#### **WORKGROUP** Short Term Solutions in Relation to Contaminated Well Water in Kewaunee County



## <u>Purpose</u>

The purpose of this workgroup is to review and define issues faced by individuals in Kewaunee County who have wells which are contaminated by bacteria and/or nitrate. The scope of the workgroup activities will address concerns from these and other concerned citizens and seek to find avenues to provide a safe drinking water source, and/or clear information for those with contaminated drinking water to quickly and efficiently obtain a safe drinking water source.

### Expected Outputs / Products

The workgroup will compile and review existing statutes, administrative rules, and policies, creating clear and understandable guidance detailing the current tools available through the state and county. The workgroup will also outline the limitations of potential sources of aid available through the state or county. The members of this group will then work together to create a list of recommendations or suggestions to address these outlined limitations. The workgroup will seek consensus on all recommendations. Where consensus is not possible, the final guidance will include majority and minority perspectives. The full workgroup will attempt to complete written guidance, fact sheets, and/or recommendations by October, 2015; however, additional time will be allotted if necessary.

The recommendations are intended for: impacted citizens, WDNR, and other interested stakeholders, including, but not limited to, local government officials.

### **Composition**

The workgroup consists of invited participants representing a cross-section of interests concerned with the groundwater quality issues observed in Kewaunee County. The workgroup does not have any formal authority.

Workgroup Members:

- Kyle Burton, Wisconsin DNR Drinking Water and Groundwater(chair)
- Russ Rasmussen, Wisconsin DNR Division of Water
- Marty Nessman, Wisconsin DNR Drinking Water and Groundwater
- Jodi Parins, Kewaunee County
- John Pagel, Kewaunee County, Pagels Ponderosa

- Davina Bonness, Kewaunee County Conservationist
- Cindy Kinnard, Kewaunee County Health Department
- Dick Swanson, Kewaunee County
- Sara Williams, Midwest Environmental Advocates
- Lynn Utesch, Kewaunee CARES
- Tom Davenport (or representative), US Environmental Protection Agency
- Andy Wallander, Kewaunee County
- Ron Heuer, Kewaunee County
- Bill Schuster, Door County

#### Meeting Schedule and Information

Meeting #1 – August 25<sup>th</sup>, 8:30am-11:00am Location – James P Caughlin Center, 625 E County Rd Y, Oshkosh, WI 54901

# Meeting #2 – September 28<sup>th</sup>, 12:30-4:30

Location – Kewaunee County Fairgrounds Expo Hall 625 Third St. Luxemburg, WI

Meeting #3 TBD

#### WORKGROUP GROUND RULES

Members agree to:

- 1. Contribute to an environment of civility.
- 2. Focus is on learning and problem solving.
- 3. Remain open to new concepts/information/perspectives different from your own.
- 4. Everyone will participate and take ownership of group projects and, when appropriate, sub-groups will be assigned to work on specific activities.
- 5. Focus on underlying interests rather than positions.
- 6. Make statements, then invite questions and comments.
- 7. Share all relevant information.
- 8. Test assumptions and inferences.
- 9. Everyone has a chance to speak without interruption.
- 10. No one should dominate the conversation or topic.
- 11. Disagree openly with any member of the group.
- 12. Agree on what important words mean.
- 13. Jointly design ways to test disagreements and solutions.
- 14. Discuss difficult issues.
- 15. Keep the discussion focused.
- 16. Do not that cheap shots or otherwise distract the group.
- 17. Make decisions by consensus; where consensus is not possible, document majority and minority perspectives.
- 18. Exchange relevant information with other stakeholders.
- 19. The workgroup owns all ideas and concepts; do not talk disrespectfully about team activities in public.
- 20. Recognize regional/geographic differences and avoid singling out individual entities.
- 21. At their own discretion, decide whether or not to respond to comments and questions from the audience.

Guidelines for non-Members who attend Workgroup meetings:

- Comments are always welcome to be submitted to the workgroup chair at <u>Kyle.Burton@Wisconsin.gov</u>.
- Written comments may be submitted at all meetings.
- As time permits, audience members will have opportunities to share comments and concerns with the workgroup, consistent with the ground rules listed above.