

Subject: Water Issues arising in MN and WI

Are we all certain we are drinking clean and unadulterated water in NW Wisconsin?



*.....keeping watch on
the industry*

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**Happy New
Year to all
Frac Sand
Sentinel
Readers on
the list and
beyond!
Thank you for
the
tremendous**

**work you are doing to protect our precious
drinking water and air from pollutants.**

**I know many of you are very concerned about
some of the current issues if you live around
frac sand mining, processing, and trans-load
facilities in NW Wisconsin and elsewhere. We
must continue to apply our efforts to
reducing these concerns to keep us all healthy**

and to allow our young children to grow up without being affected by nitrates, other chemicals, fertilizers, and bad practices being identified and used.

I have read some of the concerns arising about water in various newspaper articles over the past number of days. I have come to realize there is more to learn and that we in NW WI seem not to be part of the concern. MN also is facing water issues in the "quality and quantity" realm similar to ours and with the addition of manure and other fertilizers to our soils combined with the production of corn and other foods, we are increasingly adding nitrates along with other chemicals to our soil and drinking water which are doing all of us harm. And some cities are spending millions building facilities to remove nitrates and other chemicals from their water supplies, but that does nothing for rural supplies. Water testing around frac sand mines, processing plants, and trans-load stations must be done to protect residential wells and the people who live there. Will counties or towns take the lead or will it be up to homeowners to have the water in their wells tested?

In 2016, the WDNR promised a study to

determine if heavy metals in frac sand mining facilities were leaching out into wells, groundwater and storm water from the sandstone formations in the hills, ridges, and bluffs as they are removed for use in the hydraulic fracturing industry. The scientific study was to be completed by 2021. At this time, no money has been found or appropriated to do this study in frac sand country so this issue is "dead in the water".

Find the document [HERE](#).

Recently SW Wisconsin was in the news. Hazardous drinking water was found in 42 percent of the test sites. View the article at:

https://madison.com/wsj/news/local/govt-and-politics/hazardous-drinking-water-found-in-of-southwest-wisconsin-wells/article_e5eb6165-fc00-5bab-869b-95e6f0e2fe3e.html

After researchers released the results, Assembly Speaker, Robin Vos indicated he would create a task force to study state water quality for pollutants including pathogens and other contaminants. It didn't appear to include NW Wisconsin areas around frac sand facilities. A study including heavy metal pollution in several counties is critical. See the

report issued by the Wisconsin State Journal:

https://madison.com/wsj/news/local/govt-and-politics/task-force-promised-by-gop-leader-after-study-finds-percent/article_115664cd-2544-5af9-ad9f-91be087a21ab.html

Minnesota has similar problems. Josephine Marcotty, environmentalist and reporter from the Star Tribune has written a 3 part series about water issues recently. They are well worth the read!

The first in the series is entitled, "With Spigot Open, Southwestern Minnesota Towns Flourish"

<http://www.startribune.com/with-spigot-open-southwestern-minnesota-towns-flourish/502477151/>

The second in her series is entitled: " Baby's Death Sparks Water Safety Fight with the Ag Industry"

<http://www.startribune.com/baby-s-death-sparks-water-safety-fight-with-the-ag-industry/502477031/>

The third issue sparks issues for the beer industry in one Minnesota town and how they have dealt with declining populations in a trout stream along with declining clean water supplies for their beer industry. It is entitled: "Running Dry: Brewery in the Town of Cold Spring, MN and the Options for Water"

<http://www.startribune.com/in-brewery-town-of-cold-spring-minnesota-options-for-water-are-running-dry/502368121/>

In the Midwest, many water issues prevail. Surely some paradigm shift has to occur if we to be assured of clean drinking water free of contaminants including heavy metals and nitrates in our local farming areas and communities.

Here is a place for ACTION. What can you and your group or organization do to insist that clean water is necessary not only for today's generation but future generations. We can't live and creatures can't survive without clean drinking water supplies. Note the story about the raising of shrimp for food in one of the above articles.

We have many issues open for discussion and action! 2019 will be filled with challenges for certain! Join in the action!

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Welcome to the Frac Sand Sentinel, a newsletter highlighting resource links, news media accounts, blog posts, correspondence, observations and opinions gathered regarding local actions on, and impacts of, the developing frac sand mining and processing industries.

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CHECK OUT THE WEBSITE: CCC-WIS.COM and for additional information, [click here](#) for panoramic aerial views of frac sand mines, processing plants, and trans-load facilities.