

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Private Water Advisory Council

Schmeckle Reserve Visitor Center, UWSP

October 9, 2025 | DNR.WI.GOV



Agenda

1. Welcome/Introductions
2. WGNHS Updates (Pete Chase) (30 min)
3. Pitless Adapter Issues (Niewoehner) (30 min)
4. DNR Updates (60 min)
 - a. ARPA Well Compensation (Nessman)
 - b. DNR Budget (Nessman)
 - c. Licensing / Continuing Education (Gundrum)
 - d. Field and Enforcement (Niewoehner)
 - e. NR 812 / NR 146 Rule Revisions (Nessman/ Gundrum)
5. New Business
 - a. Discussion with WI Economic Development Corporation/Rural Prosperity (Beiriger)
6. Old Business
7. May Meeting Minutes
8. Future Meeting Dates
9. Adjourn



Welcome and Introductions



Private Water Advisory Council

- Wisconsin Geologic and Natural History Survey Updates



Pitless Adapter Issues (Niewoehner)

- DNR has received reports of Maas pitless adapters leaking both around the nipple and through the casting.
- In one large project, 4 of 18 adapters leaked when pressure tested.
- DNR had issues with Maas adapters several years ago.

DNR Updates

- ARPA Well Compensation Updates (Nessman)
- DNR Budget Update (Nessman)
- Licensing Updates (Gundrum)
- Field and Enforcement Updates (Niewoehner)
- Rule Revisions (Nessman/Gundrum)

ARPA Well Compensation (Nessman)

- 186 Grant Awards through 10/1
- 62 applications under review
- 11 applications received after Sept. 1 are on a waitlist
- All \$5 million in funding will be awarded



Remaining Deadlines

- November 30, 2025 - all awards sent out
- July 31, 2026 – All construction/installation completed
- August 31, 2026 – Payment requests to DNR
- December 31, 2026 – All payments made



DNR Budget



No news on federal budget yet



State budget was similar to past funding levels



We are planning to ask for \$ for IT improvements

Licensing /Continuing Ed

- New licenses and registrations issued in 2025

	PIP	WDP	HEDI	WDRO	HEDRO	PIB	WDB	HEDB
Total currently active:	1045	224	27	154	43	463	131	25
2025 1st time issued:	47	5	0	25	12	15	2	2
2025 Reinstated:	4	0	0	15	2	2	0	0

- Driller license applicant status:

	WDP	HEDI
# of applicants:	15	0
# nearing training completion:	5	0
# eligible for license exam:	4	2

Licensing /Continuing Ed



- Continuing education completion/allocation status:

	Total	Completed	% Completed
PIP	1045	552	53%
WDP	224	132	59%
HEDI	27	15	56%
WDRO	154	59	38%
HEDRO	43	8	19%

Licensing /Continuing Ed

- 2026 Scheduled license exam dates:

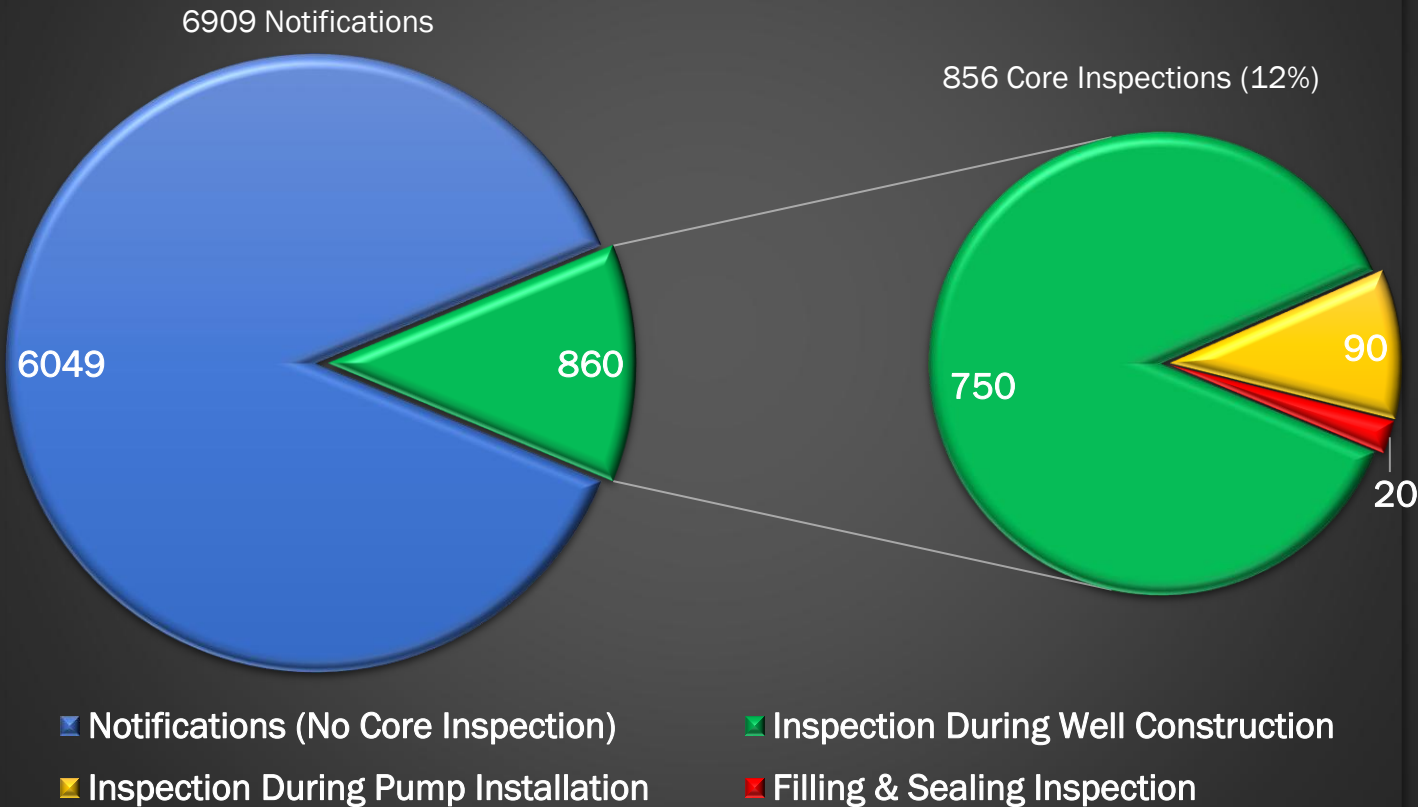
	LOCATION		
January	Wisconsin Dells	Rice Lake	Waukesha
March	Rhineland	Fennimore	Green Bay
May	Rice Lake	Plover	Madison
July	Green Bay	Plover	La Crosse
September	Rice Lake	Fennimore	Waukesha
October	Green Bay		
November	Rhineland	Plover	Madison



- Exams offered 3 times per month, every other month.
- Offerings at WWWA and WRWA annual conferences.
- See OpCert's [Exams webpage](#) for a listing of dates and locations.

Field and Enforcement Updates (Niewoehner)

CY2025 Staff Inspections (As of 9/30)



Enforcement Updates

- 11 NON's sent in 2025 – mostly reporting issues.
- 2 active cases that have gone to secondary enforcement for mostly reporting violations in 2025.

Field Updates

- Tom Puchalski Retiring In February
- Private Water has rolled out a new (optional) system for notifying DNR staff of HiCap drilling, Pump Install notice, or pitless pressure testing

NR 812 Rule Revision (Nessman)

- Anticipated to take effect in February or March
- How should we get the code to you?
- Revision implementation will include:
 - Exams
 - Forms
 - Application material
 - Education
 - Outreach



NR 146 Rule Revision Applicability Dates

- License and rig operator registration expiration
 - Issued 10/31 to 12/ 31/27 expire on 12/31/28
- Required online renewal
 - March/2027
- Online renewal exemption requests
 - 1/1/2027 to 7/31/2027
- Renewal by mail CE allocation requirement
 - 6 credits allocated by 10/1/2027
- Renewal online CE allocation requirement
 - 6 credits allocated by 12/31/2027
- Continuing education completion grace period – to June 30, 2028



NR 146 Rule Revision Applicability Dates

- Continuing education credit allocation by license type - 2027

6 credits per renewal cycle						
TRAINING TOPIC	PUMP INSTALLER (PIP)		WATER WELL DRILLER (WDP/WDRO)		HEAT EXCHANGE DRILLER (HEDI/HEDRO)	
	REQUIRED	ELECTIVE	REQUIRED	ELECTIVE	REQUIRED	ELECTIVE
Code compliance	1	x	1	x	1	x
Business practice		x		x		x
Safety/First Aid		x		x		x
Specific to PIP	3	x		x		
Specific to WDP/WDRO		x	3	x		x
Specific to HEDI/HEDRO				x	3	x
Trade Show/Exhibit		1 credit limit		1 credit limit		1 credit limit

New Business

- Discussion with WI Economic Development Corporation/Rural Prosperity (Beiriger)
- Coliform Sampling (Marshall)

- **Old Business**
- **May 2025 Meeting Minutes**
- **Future Meeting Dates**

CONNECT WITH US

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OFF THE RECORD"