



WATER QUALITY

NITRATE, ARSENIC, AND FLUORIDE

Ideas for Taking Action

Wisconsin Environmental Public Health Tracking Program



TAKING ACTION

We know it's a challenge to translate data into action. To help get you started, we created a short menu of potential strategies for addressing water quality. To help communities of all sizes and resource levels, we organized this guide by the scope of the strategy, from addressing knowledge, attitudes, and skills to addressing laws and policies. Each strategy contains links to more resources.

INDIVIDUAL LEVEL | Knowledge, Attitudes, Skills

- Encourage residents to [test their wells and take appropriate steps to ensure good water quality](#).
- Educate residents on the [benefits of fluoride](#) for decreasing dental carries and tooth decay.
- Encourage residents to [properly dispose of hazardous home and yard chemicals](#).

INTERPERSONAL LEVEL | Family, Friends, Social Networks

- Train partners such as land conservation staff who do home visits to [offer well water testing](#).
- Train community members to talk to friends and neighbors about the [advantages of water fluoridation](#).

ORGANIZATIONAL LEVEL | Organizations, Schools, Workplaces

- [Incorporate green infrastructure](#) in community building projects.
- [Use rain gardens and other bioretention systems](#).
- Encourage residents and organizations to [use rain barrels](#).

COMMUNITY LEVEL | Design, Access, Connectedness, Spaces

- Educate about sustainable farming practices:
 - [Conservation tillage practices](#) (keeping at least one-third of soil covered with previous year's crop residue)
 - [Integrated pest management](#) (starting with the least risky pest control approach first)
 - [Nutrient management plans](#) (matching nutrients to crop needs and reducing use of commercial fertilizer)
- Consider [incorporating permeable pavement](#) into sidewalk, road, and parking lot projects.
- [Simplify well water test results](#) for residents.
- [Implement multicomponent groundwater management programs](#).

POLICY LEVEL | National or Local Laws and Policies

[Maintain appropriate levels of fluoride](#) in community water supplies.

Find more strategies and explore water quality data at dhs.wisconsin.gov/epht.

WISCONSIN ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH TRACKING PROGRAM

Bureau of Environmental and Occupational Health

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