

Meeting Minutes
Drinking Water and Groundwater Study Group Meeting
January 31, 2018 9:30 a.m.
Natural Resources Building – GEF 2 - 101 S Webster St Madison
Room G09

Attendees

Chris Groh – Wisconsin Rural Water Association *	Nicole Mathews -DNR
David Webb – Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene *	Joe Grande – Madison Water
Jeff Kramer – Wisconsin Water Well Association *	Bill Leichtnam – Wood County Board
John Steinbrink – American Water Works Association *	Nancy Leichtham
Lawrie Kobza – Municipal Environmental Group *	Steve Elmore – DNR
Paul Junio – Northern Lake Service (Waukesha) *	Kyle Burton – DNR
Rick Wietersen – WAHLDAB *	Liesa Lehmann - DNR
Roy Irving – Department of Health Services *	Adam DeWeese – DNR
Susan Hedman – Clean Wisconsin *	Cathy Wunderlich - DNR
John Richmond – Marshfield Utilities	Bruce Rheineck - DNR
Mike Sullivan – Oak Creek Water	Bridget Kelly – DNR
Abigail Cantor – Process Research Solutions Madison	William Erikson – DNR
James Wedekind - TRC	Brian Austin – DNR
Paul Ferguson – Legislative Fiscal Bureau	Carlyn Brown – DNR

*Drinking Water and Groundwater Study Group member (DGSG)

The agenda and presentation can be found on the [DGSG website](#).

Meeting called to order at 9:30 a.m.

Welcome and introductions led by Drinking Water and Groundwater Program Director Steve Elmore

Beyond the Lead and Copper Rule: Department Initiatives to Get the Lead Out

Kelly gave an overview on the lead and copper rule.

Erikson talked about the possibility of creating a lead service line replacement charter. The idea is currently in the conceptual phase. For more information on Green Tier can be found on the website <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/GreenTier/>.

One challenge municipal systems are having is getting homeowners to participate in water sampling. It has been more difficult recently because of the potential liability issues with lead in pipes.

Wietersen added that when a partial lead replacement line is scheduled, the municipal must give a 45-day notice and inform customers of the risks of partial lead line replacements. Within 72 hours of completing the partial lead line replacement, the municipal is required to test the water for the resident and provide the results within three days of testing.

The audience asked about the required six-hour stagnation period before testing – EPA sets the rules and timeframes. The six-hour stagnation period represents normal drinking water conditions.

The proposed lead service line replacement charter does not get anyone out of regulation.

Webb noted that members will be an important piece of distributing public information to customers.

Lead and Copper Updates

Elmore briefed members on the EPA Lead and Copper comment period. Anyone can comment via the EPA website.

Hedman emphasized the need to update the lead and copper rule and endorsed Webb's comments regarding dissemination of public information about reducing exposure to lead in drinking water.

DeWeese noted 400 Other than Municipals (OTMs) will be going through lead and copper compliance sampling in 2018.

Well Driller Viewer overview and demo

Lehmann gave a demo on the Well Driller Viewer which launched on January 18, 2018.

DNR is currently collecting feedback through the feedback button on the viewer. A survey will be sent out to users in the future.

High capacity wells and geo-thermal well construction reports can be found on the viewer. Public water system reports and monitoring wells are not available at this time.

Kramer, a retired well driller from Sam's Well Drilling, shared a recent conversation he had with former co-workers about the well viewer. The former co-workers said the viewer has cut down on the back and forth conversations with DNR on where landfills are located. They are now able to look up landfills on their phones which has been a huge timesaver.

WI Nitrate Initiative – Developing Decision Support Tools

The purpose of the initiative is to provide nitrate technical assistance with existing resources and to help keep sites from crossing the health based standard.

Comment from the audience regarding nitrates in the groundwater in Juneau County (central sands area) - Residents down gradient from the monitoring well are seeing high nitrates in their private wells and there are health concerns. The purpose of the tool is to be applied before you get to the situation that Juneau county is in. Austin is looking at specific "high nitrate areas" and this tool could be used to help analyze those high areas.

Kobza asked if this tool would be used to look at the cost difference between nitrate being applied to land vs getting rid of the manure. Austin said this tool would not be used for this scenario.

Hot topics

Leading on lead legislation has passed both units of government but has not been signed yet. The legislation would allow municipal systems to raise rates to pay for private portion of lead line replacement.

Tyco Fire Protection Products have been testing firefighting foams on the facility grounds. The fire foam contains fluorinate compounds which has leached into the soil and led to groundwater contamination. RR and spill folks are leading the well testing and clean up. Of the private wells that have been tested, 17 wells have traces of fluorinated compounds but are not over EPAs health standard. Nine wells have tested above the health standard.

DNR has received a straddling community diversion application from the City of Racine. More information can be found on the DNR website. <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/WaterUse/Racine/>

Meeting was adjourned at 12:10

The agenda and presentation can be found on the [DGSG website](#). Meeting minutes recorded by Carlyn Brown, DNR