

DG Study Group Meeting

Aug. 6, 2026

NR 809 Lead & Copper Resources and Updates

Briana Harter & Molly Wells, *WI DNR*

Agenda

- Lead/copper primacy application status
- Lead/copper rule implementation timeline
- Update on new PWS resources
- Upcoming resources for PWS

Lead/Copper Primacy Application Status

- Currently operating under a primacy extension agreement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- Planning to apply for primary enforcement authority (i.e. “primacy”) in 2027
- Until the DNR receives primacy, staff will coordinate closely with EPA for final determinations for water systems regarding the new rule (i.e. LCRI)

Lead and Copper Implementation Timeline

Early 2026

- Internal Implementation workgroups begin
- Coordination begins for external input and engagement

Summer 2026

- Implementation work continues

Fall 2026

- Implementation workgroups wrap up

Winter 2026

- Outreach to PWSs on LCRI requirements

Nov. 1, 2027

- LCRI Compliance Date
- * Implementation work will continue through 2027

Update on New PWS Resources

Newly developed materials to assist with:

- Baseline inventory
- Service line replacement plan
- School and child care facility initial reporting

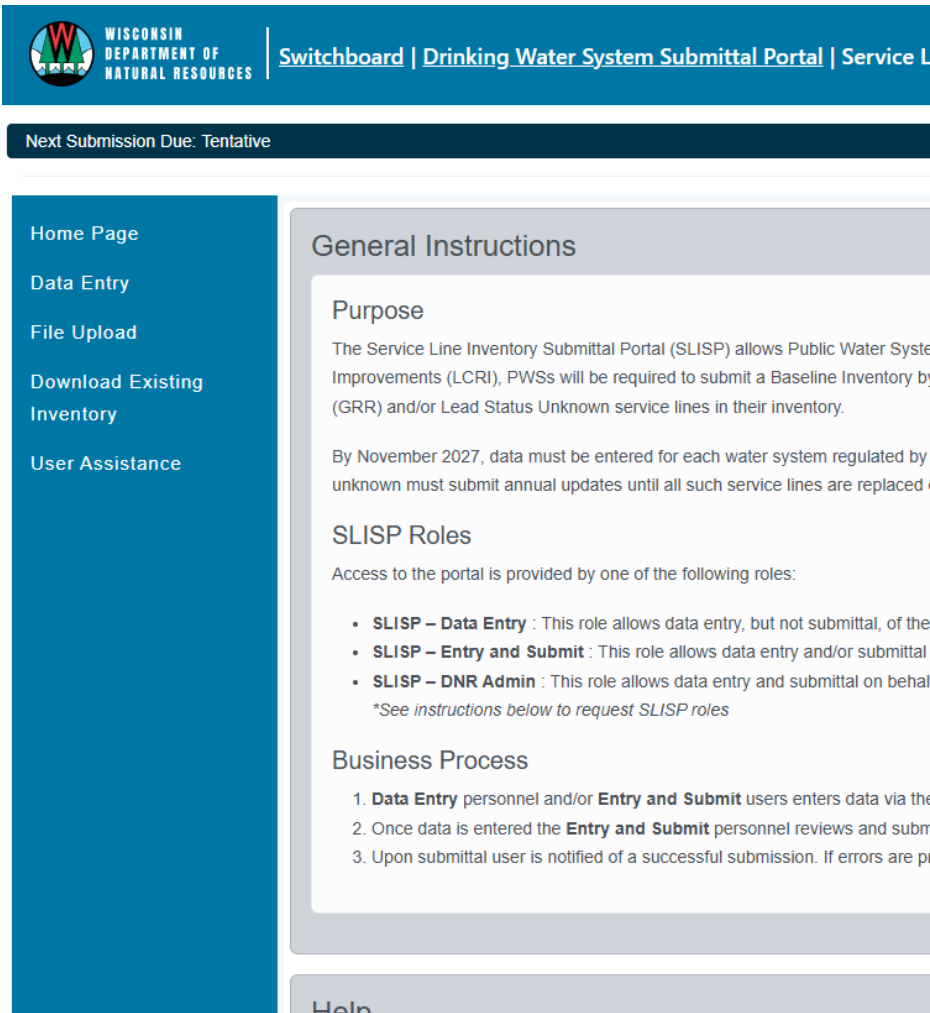
Update on New PWS Resources

Baseline Inventory

Deadline: Nov 1, 2027, for all CWS & NNs

- Baseline inventory template
- [Service Line Inventory Submittal Portal](#) (SLISP)
- [SLISP Flyer](#)
- [Guidance for Using Statistical Analysis to Evaluate Unknown Service Lines](#)
- Free technical assistance from Jacobs Engineering

NEW – DNR Service Line Inventory Submittal Portal (SLISP)



- DNR Service Line Inventory Submittal Portal (SLISP) is now available for PWS use
- This is where PWSs will submit the baseline inventory, which is due **November 1, 2027**
- We have developed a [flyer](#) with instructions for how to access and use SLISP

Update on New PWS Resources

Service Line Replacement Plan (SLRP)

Deadline: Nov. 1, 2027, for all PWS with at least one lead, GRR or LSU service line in their baseline inventory.

- SLRP template developed, web-based version in development
- Cumulative average replacement rate information and calculator developed
- Informational infographics and fact sheets in development
- Free technical assistance from Jacobs Engineering available

Update on New PWS Resources

School & Child Care Facility (CCF) Information

Deadline: Nov 1, 2027, for all CWS to submit a list of schools/CCFs they serve or certification there are none

- Template available for developing list of schools and CCFs
- Certification form for CWSs if they do not serve schools or CCFs developed
- Informational fact sheets and timeline in development
- Free technical assistance from Jacobs Engineering available

NEW – Update on School/CCF Waivers

- Until the DNR receives primacy, CWS wanting to pursue a school and CCF sampling waiver can reach out to EPA
- Contact the following for more information:
 - Stacy Meyers: meyers.stacy@epa.gov
 - Andrea Porter: porter.andrea@epa.gov
 - Michael Pasqua: Pasqua.Michael@epa.gov

Upcoming Resources for PWS

Related to:

- Public education
- Sampling
- Corrosion control treatment
- Fall trainings

Upcoming Resources for PWS

Public Education

Changes Take Effect Beginning Nov 1, 2027

- Template materials drafted for systems to send PE to consumers after an ALE
- Template notification of sampling results in development
- Additional fact sheets

Upcoming Resources for PWS

Sampling

Changes Take Effect Beginning Nov 1, 2027

- Monitoring site plan (MSP)
 - How to develop and deadlines
 - How to collect replacement samples
- Updated Tier charts for CWS and NN
- New forms (e.g. customer refusals, insufficient Tier 1/Tier 2)
- New sample types and lab slips
- Outreach/trainings to certified laboratories that test for lead in drinking water

Upcoming Resources for PWS

Corrosion Control Treatment (CCT)

Changes Take Effect Beginning Nov 1, 2027

- Post-action level exceedance (ALE) packet with different CCT paths after a lead ALE and forms
- New and updated post-ALE forms
- External resource and forms for PWSs pursuing CCT flexibility options
- External resource for Distribution System Site Assessments (DSSA)

Upcoming Resources for PWS

Fall Trainings

- **September 17, 2026** – Wisconsin Environmental Health Association annual conference
- **October 29, 2026** – WI Rural Water Association virtual training on LCRI Updates

Questions?

Contact:

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Briana.harter@wisconsin.gov

Molly Wells, Lead and Copper Rule Specialist

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PFAS Rule Implementation

Kyle Burton, *WI DNR*

Drinking Water and Groundwater Administrative Rules Update



NR 809: PFAS Drinking Water Standards

- Rule was published and became effective July 1, 2026
- New rule:
 - Sets MCLs and monitoring requirements to match US EPA rule promulgated in April of 2024
 - Mirrors 2024 US EPA rule compliance deadline for initial monitoring of April 2027 and Maximum Contaminant Level compliance of April 2029
- Watching for potential changes at the federal level related to PFAS drinking water standards

PFAS MCL and Public Noticing Clarifications

- Violations for MCL exceedances will **NOT** be issued until April 27, 2029. US EPA's PFAS rule specifies this date as the time when systems must be in compliance with the new standards.
- DNR's Board Order, Economic Impact Statement, and messaging to regulated community stated DNR would be consistent with Federal rule.

PFAS MCL and Public Noticing Clarifications Continued

- Systems that exceed the RAA during initial or compliance monitoring will be required to issue a Tier 2 public notice(PN) via our public notice authority found in NR809.950(3)(c)5.
- PN letter contains information about potential corrective action a system can take as well as information about funding opportunities

***Note:** Community systems must include all initial and compliance PFAS monitoring data in their CCR.

WI DNRs PFAS Public Notice Requirements Before April 27, 2029

Systems that exceed the Running Annual Average for any of the new PFAS MCLs will be required to issue a Tier 2 PN via our public notice authority found in NR809.950(3)(c)5

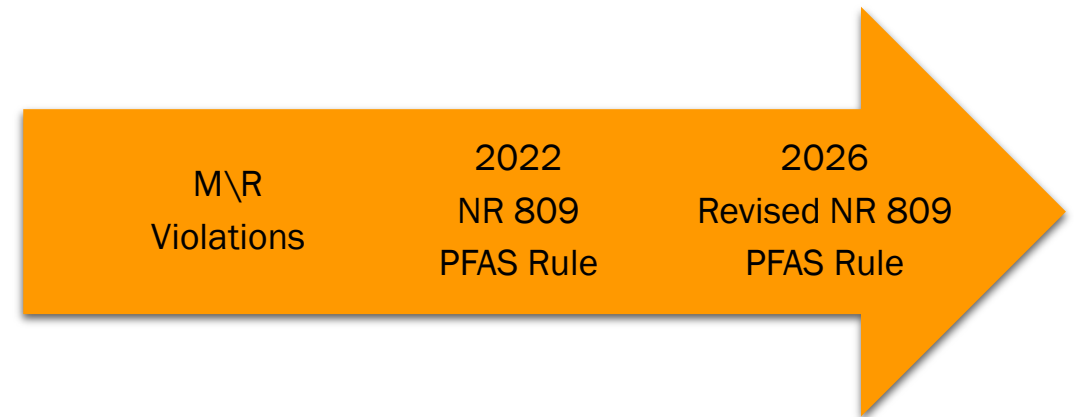
Chemical	EPA(2024) and DNR current PFAS MCLs
PFOA	4.0 ppt
PFOS	4.0 ppt
PFOA & PFOS combined	NA
PFHxS	10 ppt
HFPO-DA (GenX chemicals)	10 ppt
PFNA	10 ppt
Mixture of two or more: PFHxS, PFNA, HFPO-DA and PFBS	Hazard Index of 1*

US EPAs Recent Actions on PFAS

- The US EPA has proposed a rule to rescind drinking water standards for four PFAS (PFHxS, PFNA, PFBS, and GenX), as well as their hazard index.
- EPA is keeping the limits for PFOA and PFOS but has proposed a rule that will allow eligible water utilities to delay compliance from 2029 to 2031.
- As these new rules follow the federal rule making process and potential legal challenges, DNR will continue monitor any final changes to the federal rule and take action appropriate at that time. Until that time DNR will continue to follow the new state rule that contains the four PFAS and Hazard index EPA promulgated in 2024 as well as the 2029 compliance date.

PFAS Monitoring and Reporting Violations

- *When will PFAS Monitoring and Reporting violations be issued?*
 - Systems with incomplete monitoring and reporting requirements for the required PFAS monitoring period will receive a monitoring and reporting violation.
 - Systems that fail to collect PFAS samples during their required monitoring periods in the months *March 1, 2026 – June 30, 2026*, will receive a monitoring and reporting violation when the monitoring period ends, based on the NR 809 PFAS rule from July 2022.
 - Systems that fail to collect PFAS samples for their required monitoring period *after July 1, 2026*, will receive a monitoring and reporting violation beginning *April 26, 2027*, based on the revised NR 809 PFAS rule, effective 07/01/2026.



PFAS Monitoring and Reporting Violations Cont.

- Systems which fail to monitor for PFAS during their required monitoring period will need to sample as soon as possible to complete their initial PFAS monitoring requirements.
- Systems should contact their DNR representative and the Monitoring Coordinator to confirm the late PFAS sample monitoring criteria.
- Systems which fail to complete the collection of their initial monitoring PFAS samples will be placed on quarterly monitoring at the start of the PFAS compliance monitoring period beginning April 27, 2027.

2025 Drinking Water Annual Report

Beth Goldowitz, DNR

Annual Report highlights

- About this report
- Public water in Wisconsin
- Regulating drinking water contaminants
- Wisconsin's most common contaminants
- Recap/updates from 2025
- Compliance in Wisconsin
- Valued partnerships



Photo credit: iStock/ConstantinosZ

About this report

Wisconsin Public Water Systems 2025 Annual Drinking Water Report



- Safe Drinking Water Act, 1996 amendments
 - “State...shall prepare, make readily available to the public, and submit to the Administrator an annual report on violations of national primary drinking water regulations by public water systems...”
- Annual Compliance Report = ACR
- due by July 1 each year
- compliance reporting

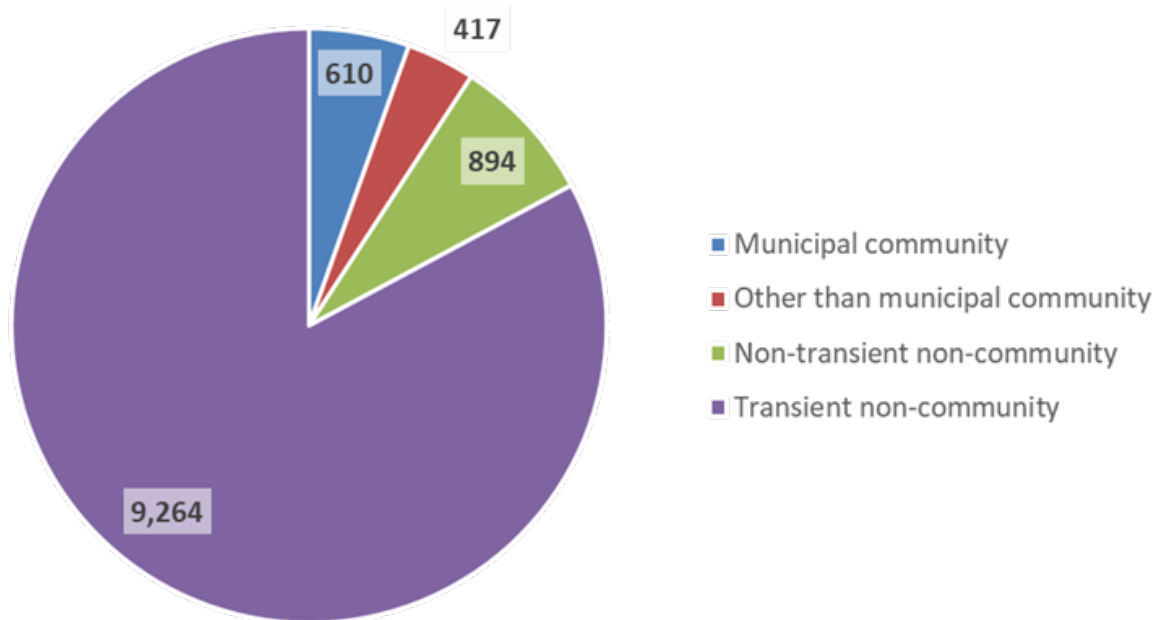
[Annual Drinking Water reports](#) on DNR web site



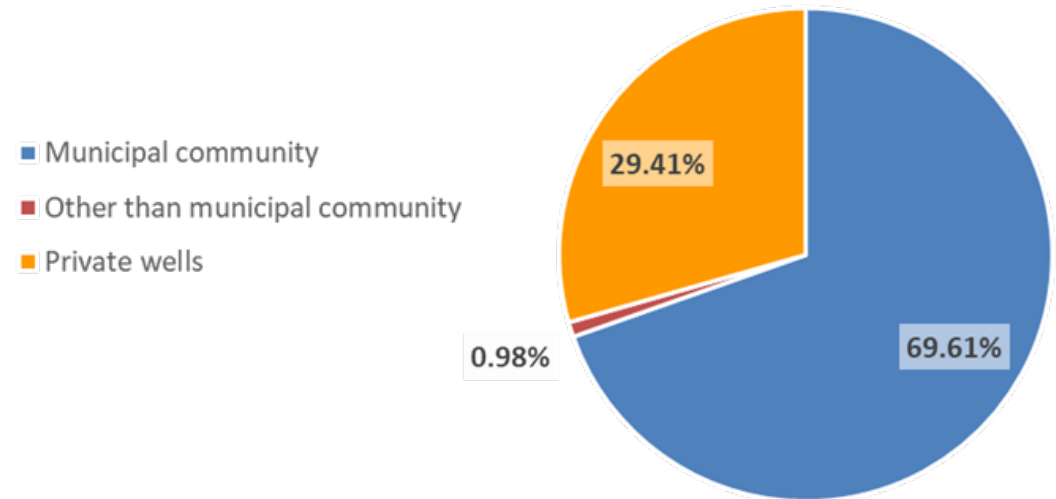
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Drinking Water and Groundwater Program
dnr.wi.gov



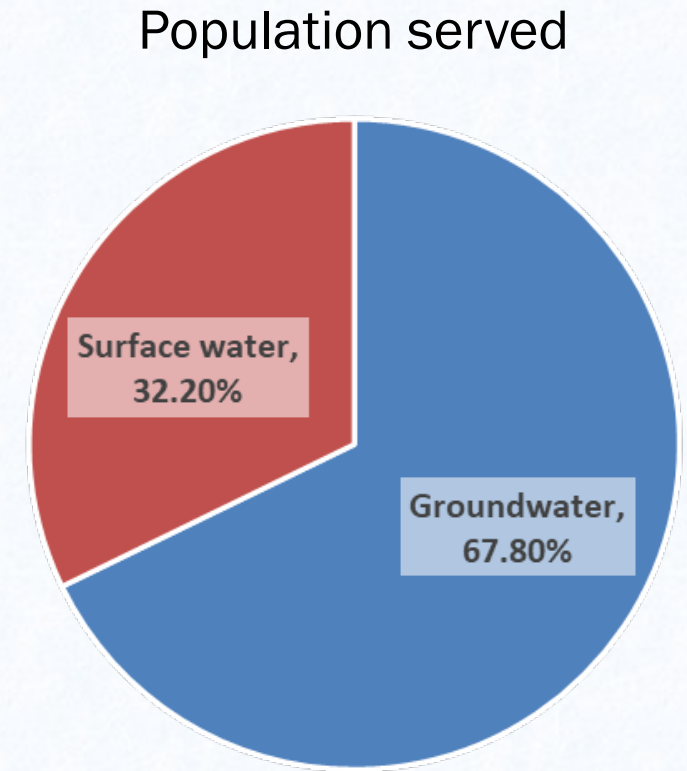
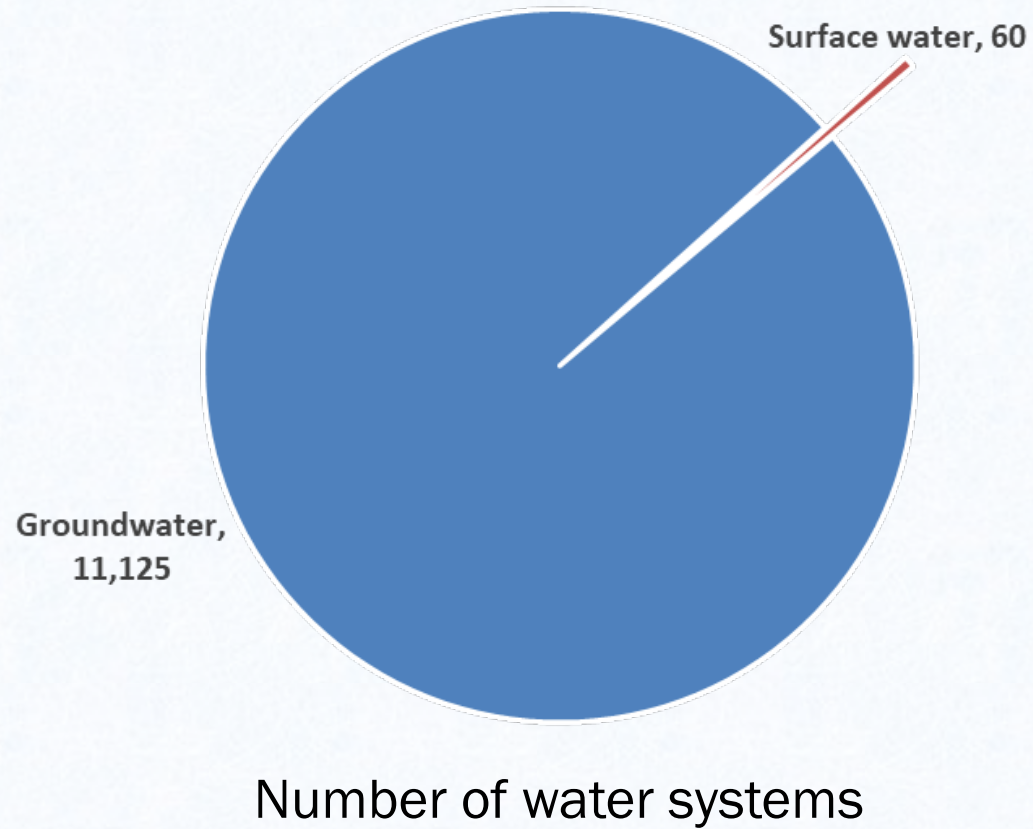
Public water in Wisconsin



- 11,185 public water systems in 2025
 - Wisconsin still most nationwide
- DG program in 2025 = 143 staff overall
- most systems very small, non-community
- municipal systems serve largest population of residential consumers
- almost 1/3 of population served by private domestic wells



Water sources for public water systems



Regulating drinking water contaminants

- Public health protection depends on monitoring drinking water supplies and testing for contaminants — required for all public water systems
- Wisconsin has both federal and state requirements



	Maximum contaminant levels (MCL)	maximum allowable levels of contaminants in drinking water
	Treatment techniques	actions required to control or reduce levels of contaminants (e.g., correcting significant deficiencies and sanitary defects)
	Action levels	concentration of lead or copper that requires water systems to conduct additional monitoring and take steps to control contaminant levels in the water supply

Wisconsin's most common contaminants

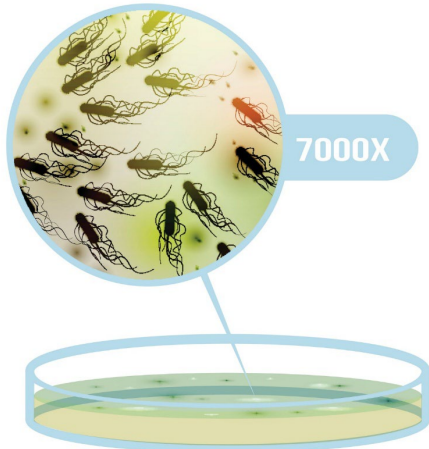
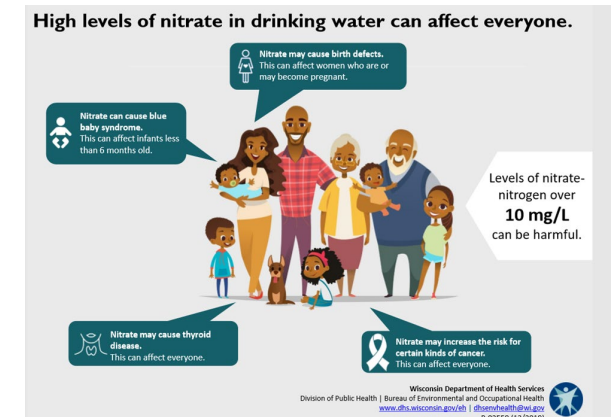


Photo credit: iStock/inbevel

- bacterial contamination — occurs statewide
 - *E. coli* especially challenging in 2025
- nitrate contamination — occurs statewide
 - also increased during 2025
- occur naturally in Wisconsin geology
 - radium and gross alpha particle activity
 - arsenic
- lead and copper — usually not in source water



Recap of 2025

- Lots of rulemaking work throughout year (for 2026 publication)
- Methemoglobinemia and high nitrite at Williams Bay
- nitrification in distribution system
- Plan for statewide investigation
- ammonia in source water
- municipal water systems
- initial samples during 4th quarter of 2026

Update on nitrate at TN systems

- Sunsetting initiative — transient non-community (TN) water systems with elevated nitrate levels
 - return systems to compliance with nitrate MCL
 - initiative started in 2023
 - initiative ongoing
- Continuing operation provision — to operate with nitrate above MCL (> 10 mg/L up to 20 mg/L)

A total of 186 TN water systems used the continuing operation provision to operate with nitrate levels above the MCL during 2025.

Compliance in Wisconsin

- Maximum Contaminant Levels — 99.4% of public water systems met water quality standards in 2025
- Treatment technique requirements — 97.9% of water systems met requirements
- Action levels for lead and copper — 98.4% of regulated systems met action level requirements
- Most common violations
- Public notice
- Monitoring and reporting
- Overall compliance with all types of requirements = 87.7% of water systems

Success depends on valued partnerships

- partner contracts for compliance support
- training contracts
- technical assistance contracts
- water system owners and operators
- professional organizations
- all study group members — thank you!



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WISCONSIN SECTION

American Water Works Association

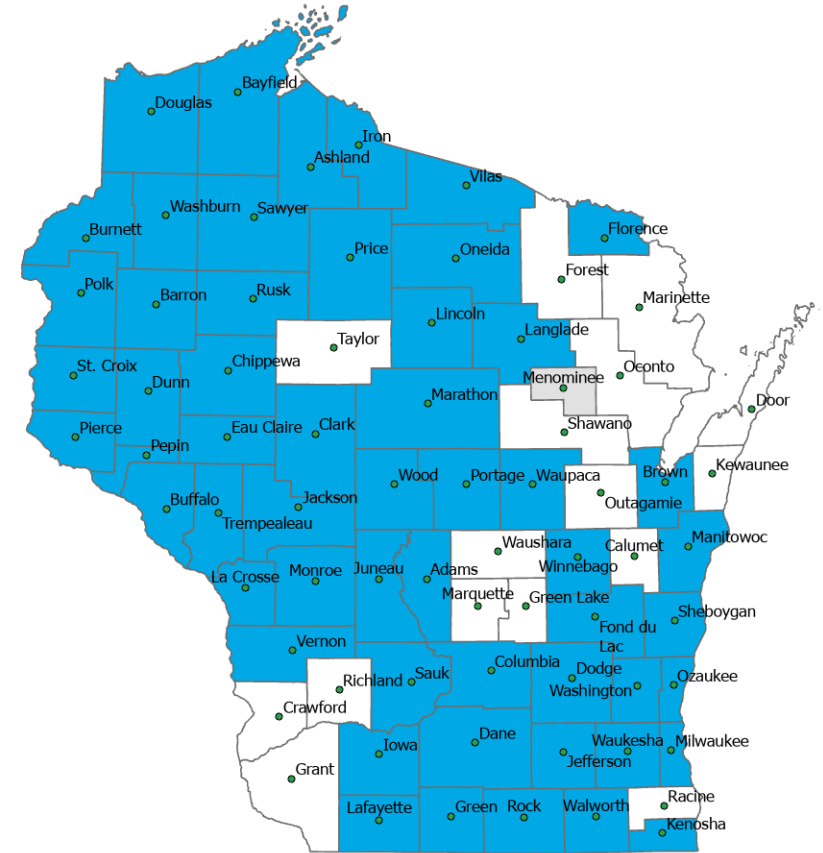
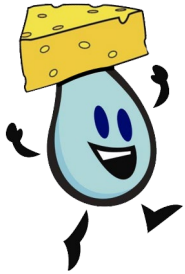


Photo Credit: DNR



Questions / contact

- Beth Goldowitz
- beth.goldowitz@wisconsin.gov
- cell 608-212-3239



Photo Credit: DNR

Break

Member Roundtable

Chris Groh | Wisconsin Rural Water Association

Kathleen Dax-Klister | Wisconsin State Lab of Hygiene

Jared Walker Smith | Municipal Environmental Group

Paul Junio | Pace Labs

Jeff Kramer | Wisconsin Well Water Association

Sydney Morgan | Wisconsin Section – American Waterworks Association

Jordan Murray | Department of Health Services

Rick Wietersen | Wisconsin Association of Local Health Departments and Boards

Sara Walling | Clean Wisconsin

Brad Stuczynski | American Council of Engineering Companies - Water Committee

Adam Jordahl | Wisconsin Manufacturers & Commerce

Angela James | Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Internal Updates

WI DNR

Drinking Water and Groundwater Administrative Rules Update



NR 140 – Groundwater Standards

- **PFAS (DG-02-25)** – Comment period has ended, DNR is considering changes based on comments
- **Pesticides (DG-01-26)** – Updated letter sent to DHS regarding Metalaxyl, Scope statement is being prepared

[NR 140 Groundwater Quality Standards Update Webpage](#)

Cybersecurity

- July 27th – We became aware that Programmable Logic Controllers (PLCs) at drinking water systems in Wisconsin may be susceptible to connections from malicious cyber actors.
- A GovDelivery message was sent last week to public water systems, which included recommended actions.
- DNR engineering field reps contacted their systems to amplify the message.
- Contact the Wisconsin Statewide Intelligence Center (WSIC), dojdciwsiccfcu@doj.state.wi.us or 608-242-5393 with questions.

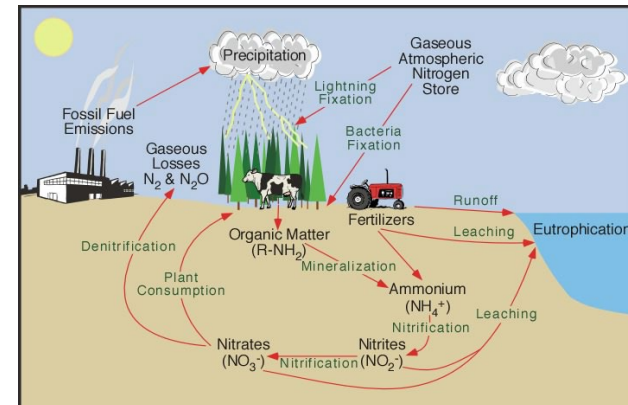
Fluoride

- DNR is aware that there is a current shortage of fluoride chemical supply
- Notify DNR if you have changes to your fluoride feed rate
- DNR recommends you inform your customers of any changes to the fluoride feed rate
- Let DNR know when you return to your normal feed rate
- General information about fluoridation can be found on the [DNR Fluoride in Drinking Water](#) website.

Ammonia Source Water Sampling

Statewide Nitrification Investigation Initiative

- 2026 Ammonia Source Water Sampling at municipal drinking water systems
- The purpose of this monitoring project is to:
 - Better understand the occurrence of ammonia in source waters
 - Identify systems that may be at higher risk of nitrification
 - Provide information on potential management strategies
 - Proactively work with systems to help them prevent issues



Ammonia Source Water Sampling

Statewide Nitrification Investigation Initiative

UPDATE

- Letters sent (June) to 556 Municipal Water Systems informing them of 4th quarter 2026 ammonia source water sampling requirement
 - Excludes consecutive systems
- Received questions and good feedback
 - No formal challenges
- Provided instructions for lab methods and reporting lab results
- Next Steps:
 - Review results in early 2027
 - Provide technical assistance to systems potentially at risk of nitrification

PFAS Legislation Update

- On April 6, 2026, Gov. Evers signed [Act 201 \[exit DNR\]](#), which creates several new grant programs to help Wisconsin's communities address PFAS contamination, especially in drinking water, and [Act 200 \[exit DNR\]](#), which provides the funding for these new grant programs.
- Some of the new funding opportunities include community grant programs for sampling drinking water in private wells, expanded well compensation for private well owners with PFAS contamination, assistance to municipal public water systems impacted by PFAS, and sampling high-capacity irrigation wells, biosolids, sludge, wastewater and landfill leachate for PFAS. Together, these bills are a critical step toward ensuring that Wisconsinites have access to safer water and to reduce exposure to PFAS through the environment.
- We expect the community grant programs for private wells, schools, childcare facilities and biosolids sampling to launch in mid- to late-October.
- In addition to these sampling programs, the updated Well Compensation Grant Program for PFAS will be available by the end of 2026.
- Additional grant programs that will support sampling high-capacity wells and municipally owned landfills, and treatment for public water systems and landfill leachate will be available in 2027.

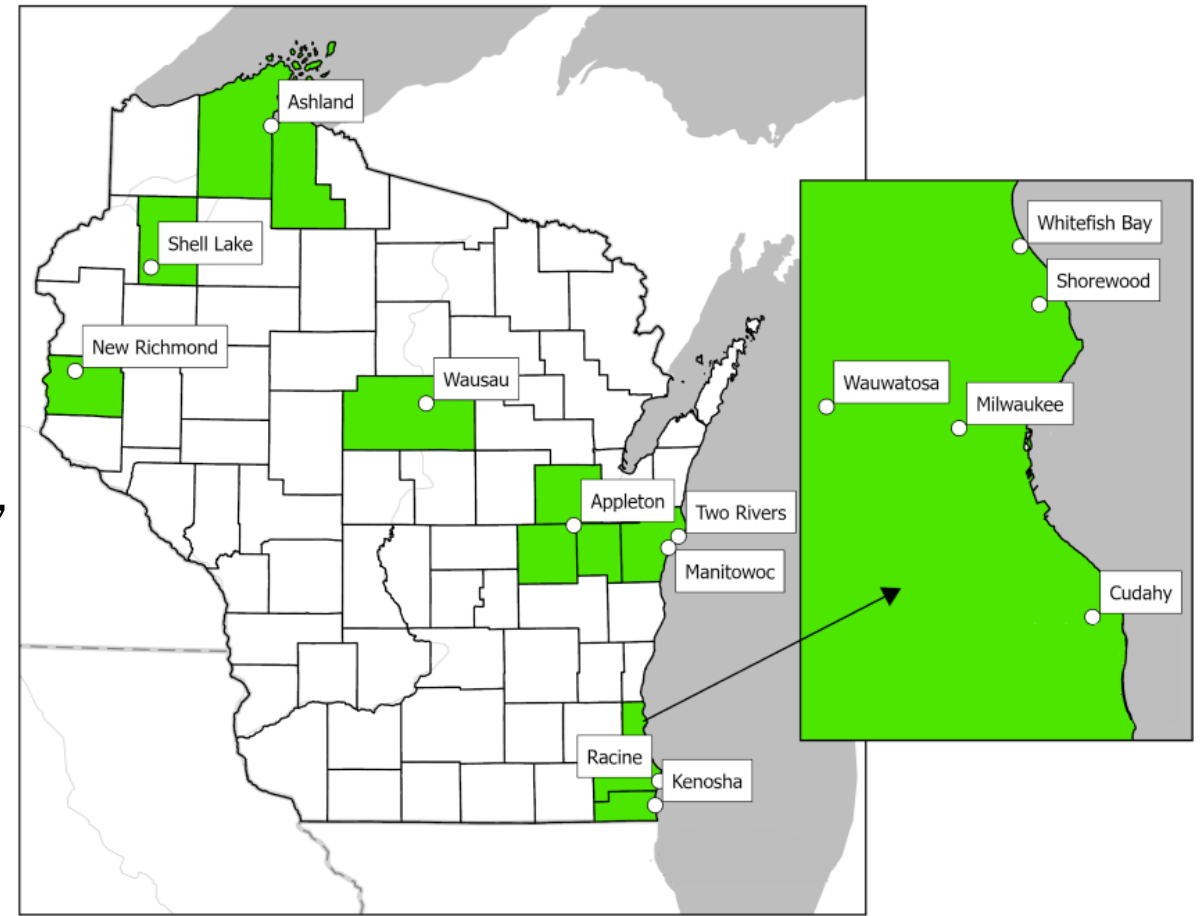
DG Grant Updates

- The BIL-funded Lead Service Line Replacement Community Outreach Grant has concluded after two application cycles
 - Over **\$3.5 million** was awarded to 21 municipal community (MC) public water systems to conduct outreach in support of lead service line replacements
 - MC systems with a planned or ongoing LSLR project were eligible to apply and could apply during both application cycles if additional funding was needed
- Community outreach is crucial to the success of lead service line replacement
 - Grant recipients are using these funds to directly reach property owners through phone calls, letters, door to door outreach, community events, social media campaigns, online resources, partnerships with community-based organizations and more
 - Grantees have reported a significant increase in the number of Right of Entry (ROE) forms signed because of their outreach efforts

DG Grant Updates

Cycle One Recap

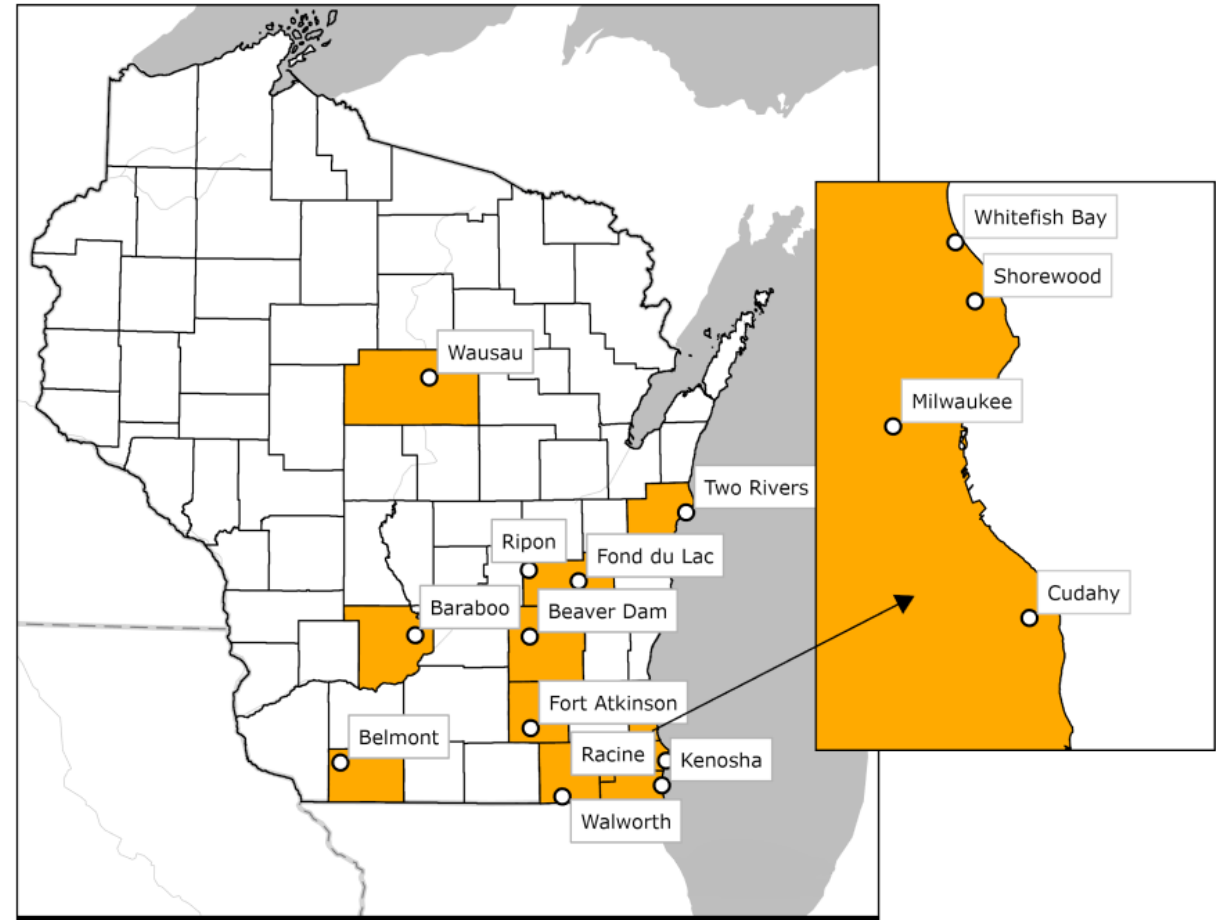
- Fall 2024 – Spring 2025
- Awarded a total of \$1,486,570.51
- Grantees
 - Whitefish Bay, Shorewood, Wauwatosa, Appleton, Wausau, Ashland, Milwaukee, Two Rivers, Shell Lake, Manitowoc, Cudahy, Racine, Kenosha and New Richmond



DG Grant Updates

Cycle Two Recap

- Fall 2025 – Spring 2026
- Awarded a total of \$2,091,258.51
- Grantees
 - Beaver Dam, Ripon, Baraboo, Racine, Whitefish Bay, Shorewood, Wausau, Two Rivers, Cudahy, Kenosha, Walworth, Fond du Lac, Fort Atkinson, Belmont and Milwaukee



Staff Updates

New Public Water Section Manager

- Jesse Jensen

PFAS Legislation related hires

- Jeffrey Steele
- Moses Jatta

Field Supervisor Vacancies (contact Kyle Burton in interim)

- Eileen Pierce (South Central Region, Fitchburg)
- Jesse Jensen (Southeast Region, Milwaukee)

DNR Moving to Hill Farms

- October 1, 2026: initiate move
- Address:
Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources
4822 Madison Yards Way
P.O. Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921



CONNECT WITH US

Next Meeting | Nov. 5, 2026

The meeting recording will be posted on
the Drinking Water and Groundwater Study
Group webpage.



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"WILD WISCONSIN:
OFF THE RECORD"