

# WDNR PFAS Strategy

# Staffing

## Staff updates:

Bridget Kelly  
RR Program Coordinator  
Emerging Contaminants



Jay Nielsen  
Environmental Management  
Policy Coordinator



# WDNR Programs - PFAS

- Remediation and Redevelopment
- Drinking Water and Groundwater
- Water Quality – surface water, waste water, biosolids
- Waste and Materials Management
- Fisheries
- Office of Great Waters
- Air Management
- Lab Certification
- Communications

# PFAS Technical Advisory Group (TAG)

- Quarterly '**Full Group' Meetings** –Environmental Management Division + Others From Agency

**Subgroup Meetings** –in-between meetings –individual bureaus

- Subscribe for email updates:

[https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/WIDNR/subscriber/new?topic\\_id=WIDNR\\_922](https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/WIDNR/subscriber/new?topic_id=WIDNR_922)

# TAG – Purpose and Scope

- DNR facilitates meetings focused on what, where, when and how of PFAS assessment.
- Our goal is to:
  - Identify current and proposed practices for assessment and treatment
  - Strategize on issues requiring solutions
  - Share concerns
  - Communicate about PFAS Initiatives
- Stakeholder Spotlight
  - What do you want DNR to know about?



# State of PFAS in Wisconsin

- DNR working closely with impacted communities
  - Marinette and Peshtigo –Listening Sessions and Foam Sampling
  - Madison Well study
- Governors Budget -\$\$ allocated for PFAS projects
- Standard development - to go to NRB
  - NR 140 groundwater
  - NR 809 drinking water
  - NR 105 surface water quality

# State of PFAS in Wisconsin

## Governor's Executive Order #40 –Directed PFAS Action in State

- i. Develop interagency coordinating council by DNR, DHS and DATCP, including other state agencies.
- ii. Develop a public information website for PFAS.
- iii. Expand monitoring of fish and wildlife.
- iv. Develop regulatory standards.
- v. Modify the Voluntary Party Liability Exemption to protect state tax payers.
- vi. Assess opportunities for using natural resources damage claims for PFAS.

# Internal Work Groups

- Survey and Voluntary Testing of WPDES Facilities
- Fish and Wildlife
- Screening, Prioritizing, and Geolocating PFAS Sources
- Biosolids and Landspreading
- Foam on waterways
- AFFF
- Effective Disposal (Incineration, Landfill efficacy)
- PFAS Research
- More to come.....



# Drinking Water and Groundwater

DHS Recommendations –  
Received June 21, 2019

Substance	New or Existing	Enforcement Standard Recommended Value		Preventive Action Limit Recommended Value	
1,1-Dichloroethane	Existing	No Change	850 µg/L	No Change	85 µg/L
1,2,3-Trichloropropane	Existing	↓	0.3 ng/L	↓	0.03 ng/L
1,4-Dioxane	Existing	↓	0.35 µg/L	↓	0.035 µg/L
Aluminum	Existing	No Change	200 µg/L	No Change	20 µg/L
Bacteria (Total coliform)	Existing	No Change	0	No Change	0
Bacteria ( <i>E. coli</i> )	New	n/a	0	n/a	0
Barium	Existing	No Change	2 mg/L	No Change	0.4 mg/L
Boron	Existing	↑	2,000 µg/L	↑	400 µg/L
Clothianidin	New	n/a	1,000 µg/L	n/a	200 µg/L
Cobalt	Existing	No Change	40 µg/L	↓	4 µg/L*
Dacthal MTP and TPA degradates	New	Combine with dacthal	70 µg/L	↓	7 µg/L*
Glyphosate	New	n/a	10 mg/L	n/a	1 mg/L
Glyphosate AMPA degradate	New	n/a	10 mg/L	n/a	2 mg/L
Hexavalent chromium	New	n/a	70 ng/L	n/a	7 ng/L
Imidacloprid	New	n/a	0.2 µg/L	n/a	0.02 µg/L
Isoxaflutole & Isoxaflutole Diketonitrile (DKN)	New	n/a	3 µg/L	n/a	0.3 µg/L
Isoxaflutole Benzoic Acid (BA)	New	n/a	800 µg/L	n/a	160 µg/L
Molybdenum	Existing	No Change	40 µg/L	↓	4 µg/L*
PFOA & PFOS	New	n/a	20 ng/L	n/a	2 ng/L
Strontium	New	n/a	1,500 µg/L	n/a	150 µg/L
Sulfentrazone	New	n/a	1,000 µg/L	n/a	100 µg/L
Tetrachloroethylene (PCE)	Existing	↑	20 µg/L	↑	2 µg/L
Thiamethoxam	New	n/a	100 µg/L	n/a	10 µg/L
Thiencarbazone-methyl	New	n/a	10 mg/L	n/a	2 mg/L
Trichloroethylene (TCE)	Existing	↓	0.5 µg/L	↓	0.05 µg/L

\* Although DHS is not recommending a change in the enforcement standard for this substance, we are recommending a change in the preventive action limit. Please refer to the specific science support documents for each of the substances for more detail.

# DHS Recommendation

- PFOA (perfluorooctanoic acid) and
- PFOS (perfluorooctane sulfonic acid)
- Combined Standard
  - NR 140 Enforcement Standard (ES) - 20 ng/L
  - NR 140 Preventive Action Limit (PAL) - 2 ng/L

# How Wisconsin Compares to Other States

		Groundwater (all values in ppt)				
		PFOA	PFOS	PFHxS	PFNA	Groundwater Standard/Guideline Policy Type
Colorado	<i>Singular or combined</i>	70	70			<i>Site-specific Groundwater Quality Standard (proposed)</i>
Delaware	<i>Singular or combined</i>	70	70			<i>Reporting Level (not promulgated)</i>
Massachusetts		20	20	20	20	<i>Groundwater Standard (proposed)</i>
Michigan	<i>Singular or combined</i>	8	16			<i>Clean-up Standard (proposed)</i>
Minnesota		35	15	47		<i>Guidance Level</i>
New Hampshire		12	15	18	11	<i>Ambient Groundwater Quality Standard (proposed)</i>
New Jersey		10	10		10	<i>Groundwater Quality Standard</i>
Vermont	<i>Singular or combined</i>	20	20	20	20	<i>Cleanup Level (enforceable)</i>
Wisconsin	<i>Singular or combined</i>	20	20			<i>Groundwater Standard (proposed)</i>

# Cycle 10 Rulemaking Timeline

## Spring 2018

- [DNR letter sent to DHS \[PDF\]](#) - March 2, 2018



## Summer 2019

- [DHS response to letter from DNR \[PDF\]](#) - June 21, 2019



## Fall 2019

- [Statement of Scope \[PDF exit DNR\]](#)  
approved by DNR secretary,  
governor

← (We are here)

# Additional DHS Recommendations – “Cycle 11”

Cycle 11 list sent to DHS

- 6 Agricultural chemicals
  - 4 herbicides, 1 insecticide, 1 fungicide
- 34 PFAS compounds

DHS estimated recommendations –Fall 2020

# Laboratory Analytical Methods

WI method criteria bridges the gap until EPA's non potable method is published


36 compound list selected based on most likely to be present



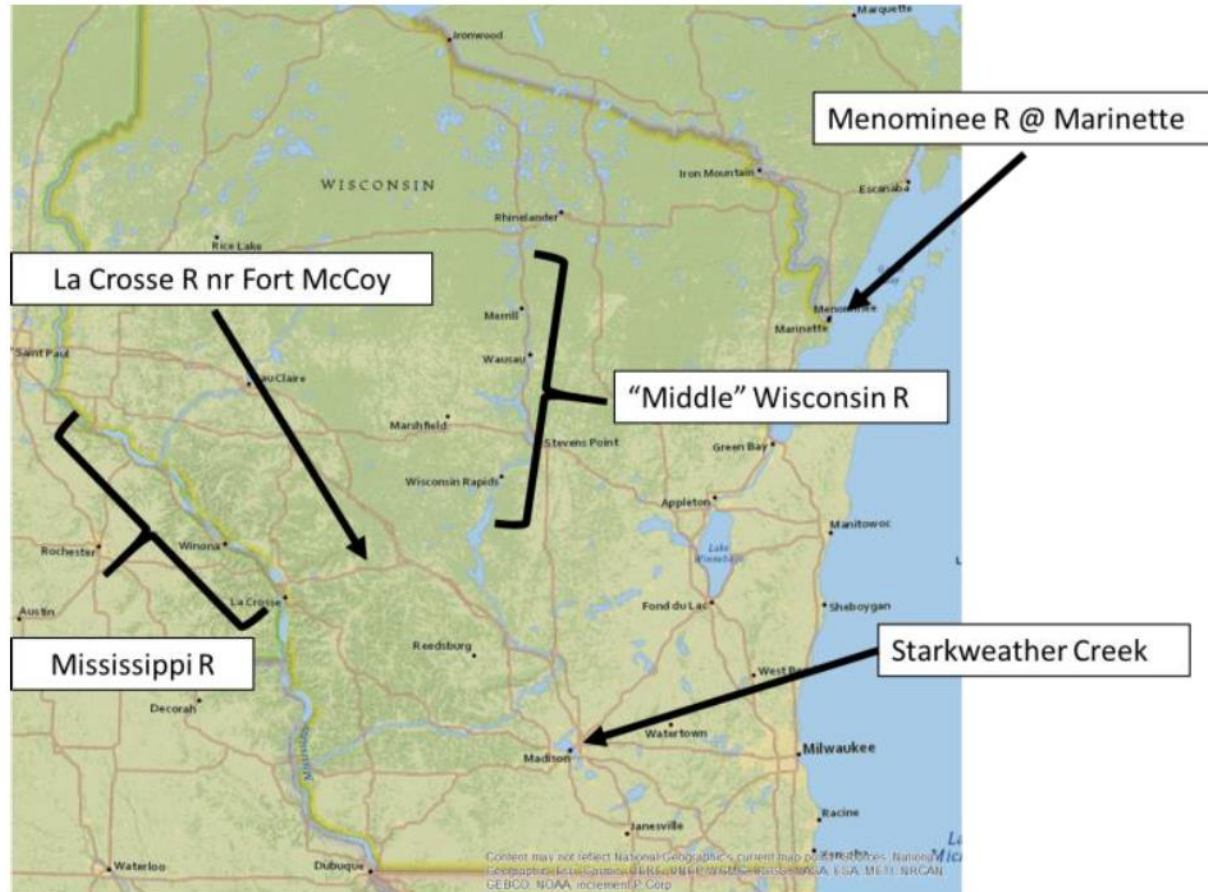
## Proposed guidance available for review and comment

The following new [proposed program guidance](#) is open for public comment through **October 7, 2019**.

- [Wisconsin PFAS Aqueous \(Non Potable Water\) and Non Aqueous Matrices Method Criteria \[PDF\]](#)

 [Submit comments](#)

# Surface Water and Fish Tissue in 2019.



# DNR PFAS Initiatives – SPGeo Group

- Purpose

- Screening, priority setting and geolocating of known or likely PFAS sources
- Develop protocols to help in prioritizing sites
- Coordinate collection of PFAS sampling data and tools for analysis
- Develop external GIS viewer for display of data and site information

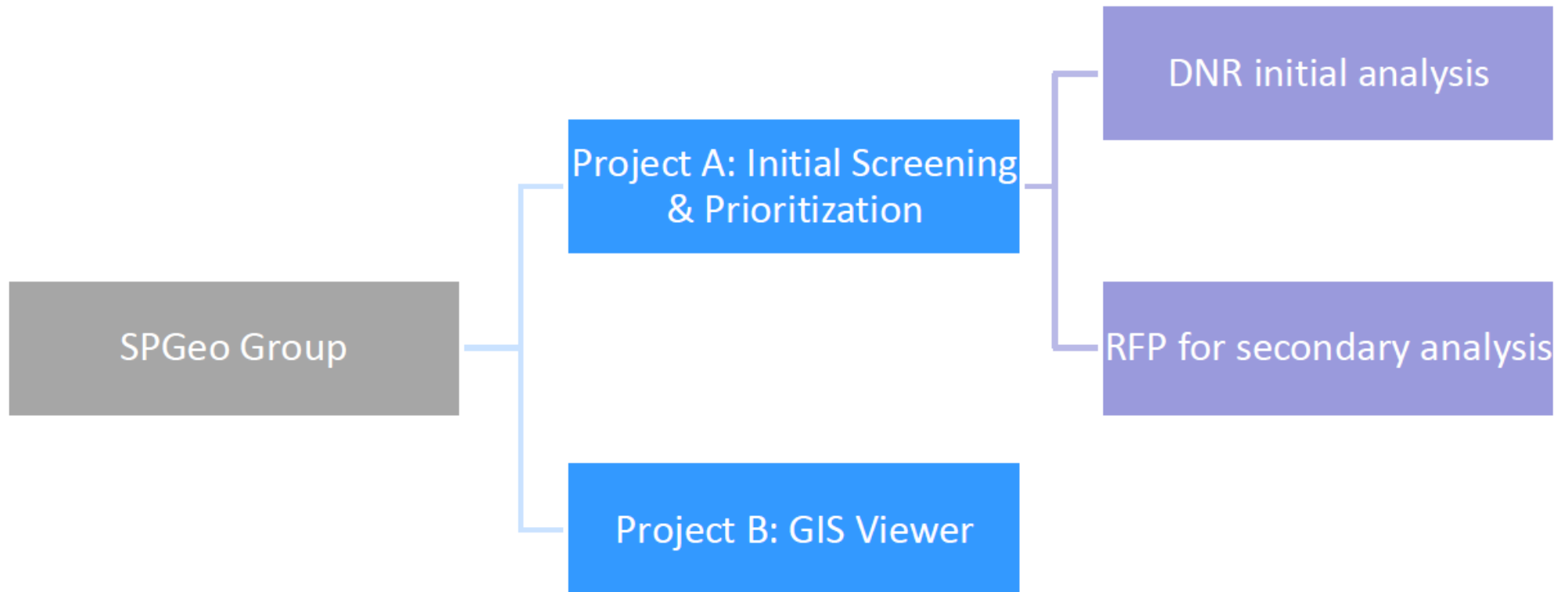
- Resources

- Allocated \$150,000 in FY19 for projects



# DNR PFAS Initiatives

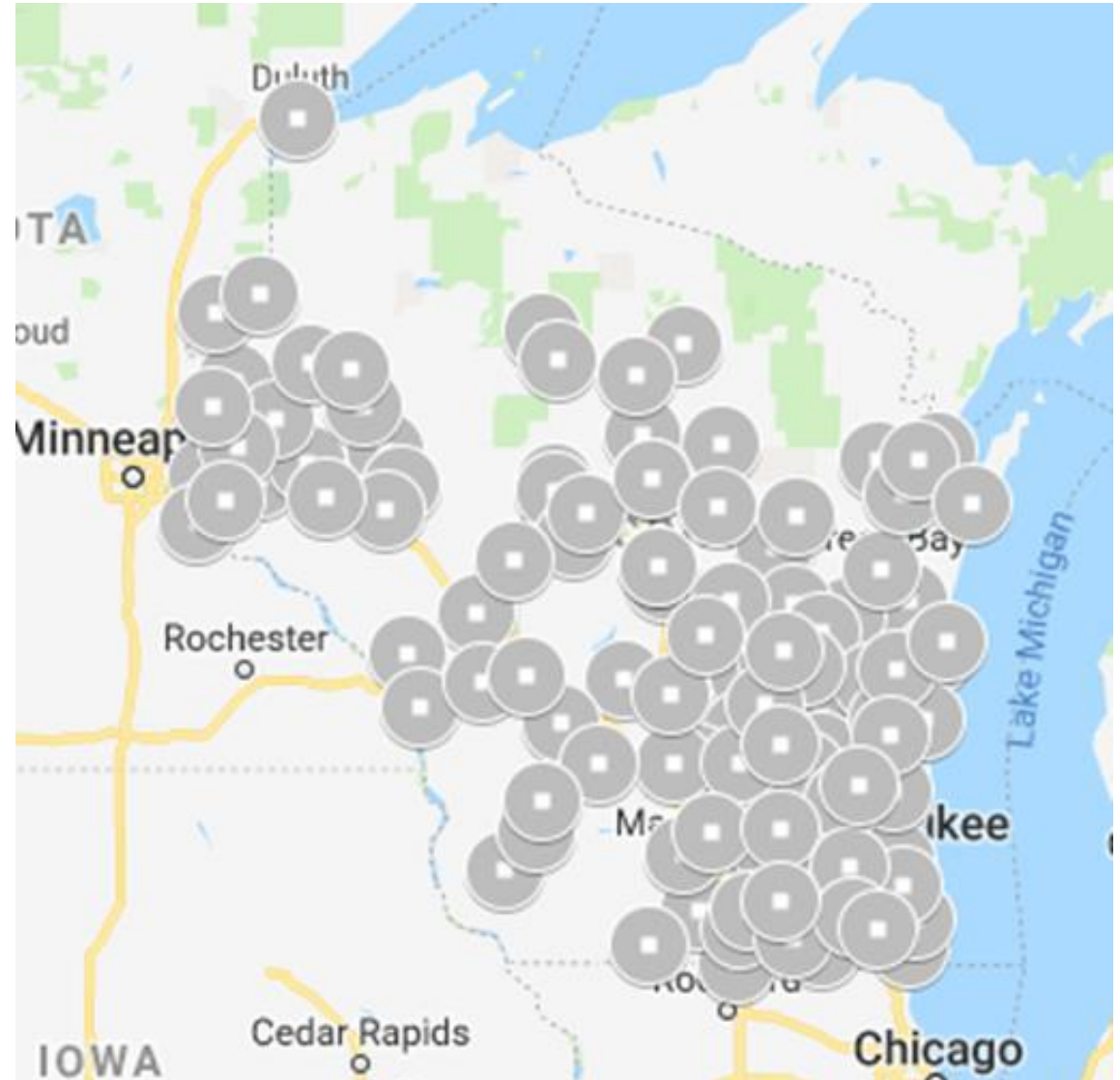
- **Screening, Prioritization and GIS (SPGeo) Group**



# POTW Screening Initiative

125 POTWs

- 27 Authorized Pretreatment Programs
- 87 Other POTWs with SIUs
- 10 found by query of permit fact sheets
- 1 community with PFAS in water supply



# POTW Screening Initiative

Voluntary sampling of influent and effluent

- 36 PFAS compounds

- Use isotope dilution method

- Within 90 days of receipt of letter

- Source Identification and Reduction

- Invitation to work with DNR to develop plan to sample potential sources

- Invitation to work with DNR and sources to eliminate PFAS

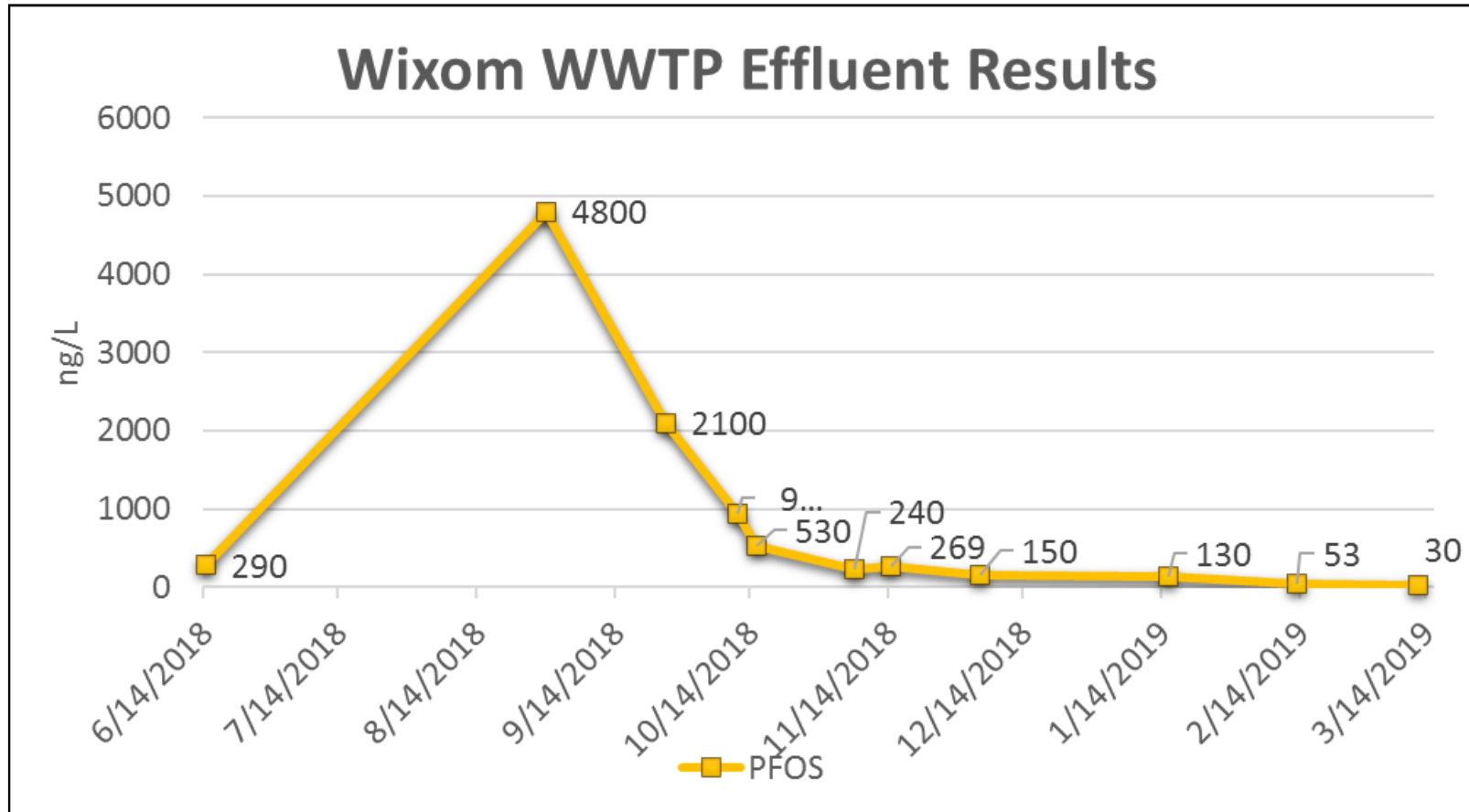
- Product substitution

- Operational Controls

- Cleanup of historical contamination

- Pretreatment

# POTW Screening Initiative



- Intended outcome: scope the extent of the PFAS problem in Wisconsin and take source reductions measures.

Source: Michigan EGLE, "Michigan's IPP PFAS Initiative" (May 2019)

# POTW Screening Initiatives – Municipal WW Effluents

## Study Component A:

Determine the TYPE and QUANTITIES of PFAS Associated with POTWs and Streams Receiving POTW Effluents

- (a) Quantify PFAS within the POTW –dual emphasis  
(1) retention (influent –effluent); (2) cycling/processing of PFAS within the facility. Sample influent and effluent streams and locations within the treatment facility, including sludges and biosolids slurries
- (b) Quantify PFAS in the Stream Receiving the POTW Effluent. Stream water and sediment samples upstream of discharge, in the mixing zone, and downstream of mixing zone

# POTW Screening Initiatives – Landspread Biosolids

## Study Component B:

Determine the Impacts to Soils, Surface-and Ground Waters of PFAS-Containing Municipal Biosolids Spread on Agricultural Fields

- (a) Quantify PFAS within the fields receiving biosolids. Samples of soils and soil-water
- (b) Quantify PFAS in groundwater samples near the agricultural field study sites and in regional deeper groundwater

# DNR PFAS Initiatives - AFFF

## **Fire Depts and Airport Surveys; BMPs; and Possible Clean Sweep**

- Purpose

- Determine where PFAS containing foams have been used, stored, trained with through State Survey
- Develop protocols to reduce use of PFAS-containing foams –BMPs + Fire Responder Health and Safety
- Coordinate collection and disposal of PFAS-containing foams across the state

- Resources

- Allocated \$50,000 in FY19 for projects

# DNR PFAS Initiatives

## Other Actions in progress

- Dewatering projects – interim process
- Waste-Materials Management
- Research Needs Identification





# Next PFAS EAG Meeting

**December 13<sup>th</sup>: 10am – 2pm**



# PFAS Website

- <https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Contaminants/PFASGroup.html>

## PFAS Technical Advisory Group

✉ [Subscribe to PFAS Technical Advisory Group Updates](#)

The PFAS Technical Advisory Group is a working group formed in 2019 to discuss issues related to [perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances \(PFAS\)](#) in Wisconsin. The group does not have an appointed membership; any interested party may attend and meetings are open to the public. The group will meet on a quarterly basis, with additional subgroup meetings scheduled as needed.

The purpose of the group is to:

- examine what, where, when and how PFAS is potentially impacting Wisconsin;
- discuss current and proposed practices amongst experts in the field;
- share regulatory updates associated with Wisconsin's development of programs to manage PFAS;
- share technical data and expertise; and
- strategize on issues requiring solutions.

### Proposed guidance available for review and comment

The following new [proposed program guidance](#) is open for public comment through **October 7, 2019**.

- [Wisconsin PFAS Aqueous \(Non Potable Water\) and Non Aqueous Matrices Method Criteria PDF](#)

✉ [Submit comments](#)

Full group Subgroups

## Emerging contaminants

### Learn

about PFAS contamination.

### Read

about water quality PFAS initiatives and study results.

## Related links

- [Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances \(PFAS\) contamination](#)
- [PFAS contamination in the Marinette and Peshtigo area](#)
- [NR 140 groundwater quality standards update](#)

## Contact information

For information on the PFAS Technical Advisory Group, contact:

[Bridget Kelly](#)  
608-266-8516

# In the News

- 10/7/19 news release: [DNR's First Round of Sampling Shows PFAS Contamination at Surface Water Monitoring Locations in Wisconsin](#) [Additional information is on the [Water quality PFAS initiatives page](#).]
- 8/2/19 news release: [DNR announces results of Madison PFAS contamination pilot study](#) [Additional information is in the [Environmental impacts tab](#).]
- 7/22/19 news release: [DNR taking more steps to protect Wisconsin drinking water](#)
- 7/22/2019: [Letter from DNR to Municipal Wastewater Facilities \[PDF\]](#)
  - [List of Municipal Wastewater Facilities Receiving DNR Letter \[PDF\]](#)
- 6/21/19 news release: [DHS, DNR, DATCP Work to Make Groundwater Cleaner](#)
- 6/21/19 letter from DHS to DNR: [Summary of Cycle 10 Recommendations \[PDF\]](#)