

# SSTS Direct Discharge Program 2024

Program Area - Projects

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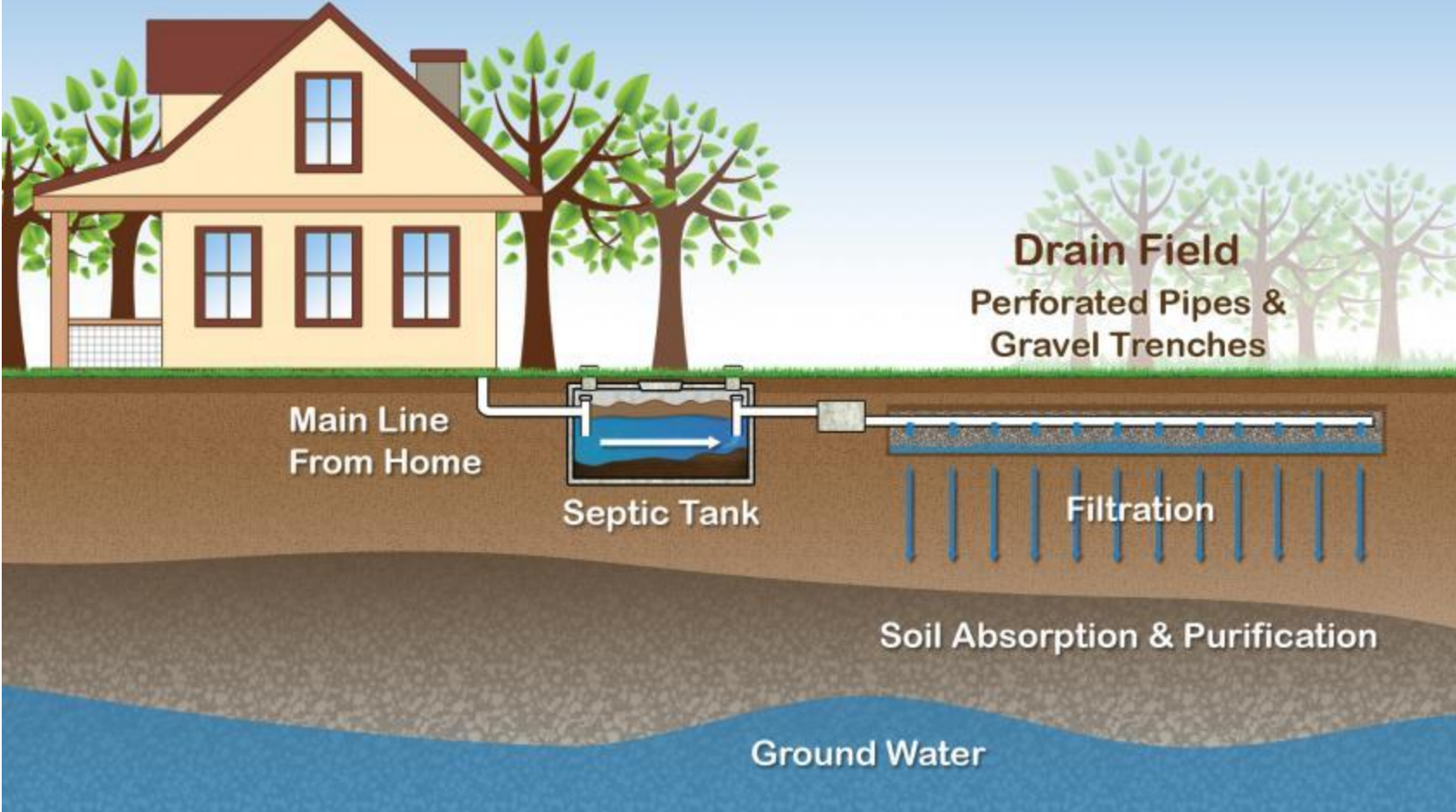
## Background

- County Board adopted direct discharge incentive program in 2008 following the state listing of Bevens Creek (includes Silver Creek) & Carver Creek as impaired for bacteria
- SSTS (individual septic systems) **that have direct discharges to waters (i.e. little or no treatment)** identified as one source of bacteria

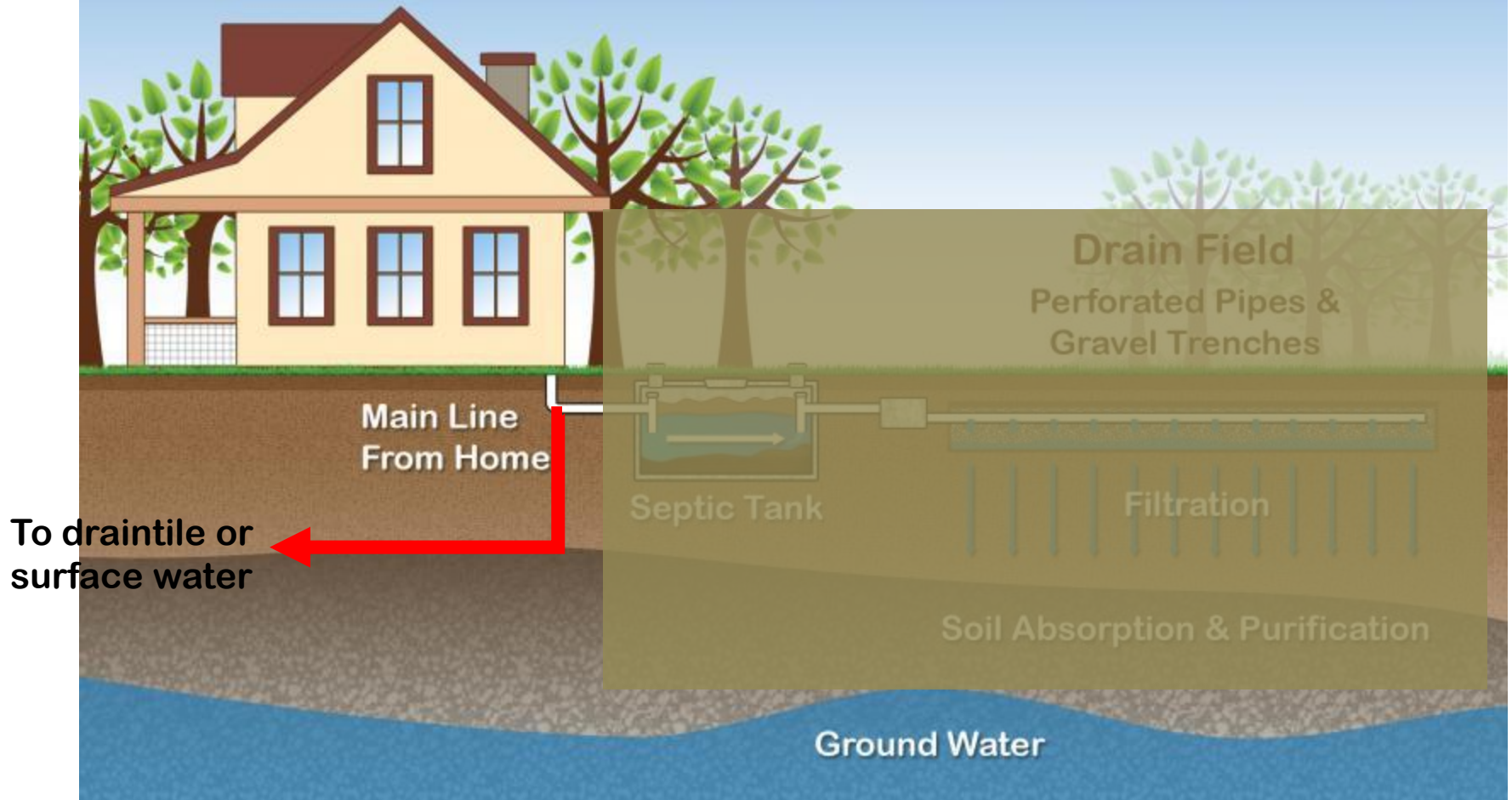
# Background

- Crow River also listed as impaired for bacteria.
- Committee and County Board recommended targeting the Crow River for the direct discharge incentive program starting in 2020.

# Conventional Septic System



# Direct Discharge Septic System





# Accomplishments

- SSTS Direct Discharge Program has replaced **552** to date with the help of 169 loans.

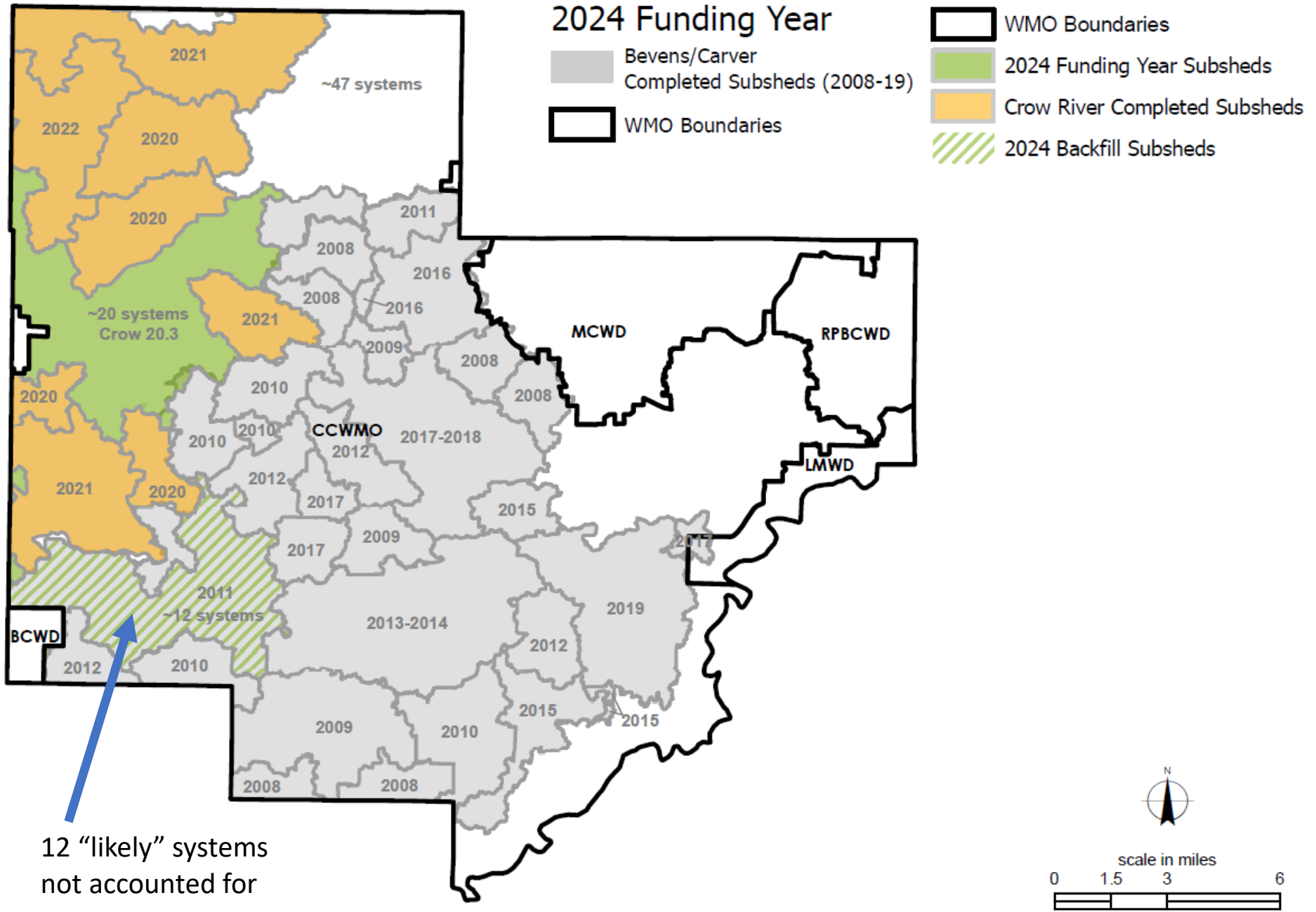
# Process

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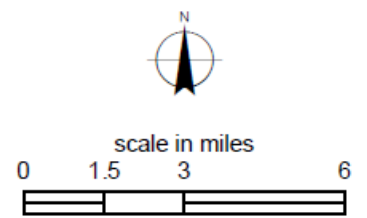
- Approx. \$100,000 WMO funds in budget
- WMO advisory committee recommends priority sub-watersheds
- Board approves annual program
- County Env. Services implements program



# SSTS Direct Discharge Incentive Program 2024 Funding Year



12 "likely" systems  
not accounted for



# Reasoning

- Continued implementation in Crow River
- In Bevens Creek properties were “missed” in previous years due to:
  - Improvements in GIS capabilities to easier locate and identify possible direct discharge sites
  - CRM (permit tracking software) was not available in the beginning of the program
  - Originally the program was all on paper and files were not uploaded into OnBase (property system) or a similar software

# Eligibility

- **Property located in priority sub-watershed**
- Must have **no previous trigger** (i.e. Current enforcement, compliance inspection as a result of property transfer, complaint, or building permit).
- County will pay cash incentive of **\$2000** per SSTS.
- Loans available - \$25,000 maximum
- Landowner must install system by Oct 31, 2024 or request extension to 2025.

# Incentive

- Should the WMO incentive be increased in 2024?
- Avg system cost now \$25K + (was \$8K-12K when program started)
- Could increase to \$2,500

# Recommendation

- **Motion to recommend the 2024 SSTS Direct Discharge priority sub-watersheds**
  1. Crow River: 20.3 Subwatershed (Camden Twp portion) – 20 likely systems
  2. Bevens Creek: Subwatershed BE 21 – 12 likely systems
- **Consider increasing the incentive amount to \$2,500 per applicant?**