies throughout Wisconsin. I appreciate the opportunity to be here today to discuss a topic that is important to our industry.

Being a service-oriented industry that must service the explosion of housing growth in rural areas, I see rural roads that have not kept pace with the growth. In many cases, the roads and bridges cannot support even the large trucks required for these construction projects, resulting in even further destruction.

Homeowners in these high-population-growth areas often have septic systems that must be serviced or inspected every three years, due to Department of Commerce code requirements, but in many cases the roads cannot support the septage trucks. Subdivisions that are served predominantly by holding tanks need to be serviced an average of every 46 to 56 days for a family of four. Light industry with holding tanks often may be pumped weekly. Every time a tank is pumped a truck must travel these roads.

Septage haulers at times may be mandated by local health departments to pump tanks back-ups due to health concerns. At these times, we cannot avoid traveling on roads with

loaded trucks that may or may not exceed the posted weight limits. As much as possible, our industry tries to do routine service work in the spring after the weight limits have been lifted.

Servicing one minimum-size holding tank has 9 tons of waste, not including the weight of the empty truck, which can vary between 14,000 to 30,000 pounds. Many towns put a 5- or 10-ton weight limit on their roads, which in some cases does not even service one household.

For all of these reasons, roads aids must be increased to local towns, villages and counties in order to keep up with the ever-increasing growth in rural areas. Urban growth will continue and the roads must keep up with this pace, so that its residents can have the services - septic system servicing is just one example – that they need.

Sincerely,
Bill Dyer
Herzog/Dyer Excavating &
Sanitation