



## *Blue Wing Wastewater Treatment System*

**Project Location:** Tomah, Wisconsin  
**Client/Owner:** Ho-Chunk Nation  
**Firm:** Ayres Associates, Madison, Wisconsin

Wastewater treatment is a necessary element of our daily lives. For residential, commercial, recreational, or other activities that occur in the rural environment, this often means providing wastewater treatment and dispersal to the groundwater environment. In the case of the Ho-Chunk Blue Wing Community, reliance on traditional individual septic systems resulted in unacceptably high levels of nitrates in drinking water supplies.

The innovative community-based system now serving area residents offers an example of how treatment and dispersal can be accomplished to protect public health and our environmental resources. In addition, it demonstrates that this need can be accomplished with a relatively passive technology that minimizes operator intervention and energy requirements while meeting treatment goals in a cost-effective manner.