

AIR NEWS

April 23, 2014 || News from the DNR Bureau of Air Management

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EPA ruling shows Wisconsin air pollution lowest in 30 years

Milwaukee, Racine and Waukesha counties now meet all federal standards

MADISON, Wis. -- Sustained efforts by manufacturers, utilities and the transportation industry to reduce fine particle pollution achieved a long-sought victory Tuesday as the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency declared Milwaukee, Racine and Waukesha counties in compliance with all federal air quality standards.



Tuesday's approval, certifying compliance with the 2006 federal fine particle air standard, represents an important public health achievement and puts businesses in the region on a more competitive footing. For the state as a whole, the new designation certifies that Wisconsin has the lowest particle pollution in the past three decades.

"Wisconsin has a long legacy of environmental stewardship and thanks to continued collaboration among our citizens, businesses and government, we've achieved an important milestone in air quality," said Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Secretary Cathy Stepp. "On Earth Day, we are reminded that we all have a responsibility to maintain a healthy, sustainable environment. Our continued progress ensures a better world for future generations."

Bart Sponseller, director of the air management bureau with DNR, said the state's own air quality monitors have shown the three counties to be in compliance since 2010. Emission reductions of nitrogen oxides, sulfur dioxide and fine particles resulted in the improvement.

For more information, see DNR 's April 22, 2014, news release at http://dnr.wi.gov/news/BreakingNews_Lookup.asp?id=3186

RSVP by May 15 for Clean Air Extravaganza

Join members of [Wisconsin Partners for Clean Air](#) at the Clean Air Extravaganza on Thursday, May 22, from 2:00 to 4:00 pm at ManpowerGroup World Headquarters (100 Manpower Place, Milwaukee, WI 53212). Along with the presentation of the annual Recognition and Commuter Champion Awards, businesses will also be presenting information about implementing

environmental management systems and participating in [DNR's Green Tier program](#). Come interact with all types of Wisconsin businesses and organizations to learn how to improve your green bottom line.

Please **RSVP by Thursday, May 15**, by calling 414-263-8751 or emailing peter.mcmullen@wisconsin.gov. Event program and map/directions can be found at <http://cleanairwisconsin.org/extravaganza.php>.

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