



P.O. Box 7857  
Madison, WI 53707-7857  
[www.doj.state.wi.us](http://www.doj.state.wi.us)

**PEG LAUTENSCHLAGER**  
**ATTORNEY GENERAL**

---

## **NEWS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release  
August 26, 2004

For More Information Contact:  
Deirdre Morgan 608/266-7876

### **LAUTENSCHLAGER ANNOUNCES \$15,000 SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT FOR SEPTIC TANK VIOLATIONS**

MADISON - Attorney General Peg Lautenschlager announced that her office has settled a lawsuit against a Marathon County man for unlicensed pumping of septage onto the ground at a bar and banquet hall he owns.

Duane Bohman is alleged to have pumped the contents of the holding tank at his Country Air Bar and Banquet Hall in Stratford, Wisconsin, onto the ground, rather than have it properly pumped out by a septic hauler.

“State law clearly requires that septic tanks be serviced by licensed haulers” Lautenschlager said. “Most rural residents comply with these laws—Mr. Bohman evidently hoped to avoid the expense. The penalties he will pay for his violations will more than eliminate whatever financial benefit he gained through his illegal conduct.”

Under the terms of the settlement agreement, Bohman will, in the future, have a DNR-certified hauler pump his holding tank and properly dispose of the contents. He will also pay penalties of \$15,000 for his violations.

According to the complaint, between the time the bar opened in May 1997 and June 2003, on at least 33 occasions, Bohman pumped out the holding tank onto the ground. Some of the septage flowed downstream through a ditch into Hamann Creek, about 1.5 miles west of the Country Air.

The Department of Justice filed the lawsuit at the request of the Department of Natural Resources. Assistant Attorney General Shari Eggleston represented the state. The settlement agreement was approved by Marathon County Circuit Judge Dorothy L. Bain.

###