

City of Tamarack

Sanitary Sewer Improvements

The City of Tamarack operates a centralized wastewater treatment system that is currently failing to adequately treat wastewater to regulatory standards. The facility has repeatedly exceeded permitted effluent limits, with a total of **107 violations** recorded in key parameters, including **elevated levels of fecal coliform**. These exceedances pose significant environmental and public health concerns and highlight the urgent need for system upgrades or operational improvements.



Need for Action

- MPCA issued a Stipulation agreement requiring Tamarack to develop a solution on to bring the system in compliance.
- Even with repairs, the current system will be incapable of consistently treating wastewater to achieve regulatory requirements.
- Maintenance costs surged from **\$221k/yr** in 2021 to **\$298K/yr** in 2024
- Economic growth in Tamarack is expected when Talon mines becomes operational, this could be an additional 80 users per day.

Project Scope

- New wastewater treatment site with two-cell pond installation that includes the extension of electrical, back-up generator, and discharge pump station.
- Removal and replacement of 18 grinder stations.
- Installation of 3,000 ft of gravity sewer and a lift station
- 13,250 ft of forcemain to new pond site.
- Current CWRF PPL Rank is 141

Project Affordability

- The population of Tamarack is 64, with 43 residential connections
- Median Household Income is \$42,083
- 85% of the residents have low to moderate income
- 19% of the population live below the poverty line
- Only 5% Net Tax Capacity
- Current sewer bill \$47/mo, would exceed \$144/mo without bonding funds



Why Your Support Matters Now

Tamarack is requesting \$2 million in Minnesota Legislative Bonding to leverage additional Federal, State, and Regional funding. This investment will help a small, northern Minnesota community ensure that wastewater is properly treated, protecting our lakes, land, and livelihoods.