

Groundwater and Drinking Water Education Program

Town of Hull

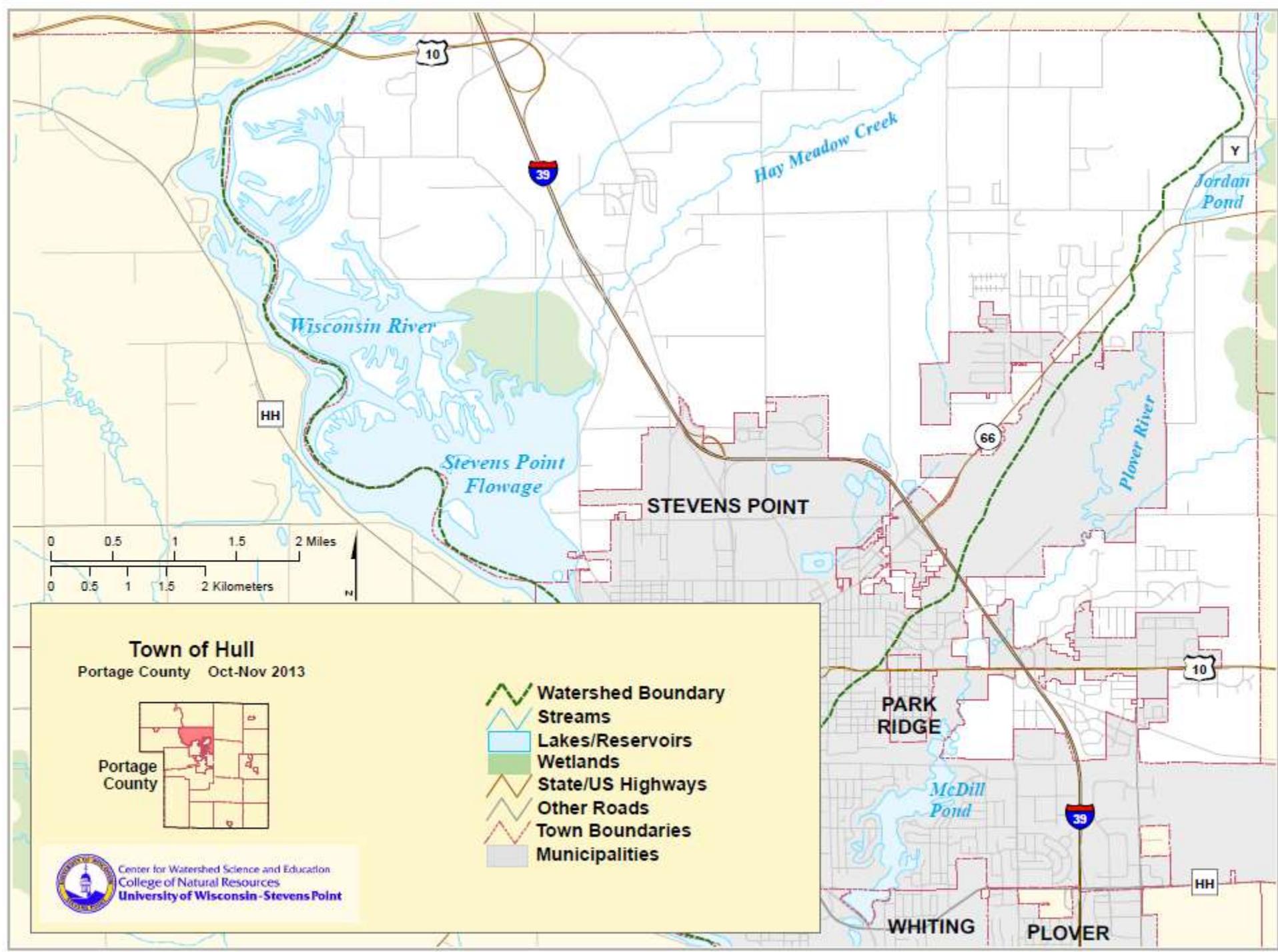
Kevin Masarik
Center for Watershed Science and Education



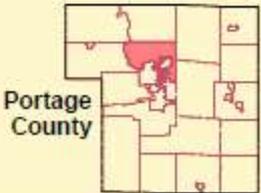
University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point
College of Natural Resources



Through the University of Wisconsin-Extension, all Wisconsin people can access University resources and engage in lifelong learning, wherever they live and work.



Town of Hull
Portage County Oct-Nov 2013



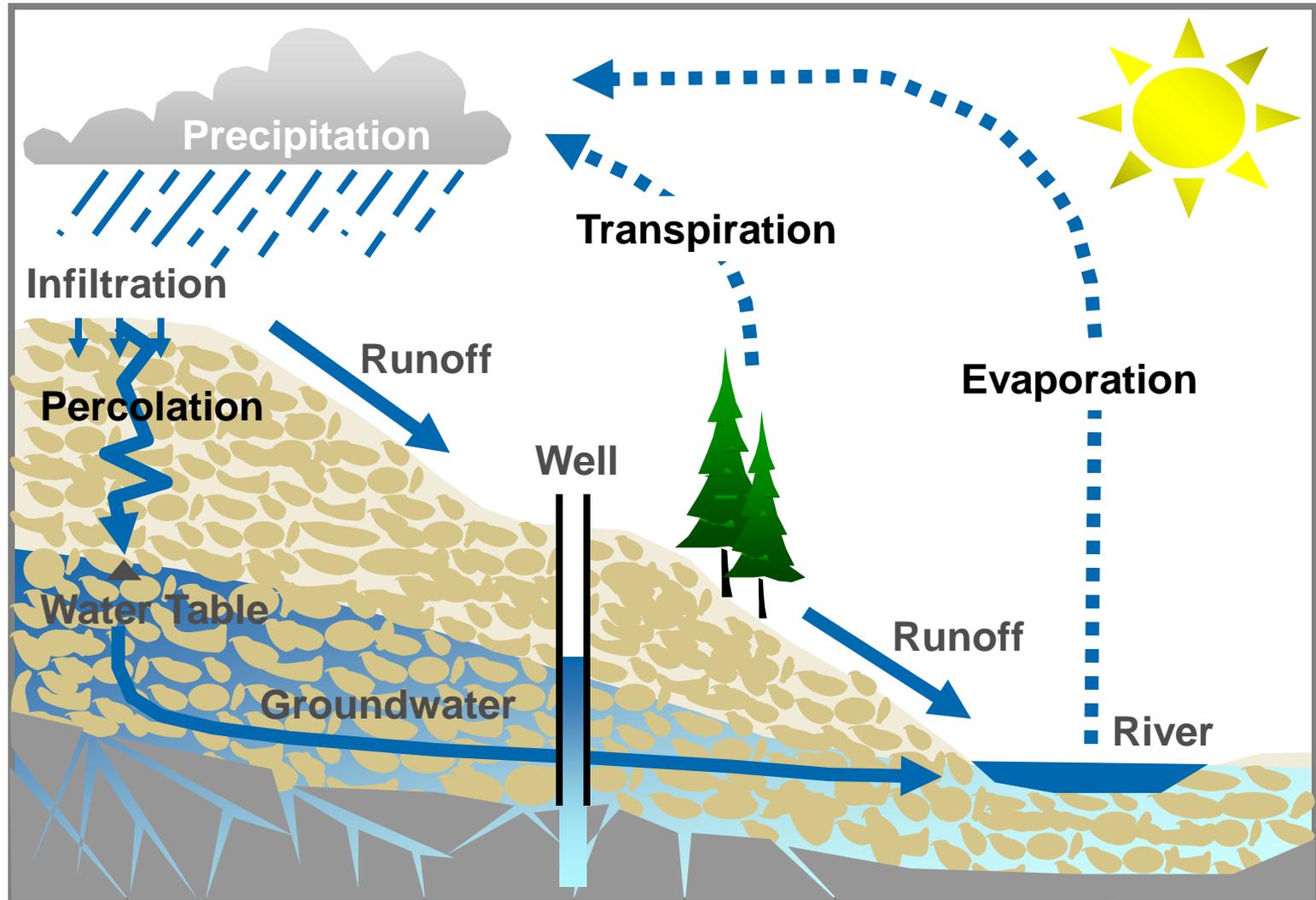
-  Watershed Boundary
-  Streams
-  Lakes/Reservoirs
-  Wetlands
-  State/US Highways
-  Other Roads
-  Town Boundaries
-  Municipalities

Today's presentation

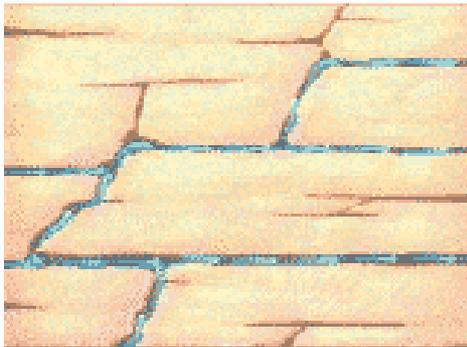
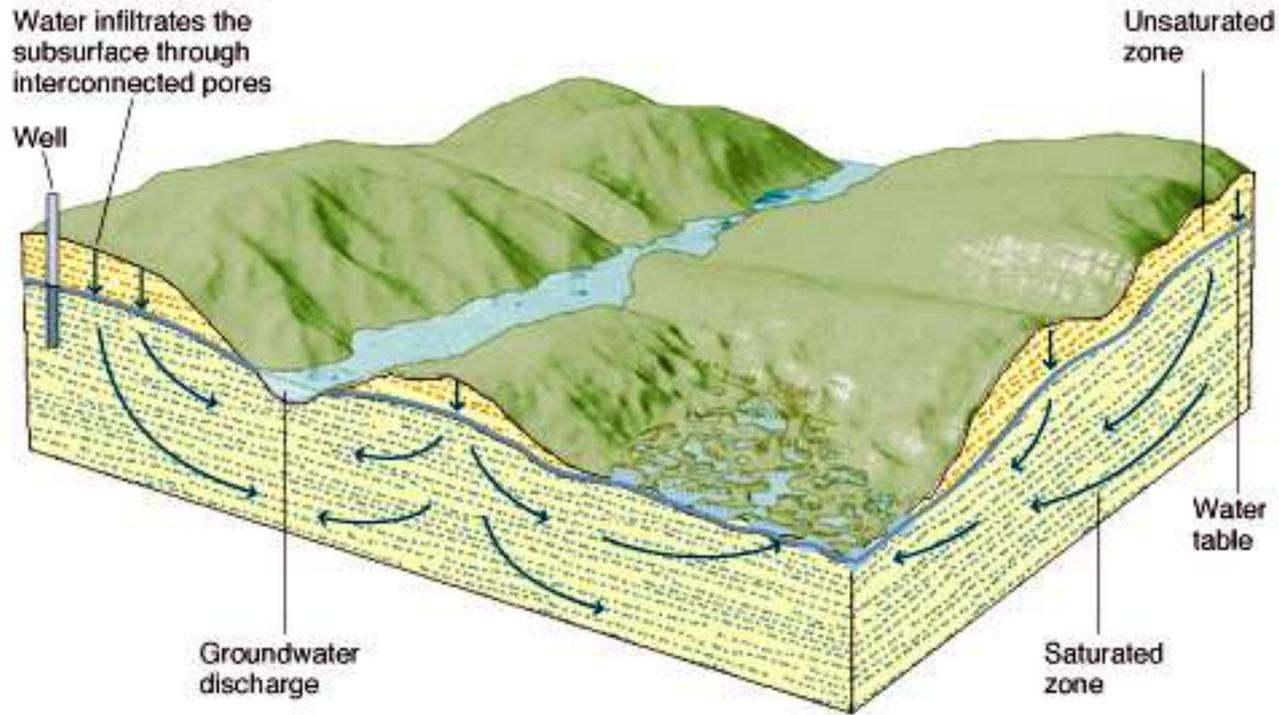
- Groundwater Basics: Where does my water come from
- Well Construction
- What do my individual test results mean?
- General groundwater quality in Town of Hull
- Improving your water quality



The Water Cycle



Groundwater Movement

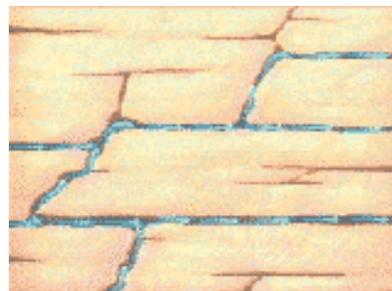


Aquifers: Our groundwater storage units

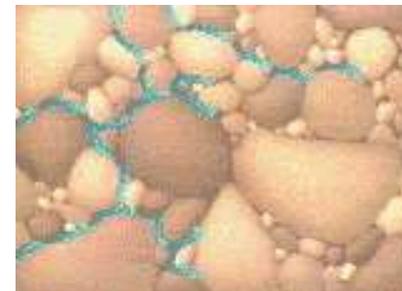
Aquifers are geologic formations that store and transmit groundwater.

The aquifer properties determine how quickly groundwater flows, how much water an aquifer can hold and how easily groundwater can become contaminated. Some aquifers may also contain naturally occurring elements that make water unsafe.

Wisconsin's geology is like a layered cake. Underneath all of Wisconsin lies the Crystalline bedrock which does not hold much water. Think of this layer like the foundation of your house. All groundwater sits on top of this foundation. Groundwater is stored in the various **sandstone, dolomite and sand/gravel** aquifers above the **crystalline bedrock** layer. The layers are arranged in the order which they formed, oldest on the bottom and youngest on top.



Water and contaminants can move quickly through cracks and fractures.



Water moving through tiny spaces in between sand particles or sandstone moves slower and allows for filtration of some contaminants.

Learn more about Wisconsin's geologic past by clicking the aquifer names

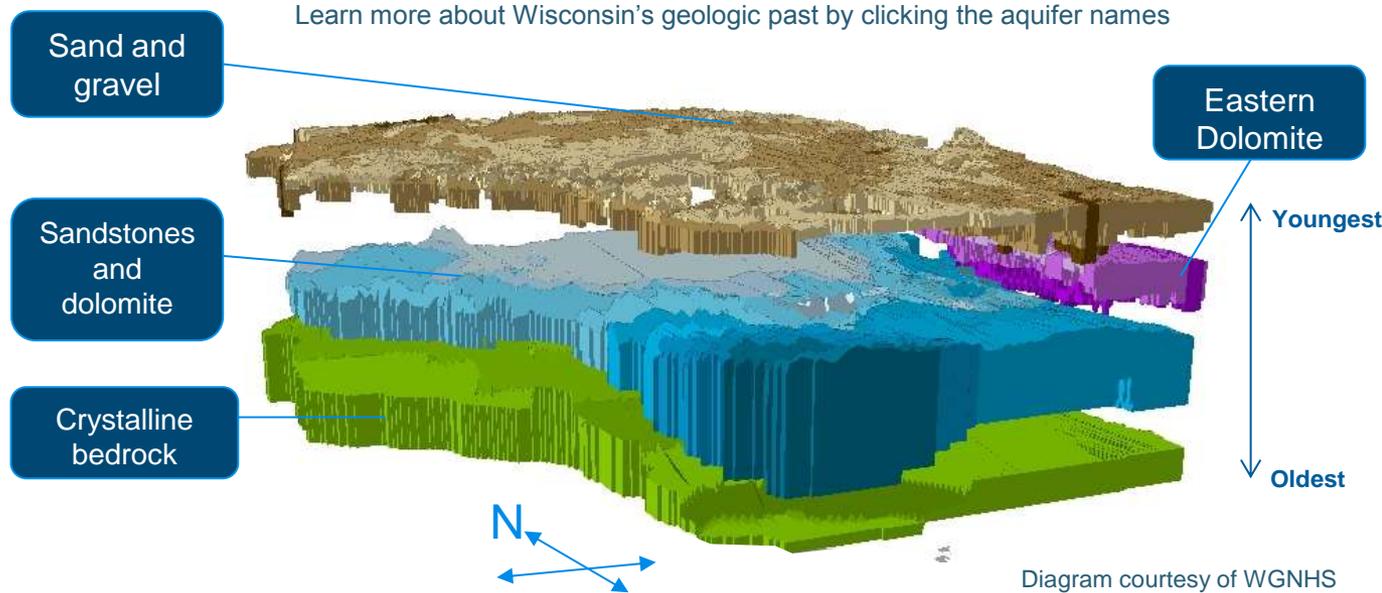
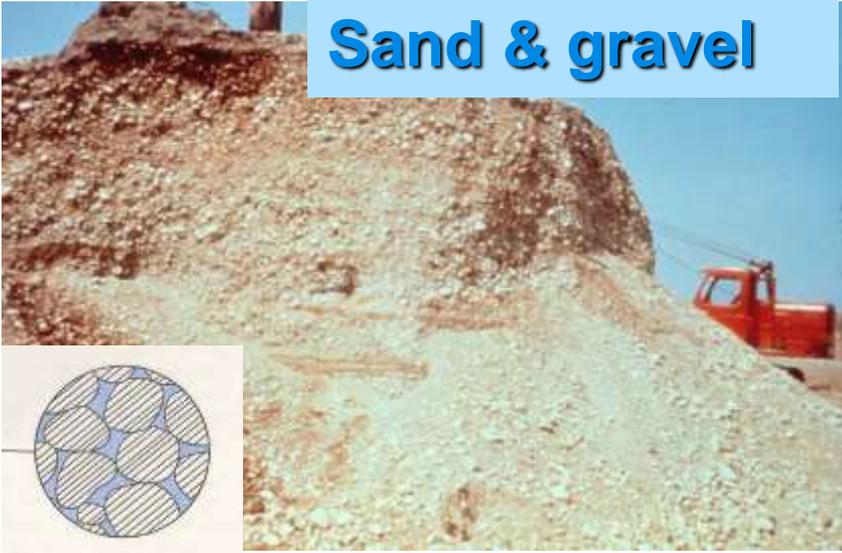


Diagram courtesy of WGNHS

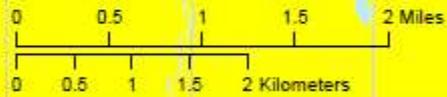
Town of Hull Aquifers

Sand & gravel



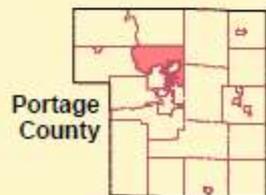
Igneous/Metamorphic



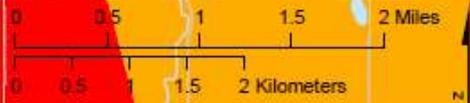


Town of Hull

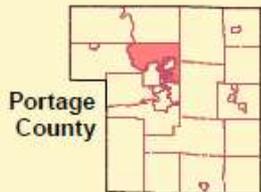
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- Bedrock Type:**
- Carbonates
 - Sandstone
 - Igneous/Metamorphic
 - Shale



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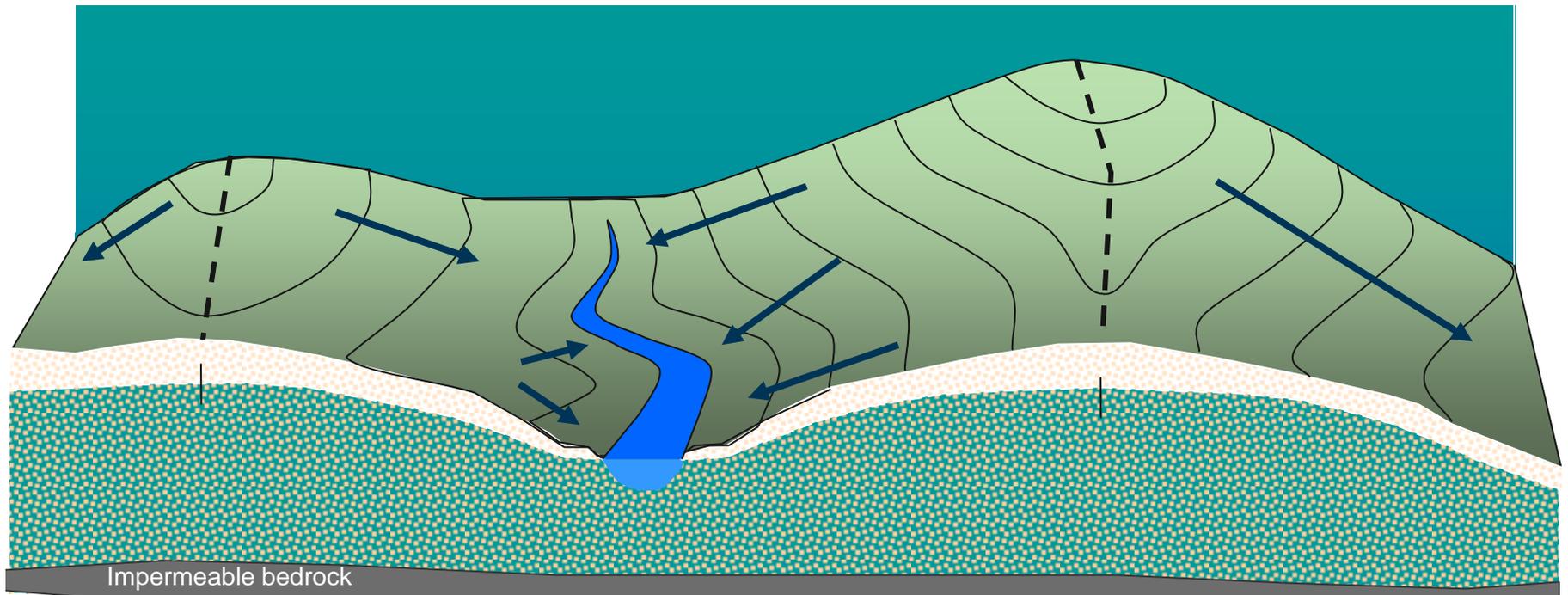
Depth to Bedrock:

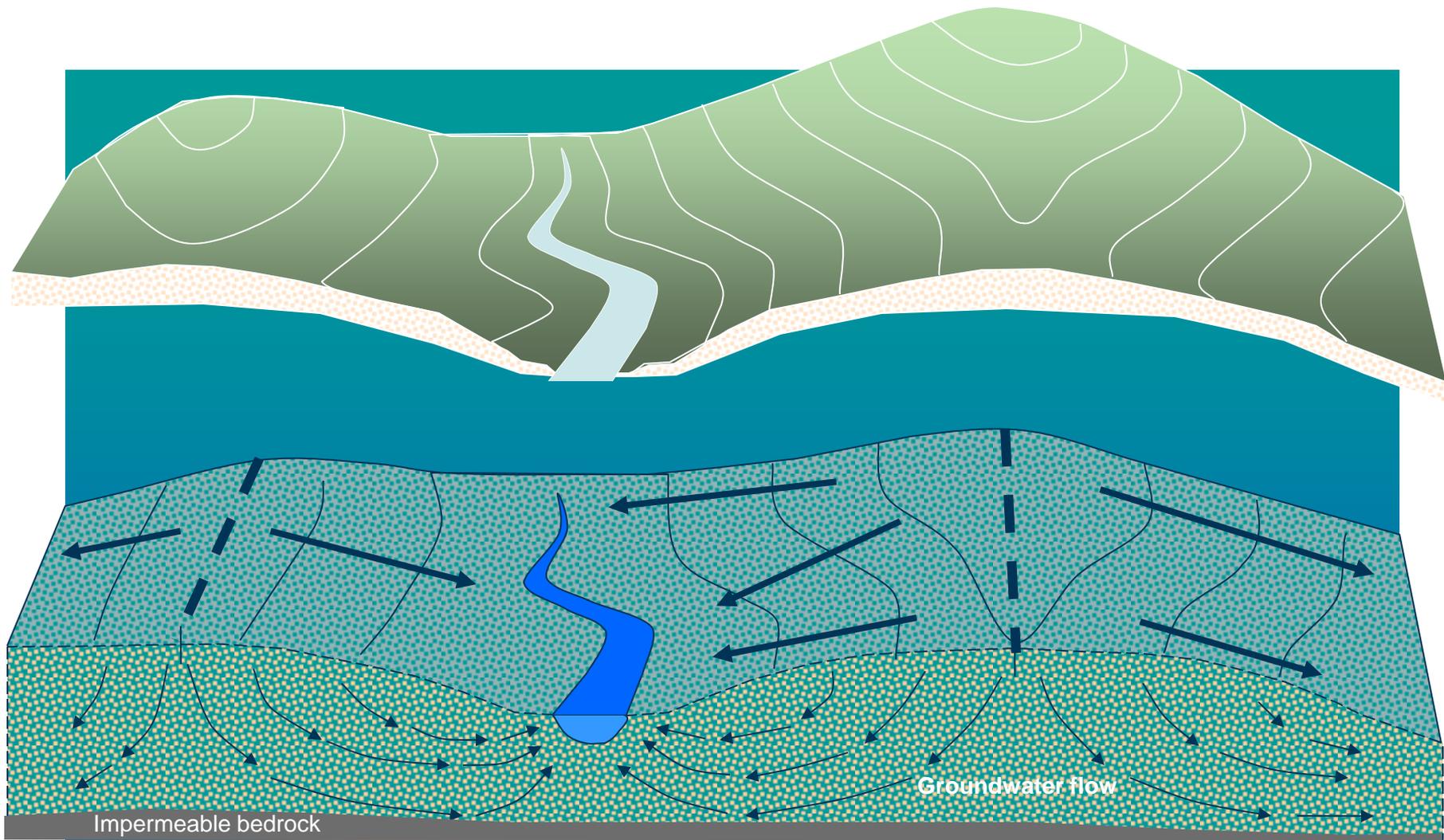
-  within 5 ft - more than 70% of area
-  within 5 ft - 35 to 70% of area
-  5 to 50 ft
-  50 to 100 ft
-  greater than 100 ft



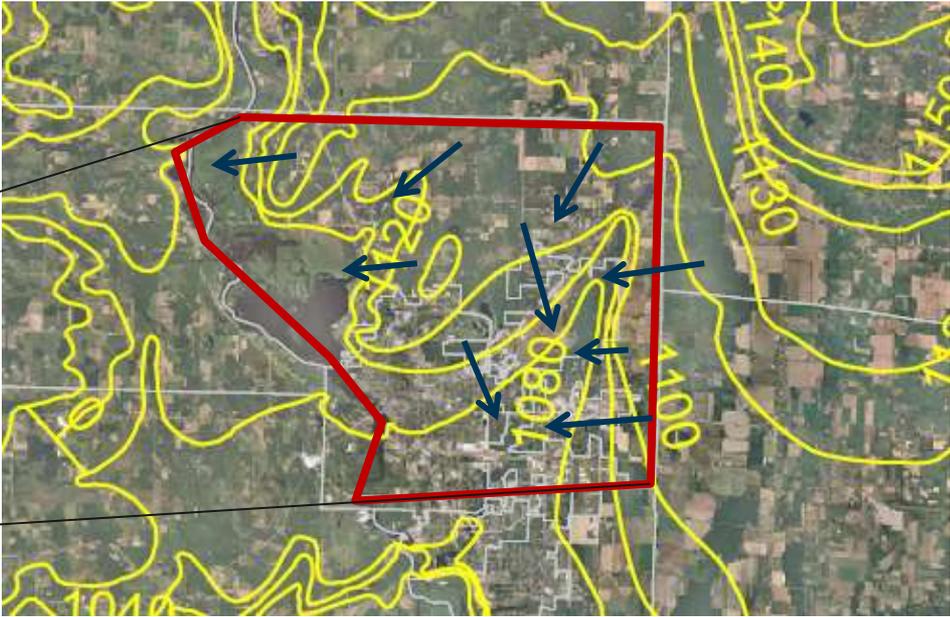
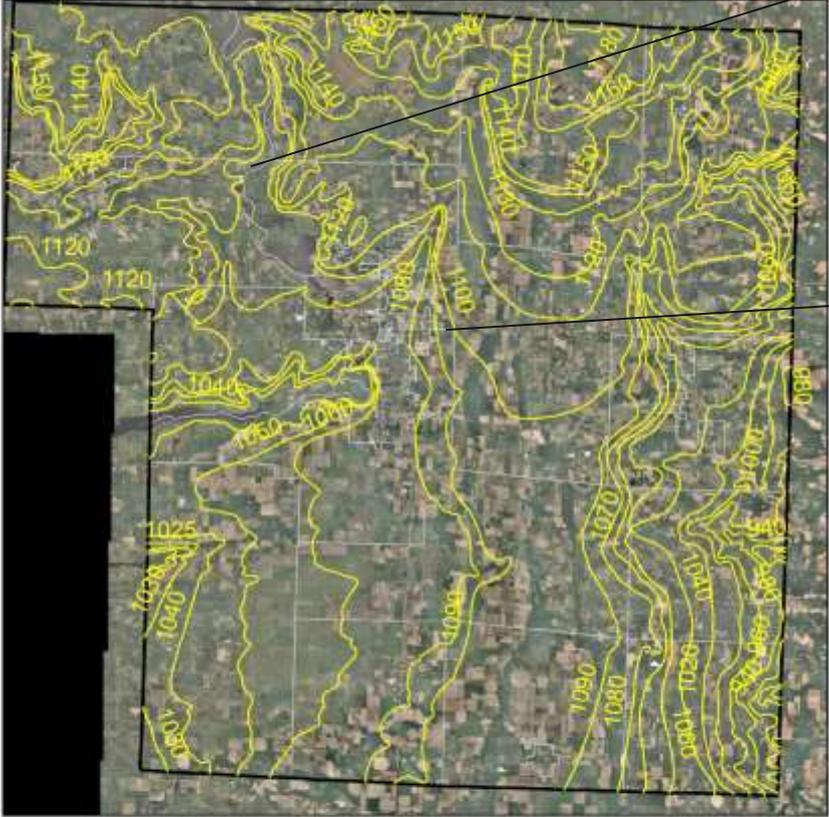
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University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

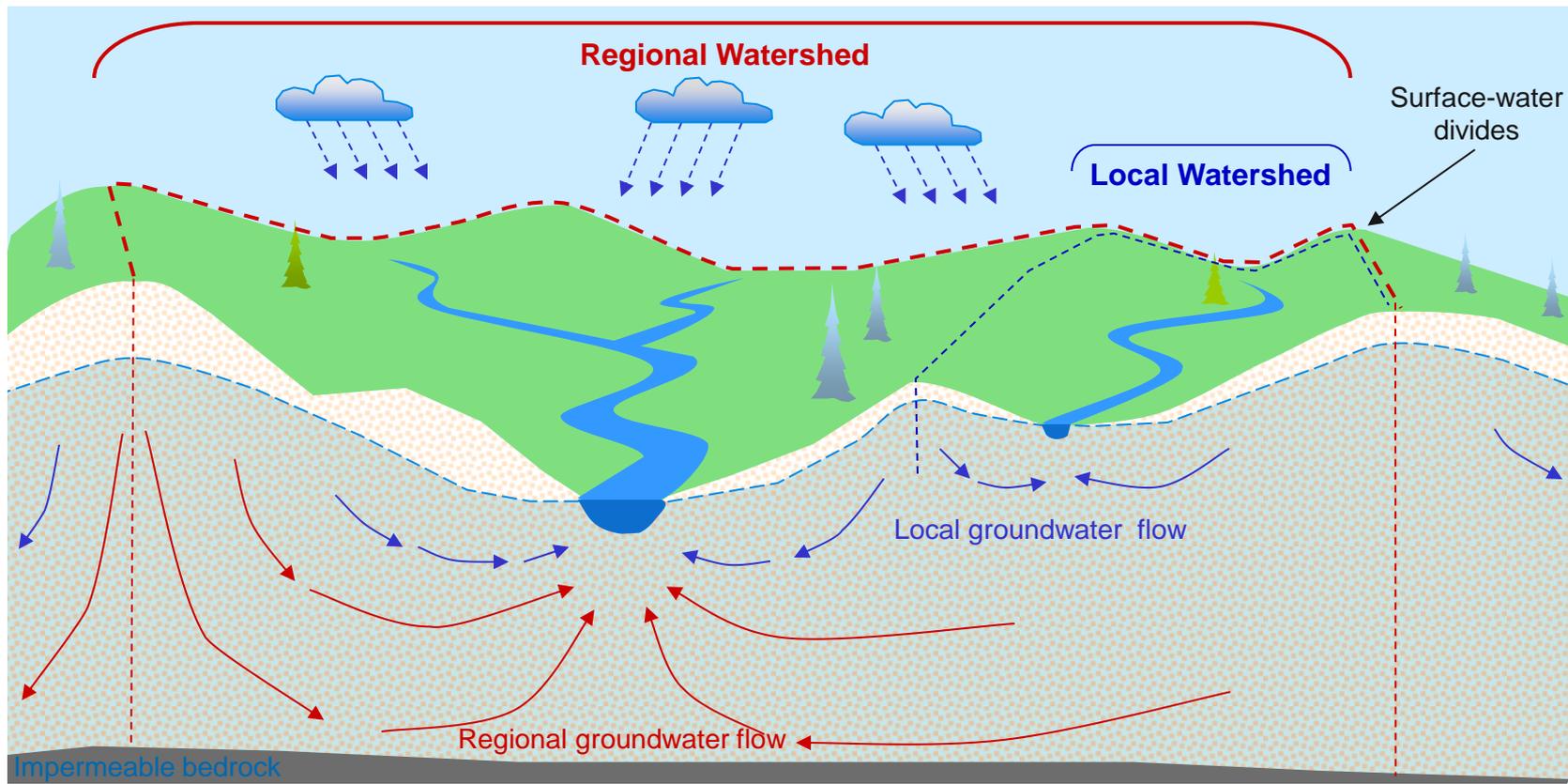
Watershed – the land area where water originates for lakes, rivers or streams. Water flows from high elevation to low elevation.



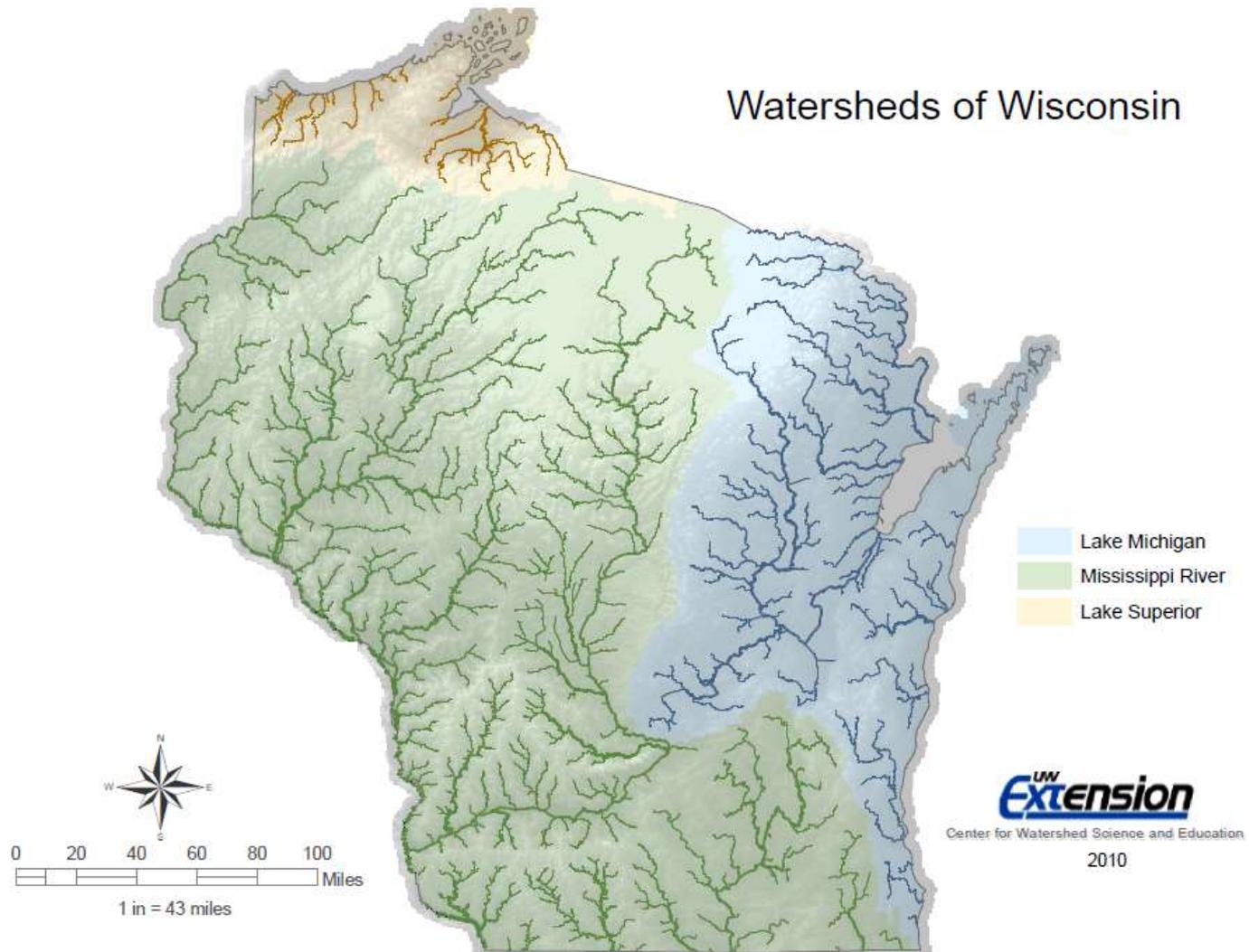


Water Table Elevation, Portage County, WI

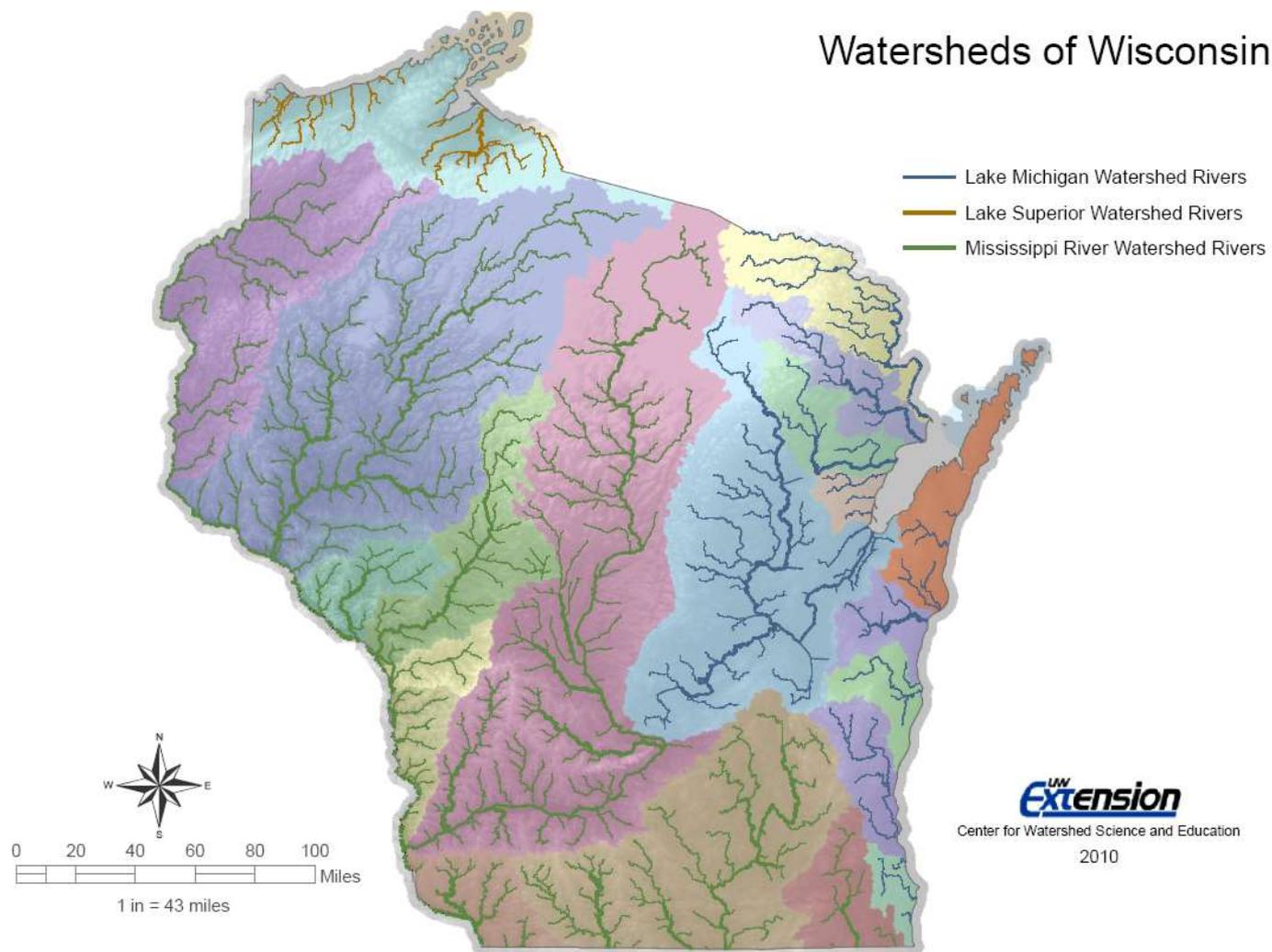




Wisconsin has 3 main watersheds



Major watersheds can be divided into regional watersheds that helps us to understand how groundwater and runoff moves through Wisconsin's landscape....



Types of Wells

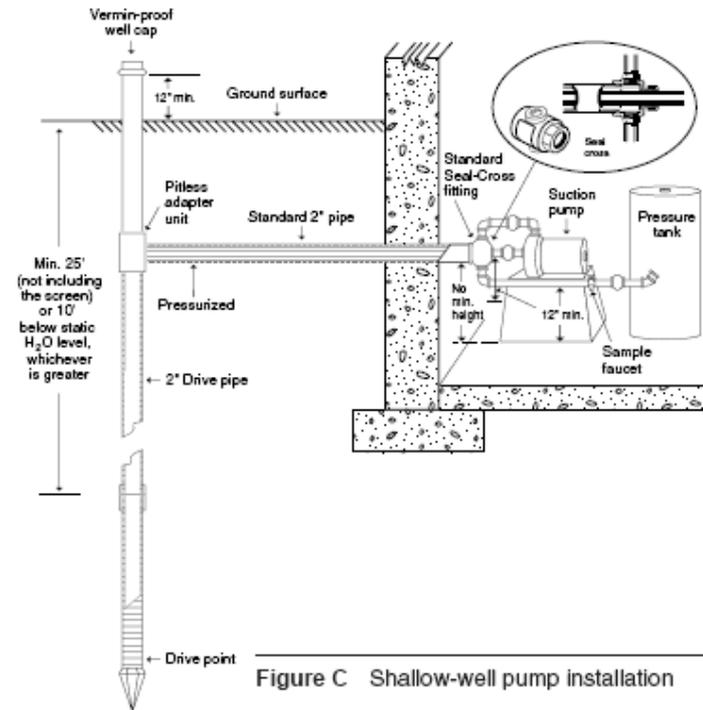
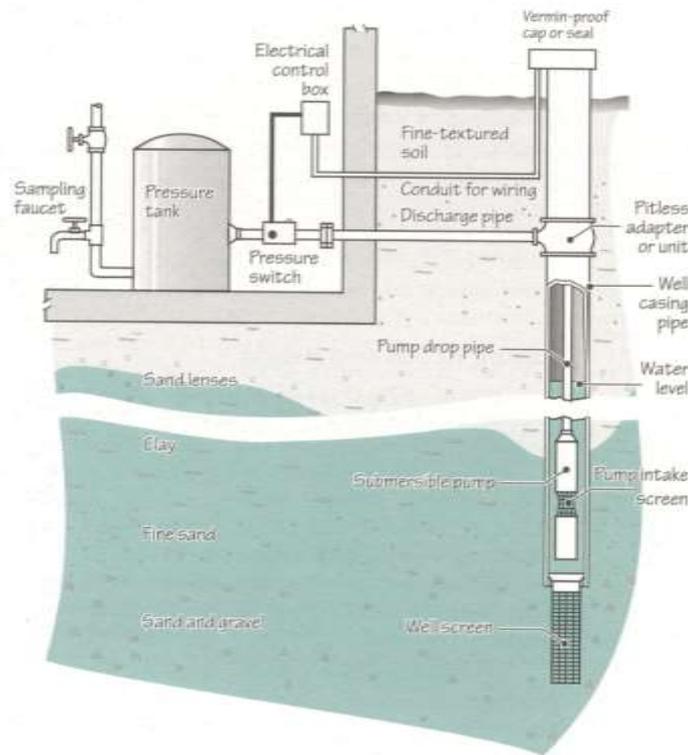
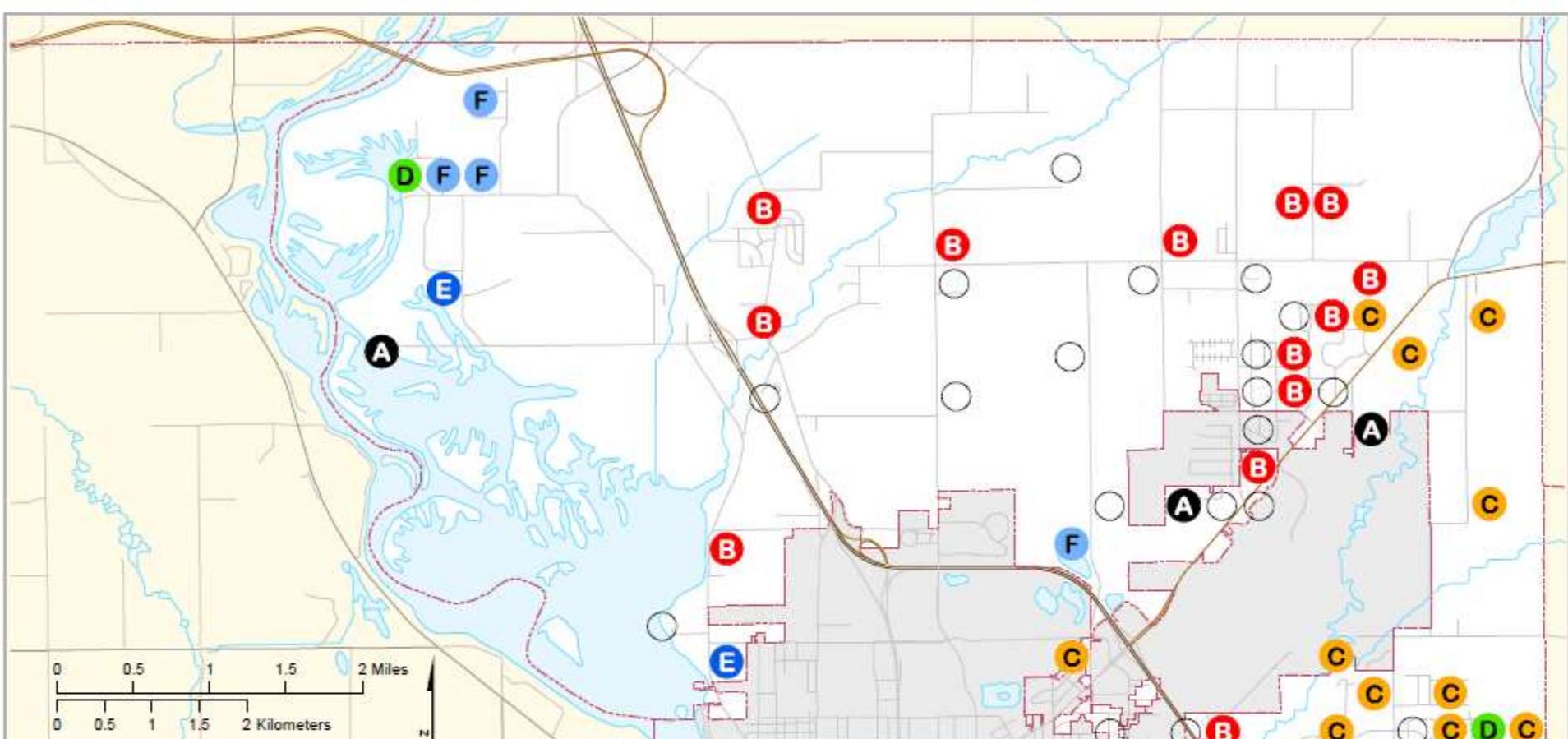


Figure C Shallow-well pump installation



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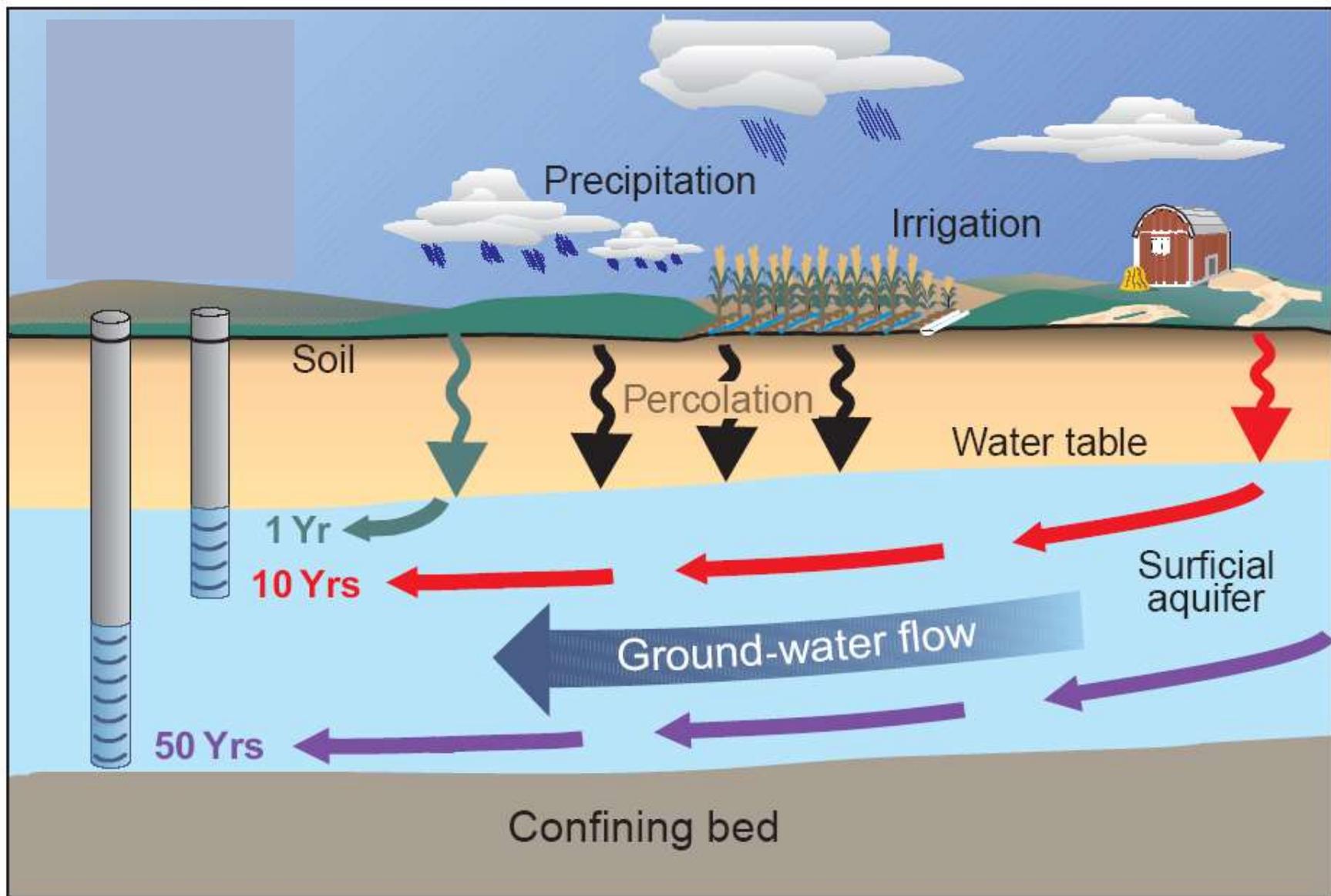
Portage County

DEPTH OF WELL (ft)

| | | |
|----------|---------|------|
| A | ... 25 | 4 % |
| B | 26-50 | 28 % |
| C | 51-100 | 15 % |
| D | 101-150 | 2 % |
| E | 151-200 | 2 % |
| F | 201 ... | 4 % |

Mapped value is the average.

Center for Watershed Science and Education
College of Natural Resources
University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point



Well Construction Report For
WISCONSIN UNIQUE WELL NUMBER CC 566

Property Owner: Clyde Nuenfeldt Telephone Number: _____
 Mailing Address: Rt 4
 City: Oshkosh State: WI Zip Code: _____
 County of Well Location: Waupesa Parcel No.: W Well Completion Date: 9/18/89

Department of Natural Resources
 Private Water Supply - WWS
 Box 1921
 Madison, WI 53707

SAMPLE

1. Location (Please type or print using a black pen)
 Town City Village Fire # (if available)
 of Oshkosh
 Grid or Street Address or Road Name and Number (if available)
 Subdivision Name _____ Lot # _____ Block # _____

Well Constructor (Business Name): Wallace Clark Registration # _____
 Address: 5411 Ripon Rd
 City: Oshkosh State: WI Zip Code: _____

2. Mark well location in correct 40-acre parcel of section.
 N
 W E
 S

3. Well Type
 New
 Replacement Reconstruction
 of unique well # _____ constructed in 19____
 Reason for new, replaced or reconstructed well?

4. Well serves 1 # of human and/or _____
 (ex: barn, restaurant, church, school, industry, etc.)
 High Capacity Well? Yes No
 High Capacity Property? Yes No

5. Well Located on Highest Point of Property, Consistent with the General Layout and Surroundings? Yes No (if no, explain on back side)
 Well Located in Floodplain? Yes No
 Distance in Feet From Wall To Nearest:
 1. Landfill 100
 2. Building Overhang 110
 3. Septic or Holding Tank 150
 4. Sewage Absorption Unit _____
 5. Nonconforming Pit _____
 6. Buried Home Heating Oil Tank _____
 7. Buried Petroleum Tank _____
 8. Sherdies/Swimming Pool _____

9. Downspout/Yard Hydrant _____
 10. Driveway _____
 11. Foundation Drain to Clearwater _____
 12. Foundation Drain to Sewer _____
 13. Building Drain _____
 Cast Iron or Plastic Other _____
 14. Building Sewer Gravity Pressure
 Cast Iron or Plastic Other _____
 15. Collector or Street Sewer _____
 16. Clearwater Sump _____
 17. Wastewater Sump _____
 18. Paved Animal Barn Pen _____
 19. Animal Yard or Shelter _____
 20. Silo - Type _____
 21. Barn Gutter _____
 22. Manure Pits Gravity Pressure
 Cast Iron or Plastic Other _____
 23. Other Manure Storage _____
 Other NR 115 Waste Source _____

6. Drillsite Dimensions

| From (ft.) | To (ft.) | Method of constructing upper enlarged drillsite only: |
|------------|----------|---|
| 10 | 140 | <input type="checkbox"/> 1. Rotary - Mud Circulation |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Rotary - Air |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Rotary - Foam |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Reverse Rotary |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> 5. Cable-tool Bit _____ in. dia. |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> 6. Temp. Outer Casing _____ in. dia. Removed? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No If no, explain _____ |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> 7. Other _____ |

7. Casing, Liner, Screens

| Material, Weight, Specification Mfg. & Method of Assembly | From (ft.) | To (ft.) |
|---|------------|----------|
| 6" New Black 18.95 | surface | 140 |

8. Geology

| Type, Caving/Noncaving, Color, Hardness, Etc. | From (ft.) | To (ft.) |
|---|------------|----------|
| Clay | surface | 18 |
| Sandy Clay | 18 | 66 |
| Lime rock | 66 | 100 |
| Sand Stone | 100 | 140 |
| Water bearing | | |

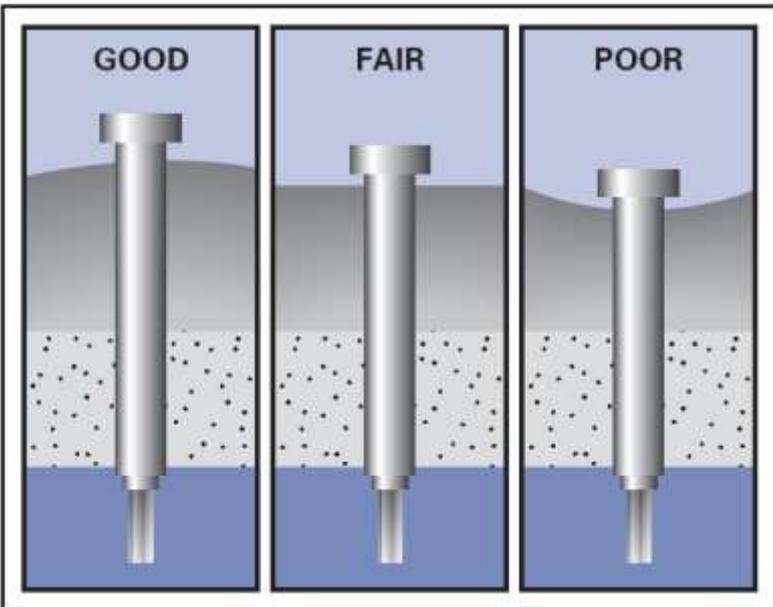
10. Static Water Level
10 ft. above ground level
10 ft. below ground surface

11. Pump Test
 Pumping Level 13 ft. below surface
 Pumping at 30 GPM for 2 hours

12. Well Is
 Above Grade
 Below Grade
 Developed? Yes No
 Disinfected? Yes No
 Capped? Yes No

13. Did you permanently seal all unused, noncomplying, or unsafe wells?
 Yes No If no, explain _____

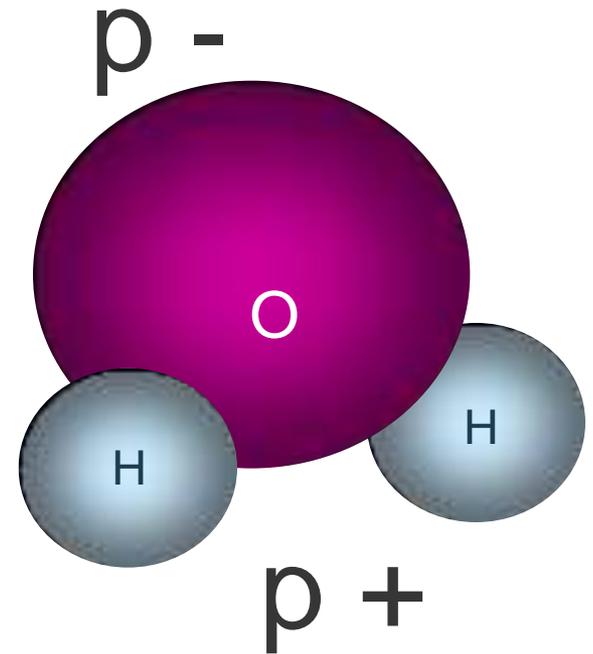
14. Signature of Point Driver or Registered Driller _____ Date Signed _____
 Signature of Drill Rig Operator _____ Date Signed _____



Make additional comments on reverse side about problems, etc. WELL CONSTRUCTION REPORT

water basics

- “Universal Solvent”
- Naturally has “stuff” dissolved in it.
 - Impurities depend on rocks, minerals, land-use, plumbing, packaging, and other materials that water comes in contact with.
- Can also treat water to take “stuff” out



Interpreting Drinking Water Test Results

Tests important to health:

- Bacteria
- Sodium
- Nitrate
- Copper
- Lead
- Triazine
- Zinc
- Sulfate
- Arsenic

Tests for aesthetic (taste,color,odor) problems:

- Hardness
- Iron
- Manganese
- Chloride

Other important indicator tests:

- Saturation Index
- Alkalinity
- Conductivity
- Potassium

Red = human-influenced **Blue** = naturally found

Health Concern Categories

Acute Effects

- Usually seen within a short time after exposure to a particular contaminant or substance.

(ex. Bacteria or viral contamination which may cause intestinal disease)

Chronic Effects

- Increase risk of developing health complications later in life.
- Result from exposure to a substance over a long period of time.

(ex. Arsenic or pesticides can increase the risk of developing certain cancers)



Chronic related health concerns are generally about risk management

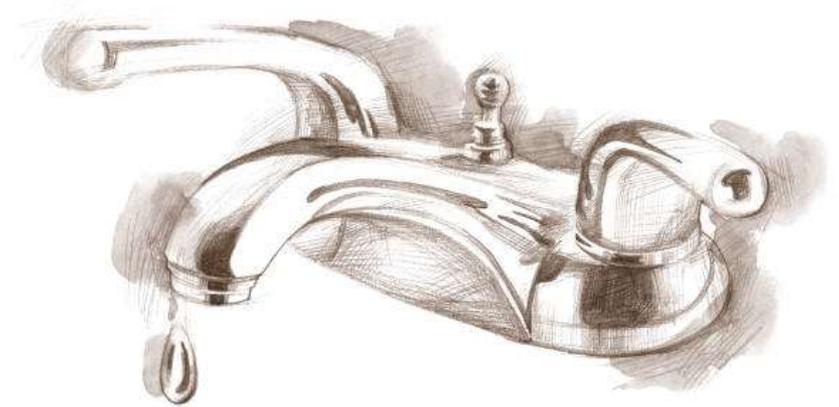
| | |
|---|---|
| Being struck by lightning | 0.16 in 1,000 chance. |
| 0.010 mg/L of arsenic in drinking water. | 3 out of 1,000 people likely to develop cancer. |
| 2 pCi of indoor radon level. | 4 out of 1,000 people likely to develop lung cancer.¹ |
| 2 pCi of indoor radon combined with smoking. | 32 out of 1,000 people could develop lung cancer.¹ |

Drinking water quality is only one part of an individual's total risk.

¹<http://www.epa.gov/radon/healthrisks.html>

Why do people test their water?

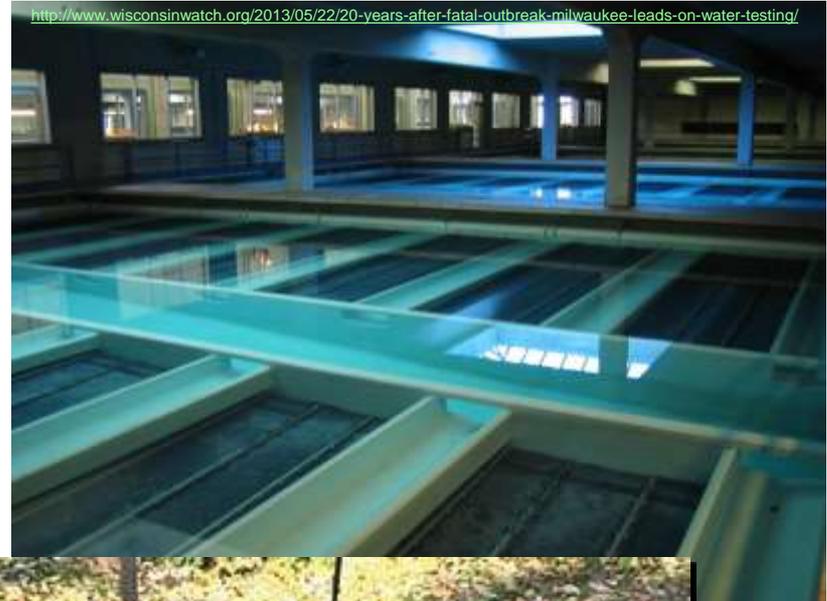
- Installed a new well
- Change in taste or odor
- Buying or selling their home
- Plumbing issues
- Want to know if it's safe to drink.



Private vs. Public Water Supplies

Public Water Supplies

- Regularly tested and regulated by drinking water standards.



Private Wells

- Not required to be regularly tested.
- Not required to take corrective action
- Owners must take special precautions to ensure safe drinking water.



Tests for Drinking Water from Private Wells

Why should I test my well?

As one of Wisconsin's 700,000 private well owners or private well water consumers, you probably use groundwater for doing your family's laundry, drinking, cooking, bathing and watering your garden. Municipalities are required to test their water supplies regularly to ensure the water is safe to drink. Since there is no requirement to test a private well except for bacteria when it is first drilled or the pump is changed, you are responsible for making sure your water is safe.

Most private wells provide a clean, safe supply of water; however, contaminants can pollute private wells, and unfortunately you cannot see, smell or taste most of them. Consequently, you should test your water on a regular basis. The decision on what to test your water for should be based on the types of land uses near your well.

This brochure gives information about several common contaminants found in private wells. It should help you decide when to sample your well and how often, how to find a certified laboratory and who to call for help.

What tests should be done on my water?

Total Coliform Bacteria and E.coli

Coliform bacteria live in soil, on vegetation and in surface water. Coliform bacteria found in the intestines of warm-blooded animals and their feces are called E.coli. Some strains of coliform bacteria can survive for long periods in soil and water and can be carried into well casings by insects. Bacteria washed into the ground by rainwater or snowmelt are usually filtered out as the water seeps through the soil, but they sometimes enter water supplies through cracks in well casings, poorly sealed caps, fractures in the underlying bedrock, and runoff into sinkholes. Coliform bacteria are the most common contaminants found in private water systems. A 1994 Wisconsin survey found them in 23% of the wells tested and E.coli in 2.4% of the wells.

Most coliform bacteria do not cause illness, but indicate a breach in the water system. However, since E.coli bacteria are found in fecal material, they are often present with bacteria, viruses and parasites that can cause flu-like symptoms such as nausea, vomiting, fever and diarrhea. Private wells should be tested at least once a year for



No one test tells us everything we need to know about the safety and condition of a water supply



Water and Environmental Analysis Lab

UW-Stevens Point, College of Natural Resources
Phone (715)346-3209 or Toll Free (877)383-8378
www.uwsp.edu/cnr/weal



Monday, August 15, 2011

WELL INFORMATION:

WI Unique Well Number

Add

City

State

County SAINT CROIX

Town Pleasant Valley

Legal Description

SW SW Sec 5 T 28 R 17 W

1/4 1/4 (section) (town) (range)

Map : Gov't Lot#

Year well installed 1950

Casing Diameter:

3" - less 4-9" 10-18" 18+"

Total well depth 160

Depth of casing

Depth to water

SOURCE:

Municipal Spring

Other

TREATMENT SYSTEM(S) OWNED:

Water softener Rev Osmosis
 Carbon filter Neutralizer
 Particle filter Iron Filter
 Other

PROBLEMS OBSERVED:

Color Taste Odor
 Corrosion Health None
 Other

LAST DATE TESTED:

Never Unknown
 Less than 1 year 1-2 years
 2-5 years 5-10 years
 Greater than 10 years

REASON FOR TESTING:

Curious about water quality
 Suspect water quality problems
 Regularly test my well
 Required by lending institution
 Retest of positive bacteria test
 Retest following well disinfection
 Infant/pregnant woman/daycare
 Other

MAIL RESULTS TO:

last

First

Add

City

State

phon

SAMPLE(S) COLLECTED

Date 4/25/2011

Time 13:30

SAMPLE(S) TAKEN FROM:

Pressure Tank
 Kitchen faucet
 Bathroom faucet
 Outside faucet
 Barn
 Other

SAMPLE_ID 78543

Labno 86-11-6

Group ST. CROIX CO 11APR#2

LABORATORY RESULTS

| Parameter | Qualifier | Results | Units | |
|--------------------------|-----------|---------------|------------|----------------------|
| Bacteria-Coliform | | Absent | | (see note 1 below) |
| Hardness-Total | | 392 | mg/l CaCO3 | |
| Alkalinity | | 232 | mg/l CaCO3 | |
| Conductivity | | 842 | umhos/cm | |
| pH | | 7.90 | std units | |
| Saturation Index (Ca) | | 0.5 | | Corrosivity Balanced |
| Nitrogen-Nitrate/Nitrite | | 27.6 | mg/l N | (see note 2 below) |
| Chloride | | 51.8 | mg/l | |
| Arsenic | Less Than | 0.005 | mg/l | |
| Calcium | | 93.7 | mg/l | |
| Copper | | 0.329 | mg/l | |
| Iron | | 0.002 | mg/l | |
| Lead | | 0.007 | mg/l | |
| Magnesium | | 39.0 | mg/l | |
| Manganese | Less Than | 0.001 | mg/l | |
| Potassium | | 16.6 | mg/l | |
| Sodium | | 15.5 | mg/l | |
| Sulfate | | 31.5 | mg/l | |
| Zinc | | 0.697 | mg/l | |
| DACT Screen | | 0.2 | ug/l | |

Page 1

(Report continued for Heinbuch, Sample ID 78543)

1. BACTERIA ABSENT – means that no bacteria were found and your water supply is considered bacteriologically safe for uses such as drinking and cooking. You can be reasonably sure that your water supply is free of fecal coliform and other pathogenic bacteria.

To ensure your well remains in good sanitary condition; consider testing your well again for coliform bacteria annually or sooner if you notice a sudden change in taste, color or odor to the water.

2. NITRATE – Water greater than 10 mg/L of nitrate-nitrogen should not be consumed by infants less than 6 months of age or pregnant women. The WI Department of Health Services recommends that all persons should avoid long-term consumption of water with nitrate-nitrogen concentrations greater than 10 mg/L. You may choose to reduce your exposure to nitrate by installing an approved water treatment device (reverse osmosis, distillation or anion exchange), purchasing bottled water or investigate the possibility that a new well would result in lower nitrate levels.

Disclaimer - The analyses run on your samples only cover some of the more common water quality characteristics. Safe levels of these chemicals or bacteria do not guarantee that your water is free of all toxic chemicals. Bacteria die-off in samples over 30 hours old may render results inaccurate and are therefore deemed inconclusive. If you suspect gasoline residues, pesticides, or other trace chemicals, you would need additional analyses. Contact the lab or your Extension office for more information.

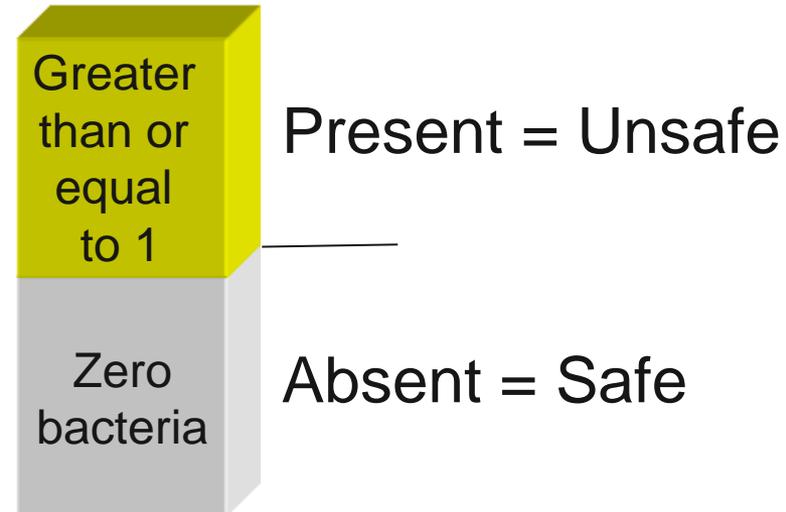
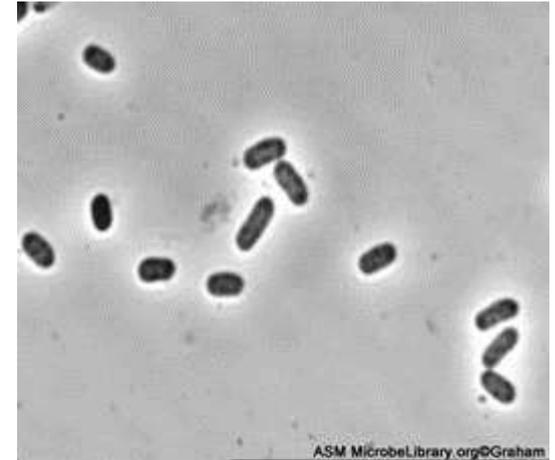
Page 2

milligrams per liter (mg/l) = parts per million (ppm)

1 mg/l = 1000 parts per billion (ppb)

Coliform bacteria

- Generally do not cause illness, but indicate a pathway for potentially harmful microorganisms to enter your water supply.
 - Harmful bacteria and viruses can cause gastrointestinal disease, cholera, hepatitis
- Well Code: “Properly constructed well should be able to provide bacteria free water continuously without the need for treatment”
- Recommend using an alternative source of water until a test indicates your well is absent of coliform bacteria
- Sources:
 - Live in soils and on vegetation
 - Human and animal waste
 - Sampling error

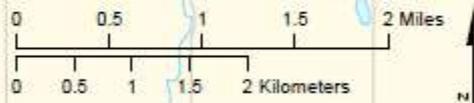


If coliform bacteria was detected, we also checked for e.coli bacteria test

- Confirmation that bacteria originated from a human or animal fecal source.
- E. coli are often present with harmful bacteria, viruses and parasites that can cause serious gastrointestinal illnesses.
- Any detectable level of E.coli means your water is unsafe to drink.

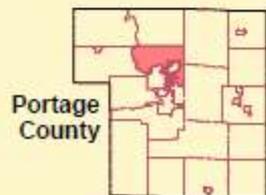
Information Sources: United States Department of Health and Human Services – Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (www.cdc.gov) and United States Environmental Protection Agency (www.epa.gov)

| Contaminants | Sources | Symptoms |
|---|--|---|
| BACTERIA | | |
| <p><i>Escherichia coliform (E. coli)</i> <i>Salmonella</i> <i>Campylobacter</i> <i>E. coli O157</i> (Requires a special water test for detection. Causes similar, but more serious illness than other E.coli strains. Requires medical treatment.)</p> <hr/> <p><i>Leptosporidia</i></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infected human and animal feces • Manure • Septic systems • Sewage <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urine of livestock, dogs and wildlife • Manure | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gastrointestinal illness • Low-grade fever • Begins 12 hrs - 7 days after exposure <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High fever, severe headache and red eyes • Gastrointestinal illness • Begins 2-28 days after exposure |
| MICROSCOPIC PARASITES | | |
| <p><i>Cryptosporidia</i> <i>Giardia</i></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infected human and animal feces • Manure • Septic systems • Sewage | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gastrointestinal illness • Begins 2-14 days after exposure |
| VIRUSES | | |
| <p>Norovirus</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infected human feces and vomit • Septic systems • Sewage | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gastrointestinal illness • Low-grade fever & headache • Begins 12-48 hrs after exposure |
| CHEMICALS | | |
| <p>Nitrate</p> <hr/> <p>Atrazine (trade-name herbicide for control of broadleaf and grassy weeds)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fertilizers • Manure • Bio-solids • Septic systems <hr/> <p>Estimated to be most heavily used herbicide in the U.S. in 1987/89, with its most extensive use for corn and soybeans in the Midwest, including WI. In 1993, it became a restricted-use herbicide nationally. U.S. EPA set a max. contaminant level (MCL) at 3 parts per billion for safe drinking water.</p> | <p>Methemoglobinemia or "Blue Baby Syndrome" – No documented cases in Door County, but elevated nitrate levels in well water may indicate risk of contamination by additional pathogens.</p> <hr/> <p>Short-term exposure above the MCL may cause: congestion of heart, lungs and kidneys; low blood pressure; muscle spasms; weight loss; damage to adrenal glands.</p> <p>Long-term exposure above MCL may cause: weight loss, cardiovascular damage, retinal and some muscle degeneration; cancer.</p> |



Town of Hull

Portage County Oct-Nov 2013



BACTERIA POSITIVE

Any sample in the 1/4 1/4 section.



Center for Watershed Science and Education
College of Natural Resources
University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

Some Common Pathways for Bacteria to Enter Your Water System



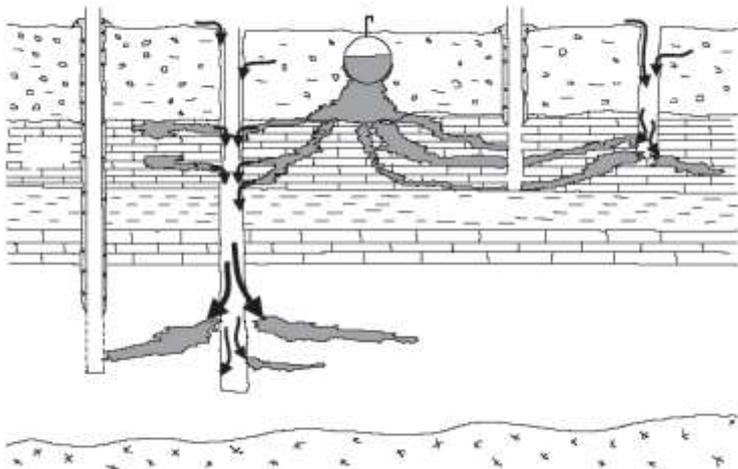
Photo: Sandy Heimke, WI DNR



Photo: Sandy Heimke, WI DNR



AQUIFER CONTAMINATION THROUGH IMPROPERLY ABANDONED WELLS



Source: Adapted from DiNovo and Jaffe, 1984.

Codes R2.401 through R2.404, Wisconsin Administrative Code prohibit the installation of a yard hydrant with a below-ground discharge. The code reads:

"Stop and waste-type control valves may not be installed underground."

This type of hydrant, with a below-ground discharge is popular because of the ease of operation and the relative low cost.



The plunger (control valve) is located below the frost line. When the handle is lifted water enters the riser and flows through the head. A drain at the same level as the plunger allows water to the rear and the head to drain each time the handle is lowered. This draining action prevents freezing temperatures from causing the water in the hydrant riser or head to expand and burst the device. If a hose connected to the hydrant without a hose connection vacuum breaker were submerged in a liquid, the water contents of the head could be siphoned through the drain port and could contaminate the groundwater or even your drinking water supply.

If you have further questions, please check the Consumer website at: <http://consumer.wis.gov/509-58-PlumbingProgram.html>

or, contact your local plumbing inspector or, contact one of the consultants listed



| District # | Name | Phone/Fax |
|------------|-------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 | Tim Jovin | 480-235-0377 / 480-263-7474 |
| 2 | Tom Brown | 715-545-3367 / 480-263-7473 |
| 3 | Don Overton | 715-546-2007 / 480-263-7472 |
| 4 | Don Hough | 715-546-4004 / 480-263-7471 |
| 5 | Ryan Buckel | 480-412-1999 / 480-383-7488 |

509-586-7880

What does an approved yard hydrant look like?



There's no "one" answer for a code-compliant yard hydrant. Many manufacturers produce models that are code compliant. When you buy a hydrant, make sure that it has an approved hose connection vacuum breaker and does not include an underground drain.

And if you install a hose connection vacuum breaker on a yard hydrant make sure you break it during the winter to prevent freezing conditions from bursting the hydrant.

If you find a model that you have questions about, contact the department or your local plumbing inspector.

What should I do if coliform bacteria was present?

1. Use alternative source of water for drinking
 2. Retest
 3. Try to identify any sanitary defects
 - Loose or non-existent well cap
 - Well construction faults
 - A nearby unused well or pit
 - Inadequate filtration by soil
 4. Disinfect the well
 5. Retest to ensure well is bacteria free.
- *For reoccurring bacteria problems the best solution may be a new well.*

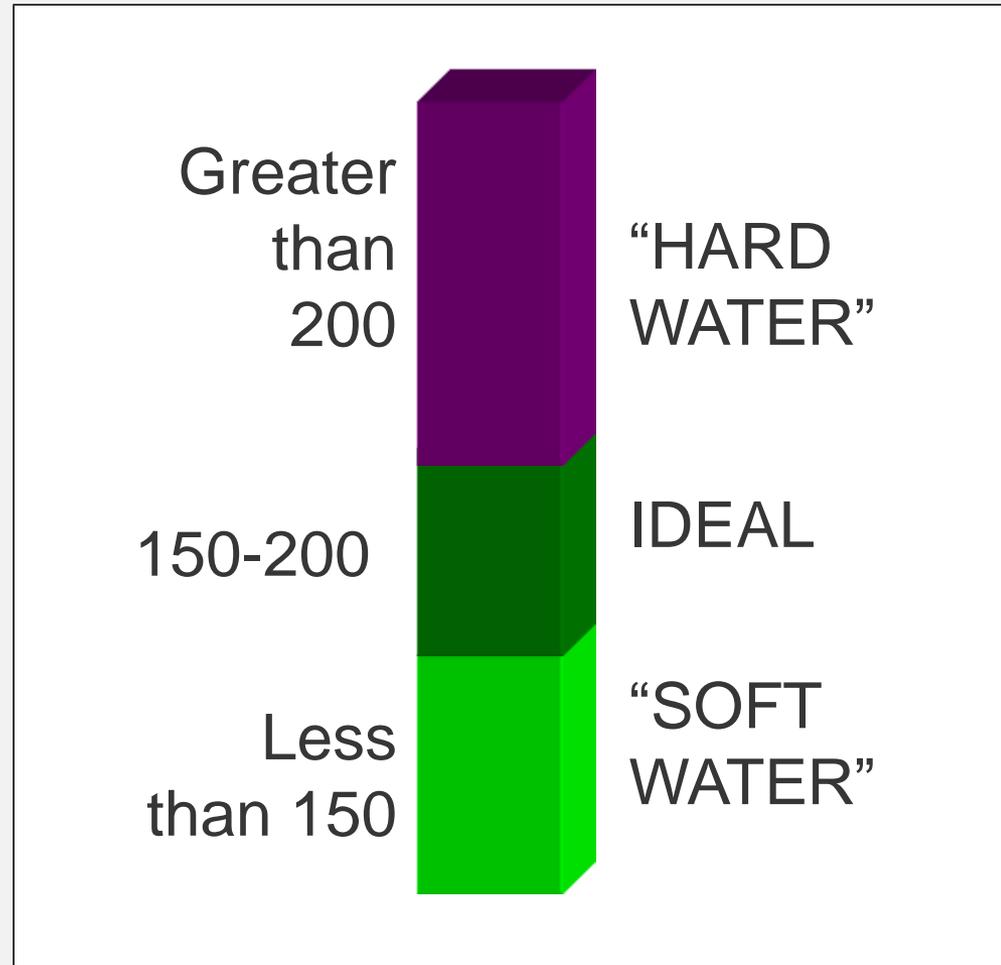


Rock and Soil Impacts on Water Quality

Tests for Aesthetic Problems

Hardness

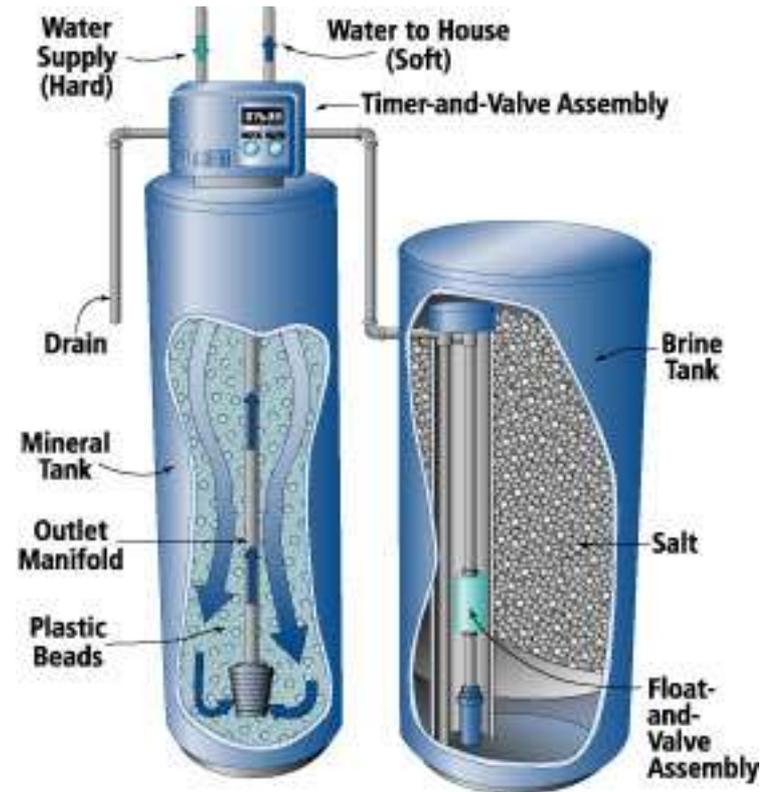
- Natural (rocks and soils)
- Primarily calcium and magnesium
- Problems: scaling, scum, use more detergent, decrease water heater efficiency

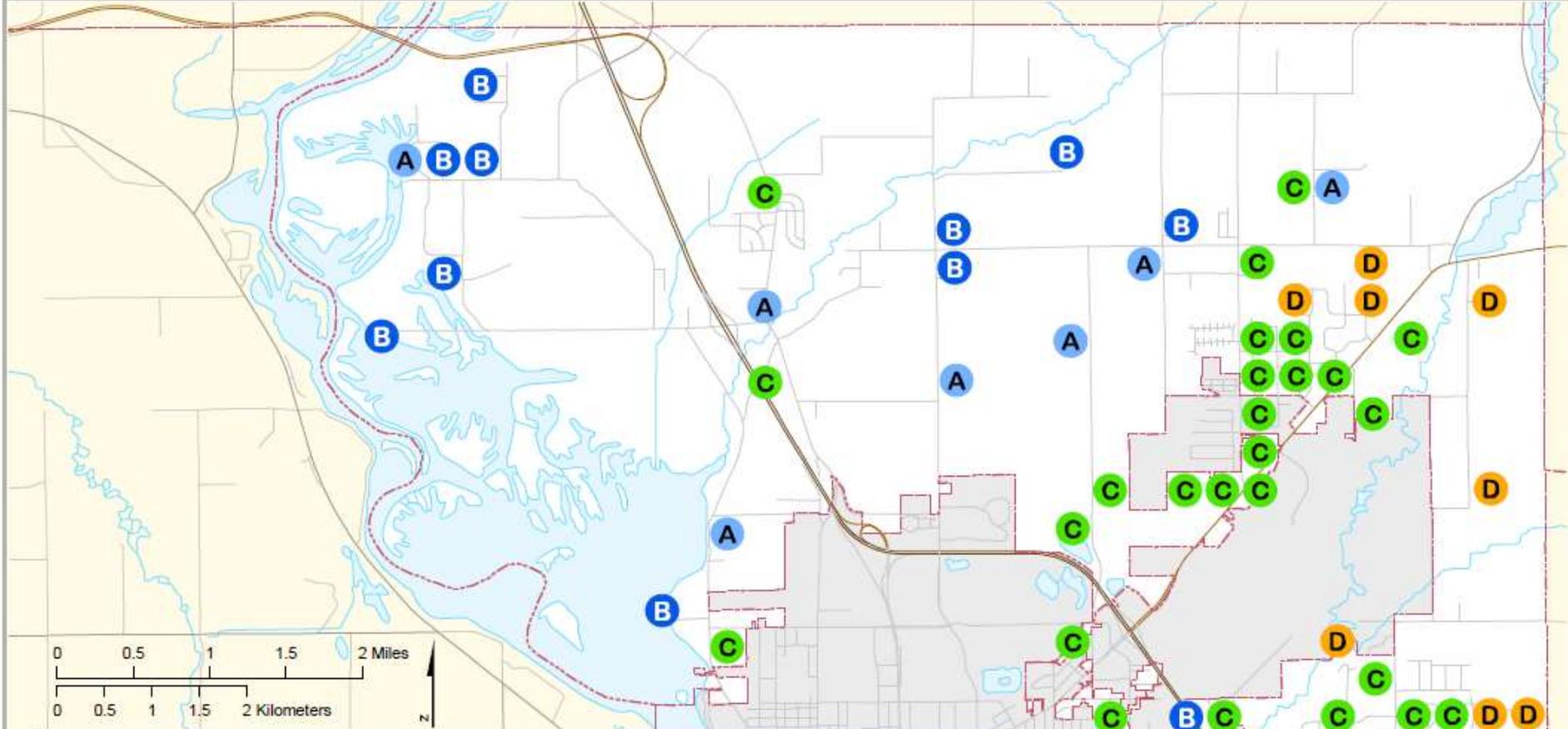


Water Softening

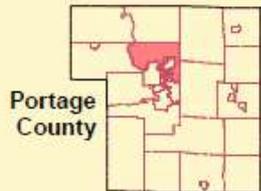
Water softeners remove calcium and magnesium which cause scaling and exchange it for sodium (or potassium).

- Negative: Increases sodium content of water.
- Suggestions:
 - Bypass your drinking water faucet.
 - Do not soften water for outdoor faucets.
 - If you are concerned about sodium levels – use potassium chloride softener salt.





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TOTAL HARDNESS (ppm CaCO₃)

| | | |
|--------------------|----|-----|
| A ... 50 | 17 | 16% |
| B 51 - 100 | 15 | 14% |
| C 101 - 200 | 53 | 49% |
| D 201 - 300 | 20 | 18% |
| E 301 - 400 | 2 | 2% |
| F 401 ... | 2 | 2% |

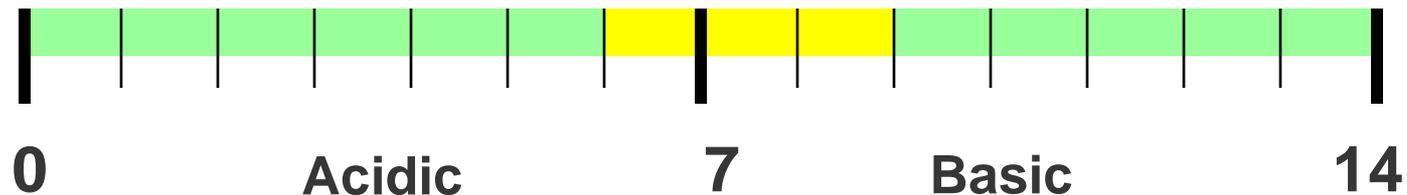
Mapped value is the average unless otherwise indicated.
Treated samples not mapped.



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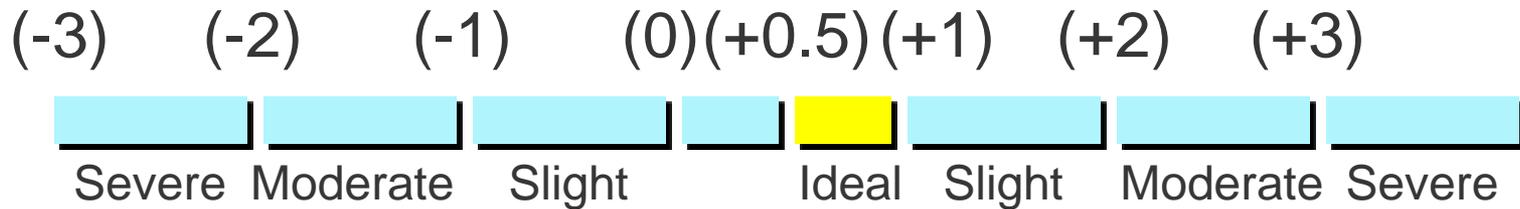
Tests for Overall Water Quality

- **Alkalinity** – ability to neutralize acid
- **Conductivity** –
 - Measure of total ions
 - can be used to indicate presence of contaminants (~ twice the hardness)
- **pH** – Indicates water's acidity and helps determine if water will corrode plumbing



Tests for Overall Water Quality

Saturation Index



Corrosion occurs

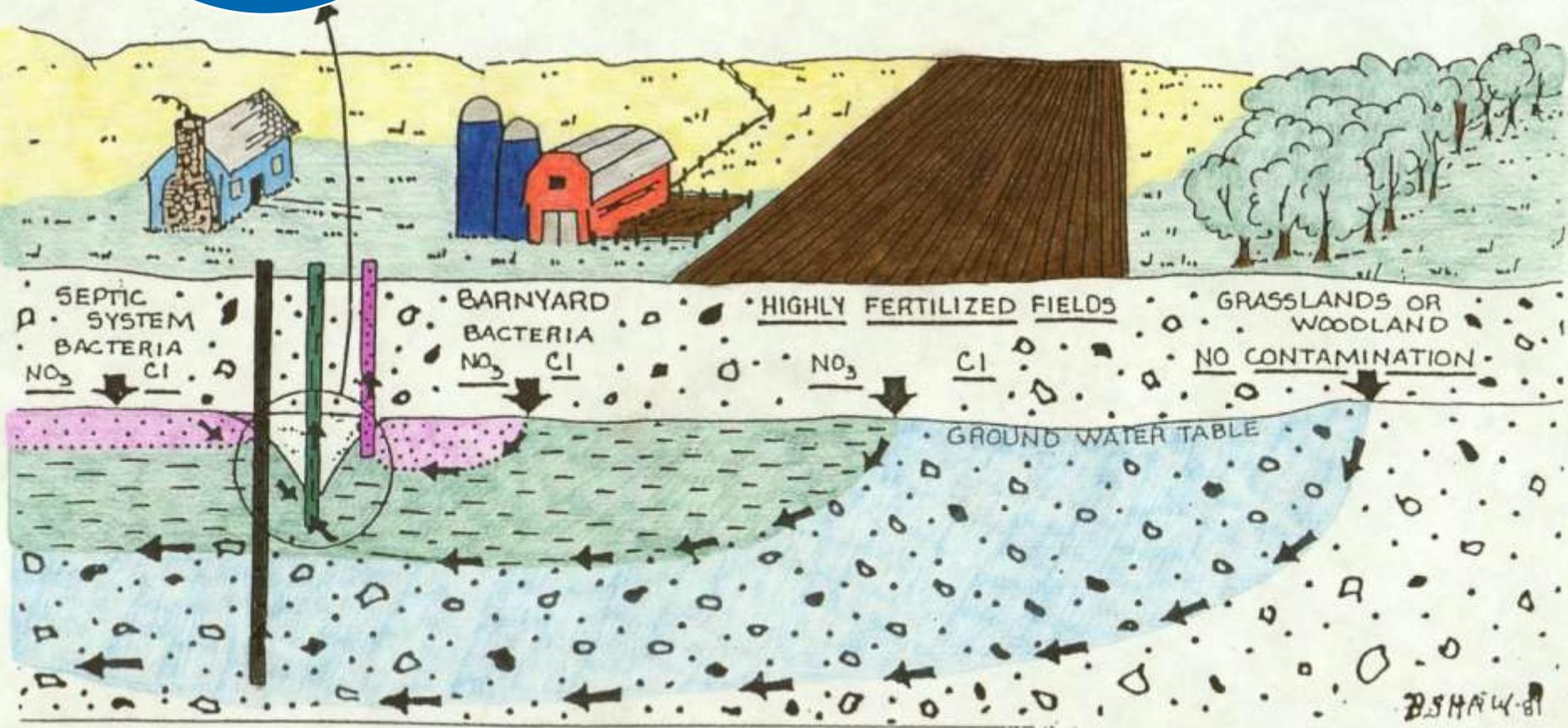


Scaling occurs



Well
pumping
water

Land Use and Water Quality

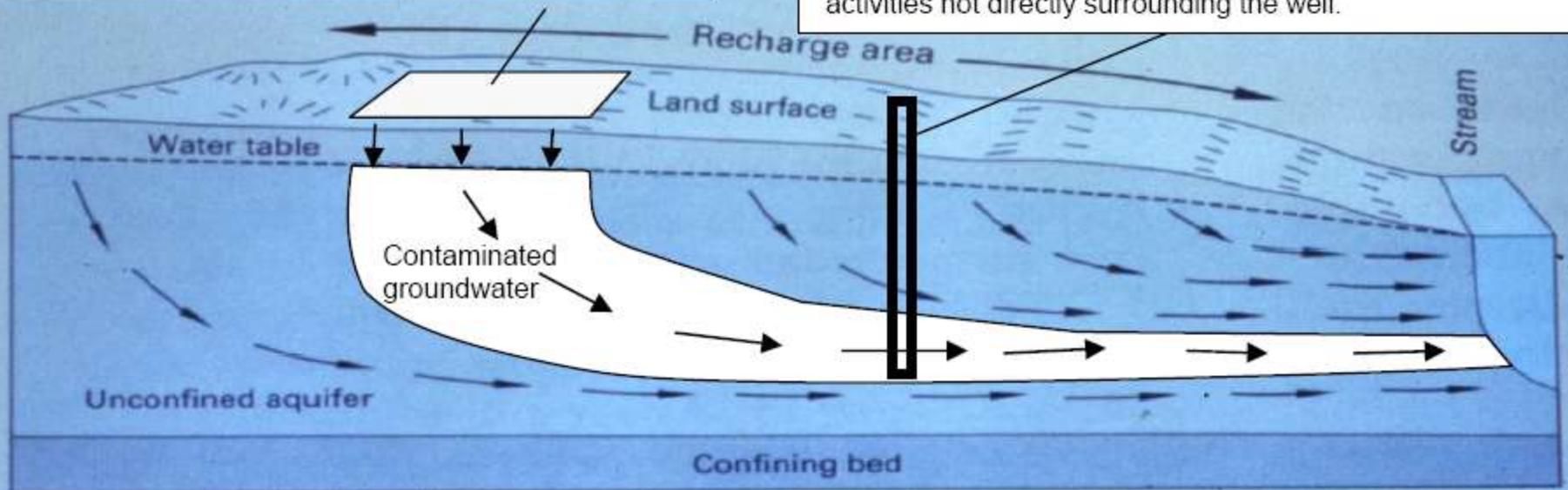




Soil

Land-use activity that pollutes groundwater.

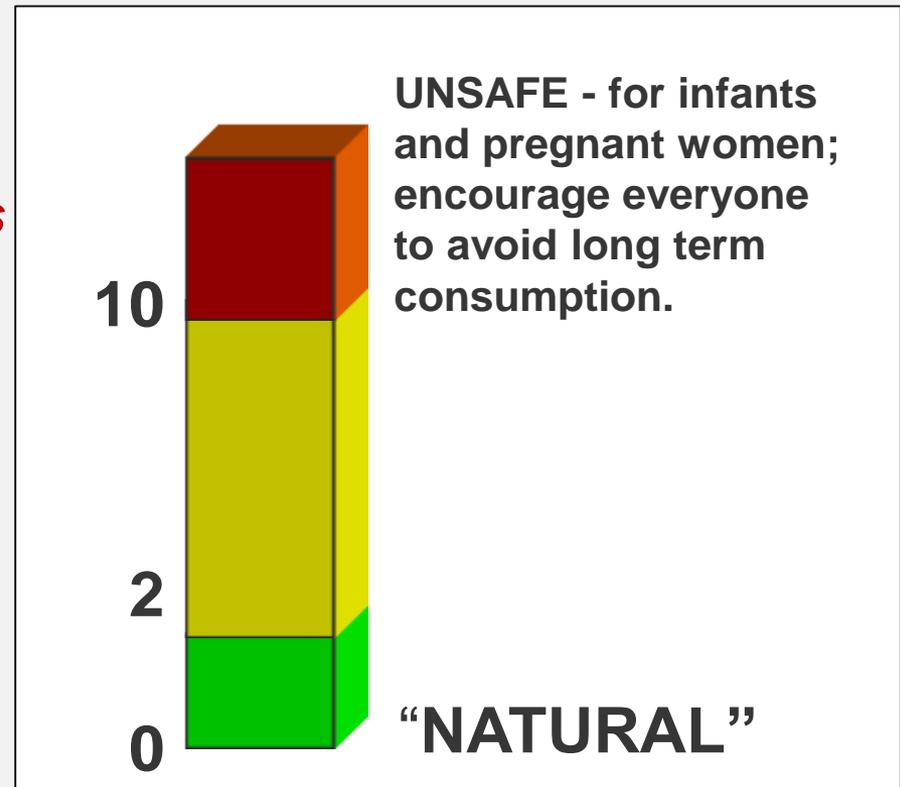
Because groundwater moves, wells located far from the contamination source can sometimes be polluted from activities not directly surrounding the well.



Test Important to Health

Nitrate Nitrogen

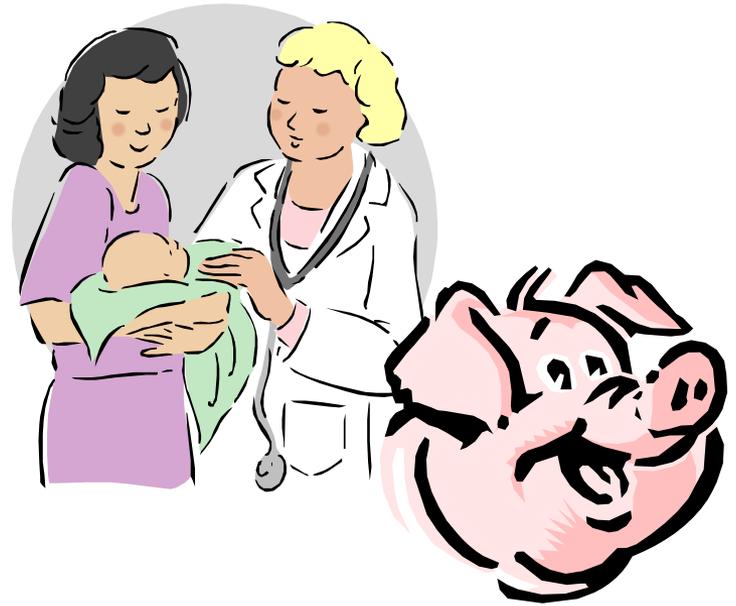
- **Greater than 10 mg/L**
Exceeds State and Federal Limits for Drinking Water
- **Between 2 and 10 mg/L**
Some Human Impact
- **Less than 2.0 mg/L**
“Transitional”
- **Less than 0.2 mg/L**
“Natural”



Nitrate-Nitrogen

Health Effects:

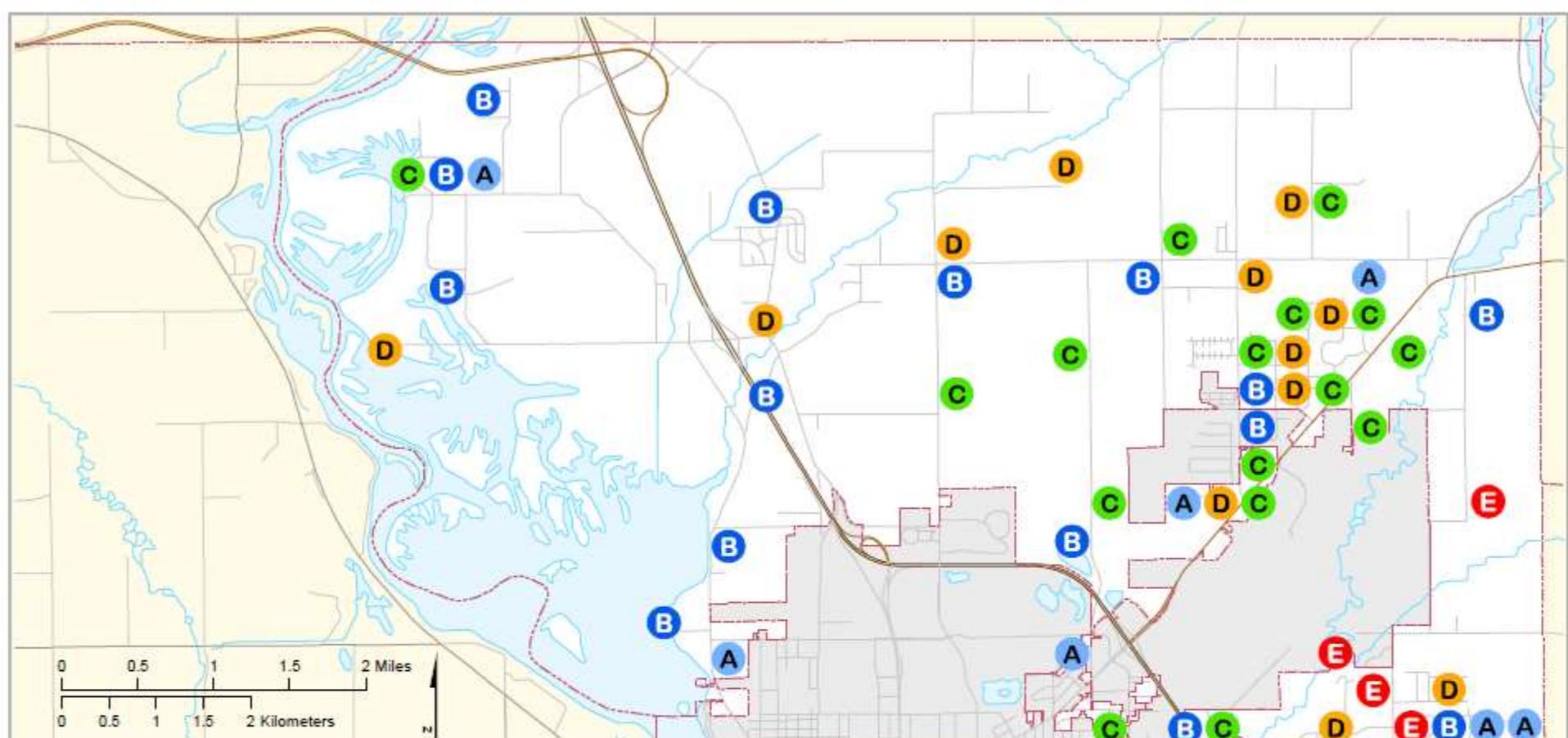
- Methemoglobinemia (blue baby disease)
- Possible links to birth defects and miscarriages (humans and livestock)
- Indicator of other contaminants



Sources:

- Agricultural fertilizer
- Lawn fertilizer
- Septic systems
- Animal wastes





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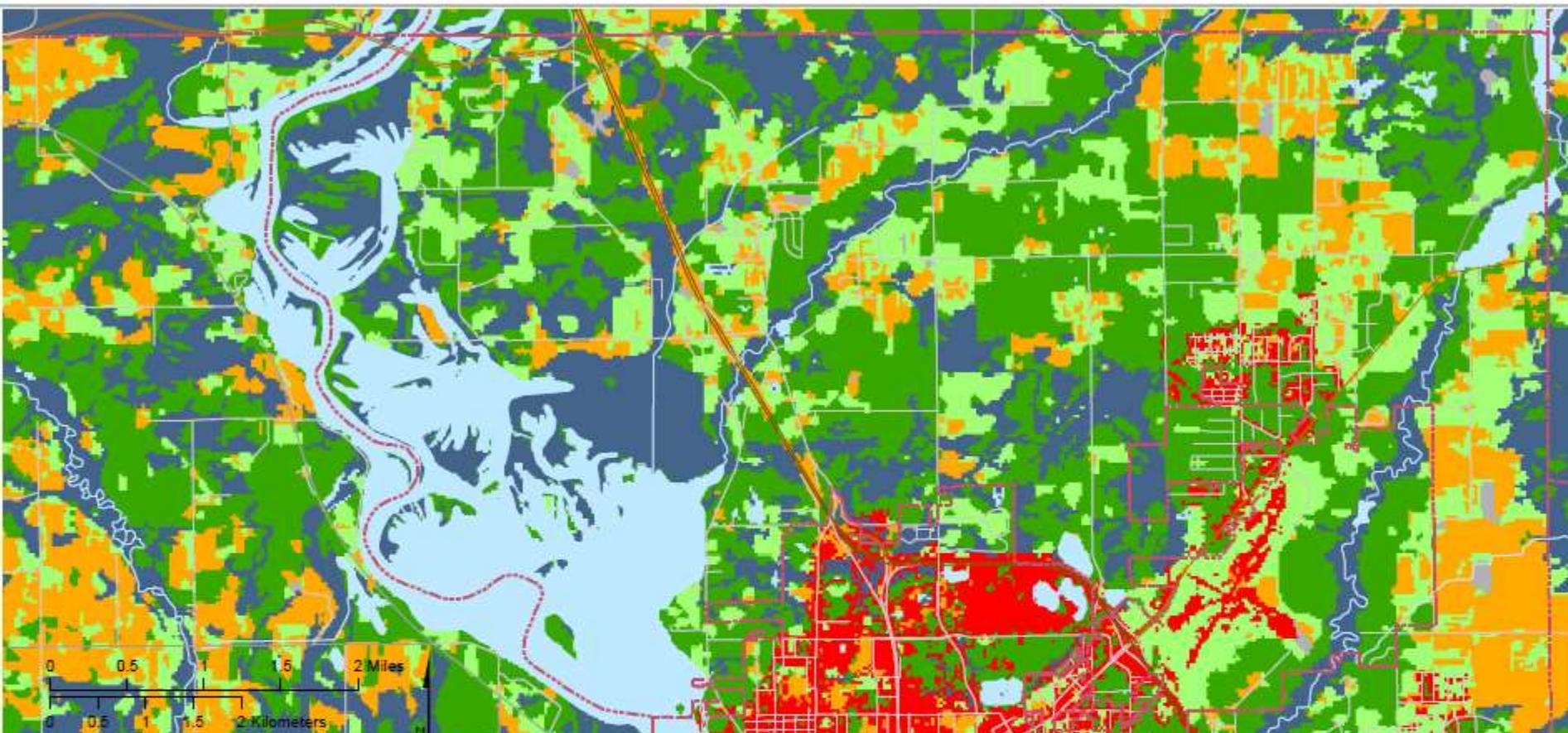
NITRATE-NITRITE (ppm N)

| | | | |
|----------|---------------|----|------|
| A | None Detected | 14 | 13 % |
| B | ... 2.0 | 24 | 22 % |
| C | 2.1 - 5.0 | 23 | 21 % |
| D | 5.1 - 10.0 | 27 | 25 % |
| E | 10.1 - 20.0 | 17 | 16 % |
| F | 20.1 ... | 4 | 4 % |

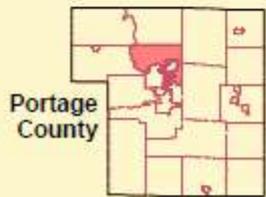
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Town of Hull
Portage County Oct-Nov 2013



Land Use:

-  Urban
-  Agriculture
-  Forest
-  Shrub-Grass
-  Wetland
-  Water
-  Other

Comparing Land-use Impacts

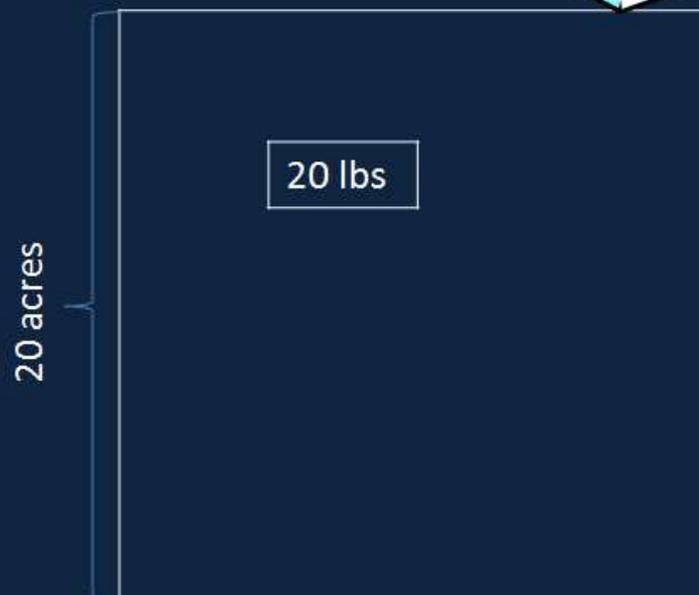


20 acres

| | | | |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 36 lbs | 36 lbs | 36 lbs | 36 lbs |
| 36 lbs | 36 lbs | 36 lbs | 36 lbs |
| 36 lbs | 36 lbs | 36 lbs | 36 lbs |
| 36 lbs | 36 lbs | 36 lbs | 36 lbs |
| 36 lbs | 36 lbs | 36 lbs | 36 lbs |

36 lbs/ac x 20 acres = 720 lbs

16 mg/L



20 lbs/septic system x 1 septic systems = 20 lbs

1/36th the impact on water quality

0.44 mg/L

Assuming 10 inches of recharge -

Comparing Land-use Impacts



20 acres

| | | | |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 36 lbs | 36 lbs | 36 lbs | 36 lbs |
| 36 lbs | 36 lbs | 36 lbs | 36 lbs |
| 36 lbs | 36 lbs | 36 lbs | 36 lbs |
| 36 lbs | 36 lbs | 36 lbs | 36 lbs |
| 36 lbs | 36 lbs | 36 lbs | 36 lbs |

36 lbs/ac x 20 acres = 720 lbs

20 acres

| | | | |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 20 lbs | 20 lbs | 20 lbs | 20 lbs |
| 20 lbs | 20 lbs | 20 lbs | 20 lbs |
| 20 lbs | 20 lbs | 20 lbs | 20 lbs |
| 20 lbs | 20 lbs | 20 lbs | 20 lbs |
| 20 lbs | 20 lbs | 20 lbs | 20 lbs |
| 20 lbs | 20 lbs | 20 lbs | 20 lbs |
| 20 lbs | 20 lbs | 20 lbs | 20 lbs |
| 20 lbs | 20 lbs | 20 lbs | 20 lbs |

20 lbs/septic system x 36 septic systems = 720 lbs

Using these numbers: 36 septic systems on 20 acres (0.55 acre lots) needed to achieve same impact to water quality as 20 acres of corn

What can I do to reduce my nitrate levels?

Solution:

- **Eliminate contamination source or reduce nitrogen inputs**

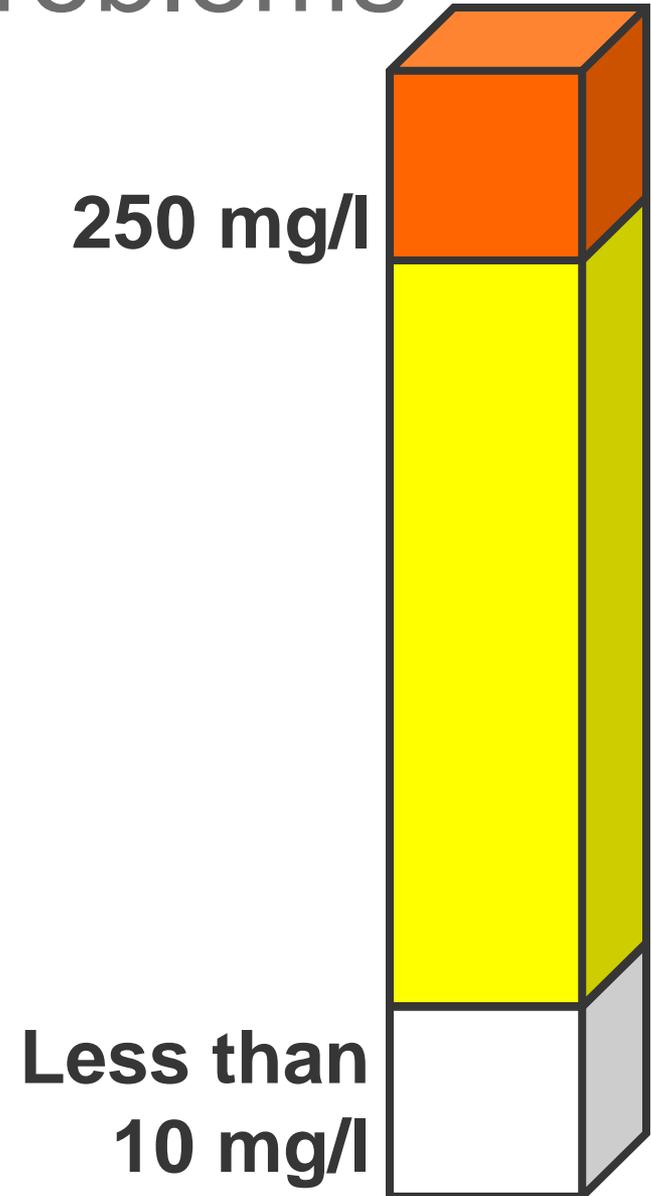
Short term:

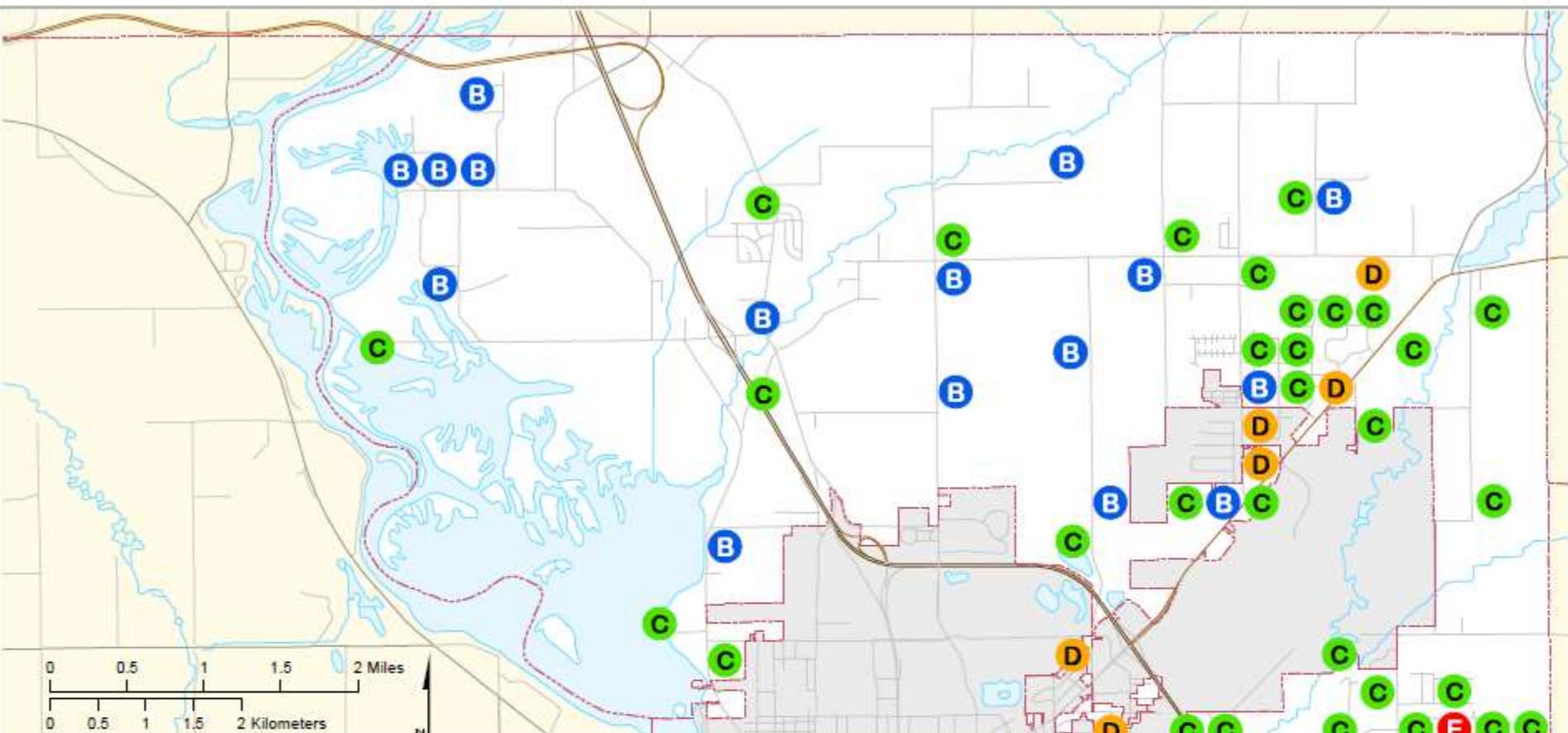
- **Change well depth or relocate well**
- **Carry or buy water**
- **Water treatment devices**
 - **Reverse osmosis**
 - **Distillation**
 - **Anion exchange**

Tests for Aesthetic Problems

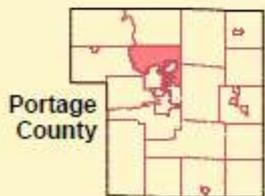
Chloride

- Greater than 250 mg/l
 - No direct effects on health
 - Salty taste
 - Exceeds recommended level
- Greater than 10 mg/l may indicate human impact
- Less than 10 mg/l considered “natural” in much of WI
- **Sources:** Fertilizers, Septic Systems and Road Salt





Town of Hull
 Portage County Oct-Nov 2013



CHLORIDE (ppm)

| | | | |
|----------|---------------|----|------|
| A | None Detected | 0 | 0 % |
| B | ... 10 | 22 | 20 % |
| C | 11 - 50 | 60 | 55 % |
| D | 51 - 100 | 18 | 17 % |
| E | 101 - 200 | 5 | 5 % |
| F | 201 ... | 4 | 4 % |

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 Treated samples not mapped.



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Tests for Aesthetic Problems

Iron

- Natural (rocks and soils)
- May benefit health
- Red and yellow stains on clothing, fixtures

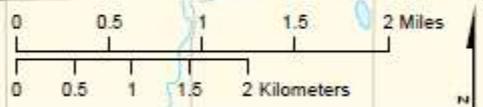
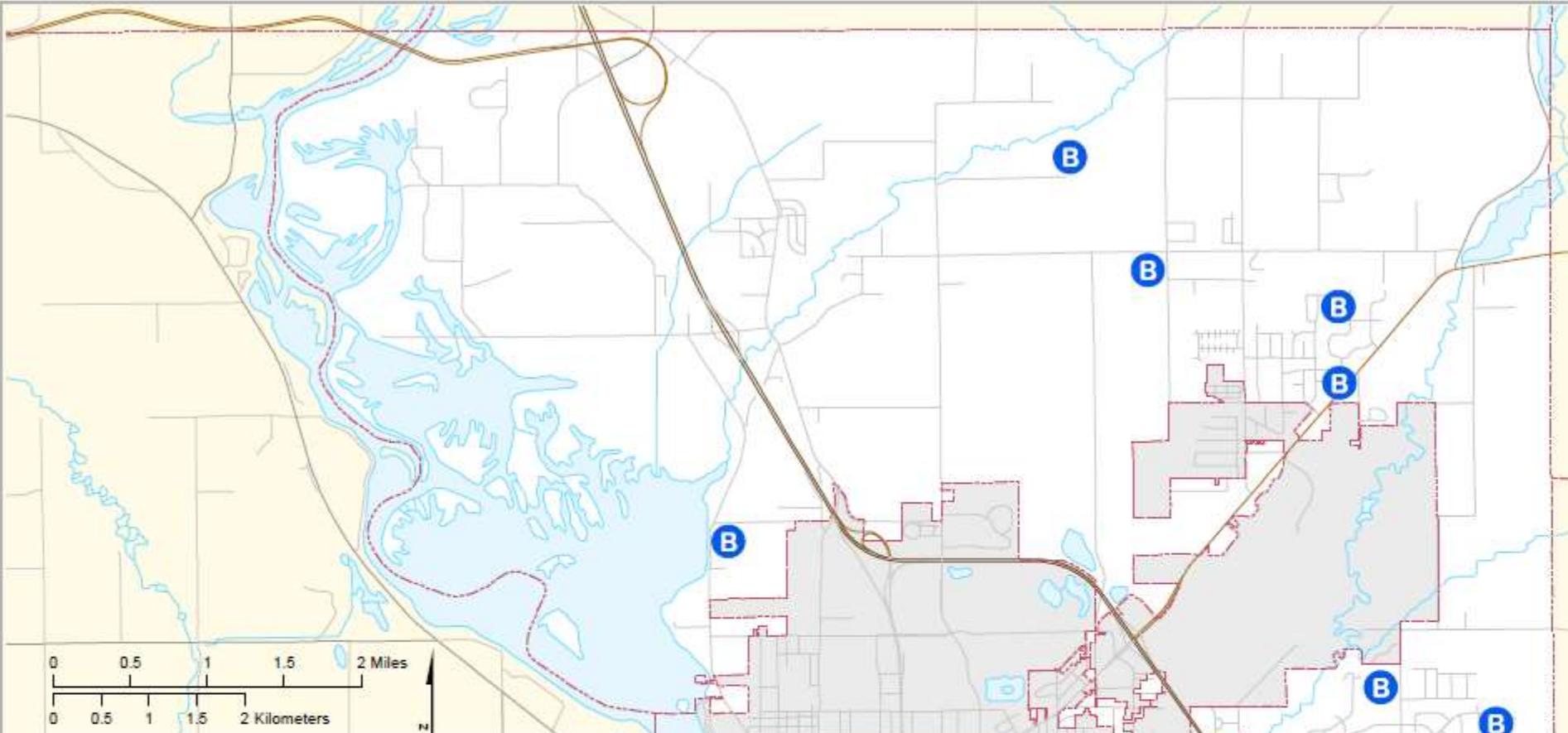
- If iron present, increases potential for iron bacteria
 - Slime, odor, oily film



**Greater
than 0.3
mg/L**

**Aesthetic
problems
likely**

**Less
than 0.3 mg/L**



Town of Hull
Portage County Oct-Nov 2013



Portage County

IRON (mg/l)

| | | |
|------------------------|----|-------|
| A None Detected | 0 | 0 % |
| B ... 0.300 | 15 | 100 % |
| C 0.301 - 1.000 | 0 | 0 % |
| D 1.001 - 2.000 | 0 | 0 % |
| E 2.001 - 5.000 | 0 | 0 % |
| F 5.001 ... | 0 | 0 % |

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Mapped value is the average unless otherwise indicated.
Treated samples not mapped.

Tests for Aesthetic Problems

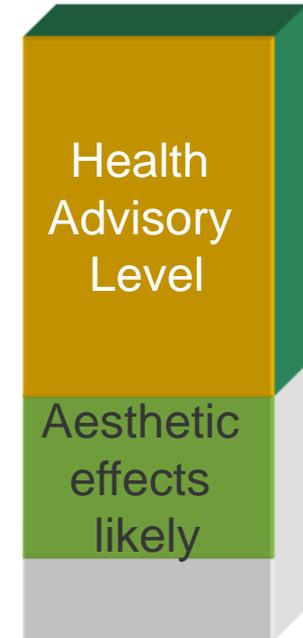
Manganese

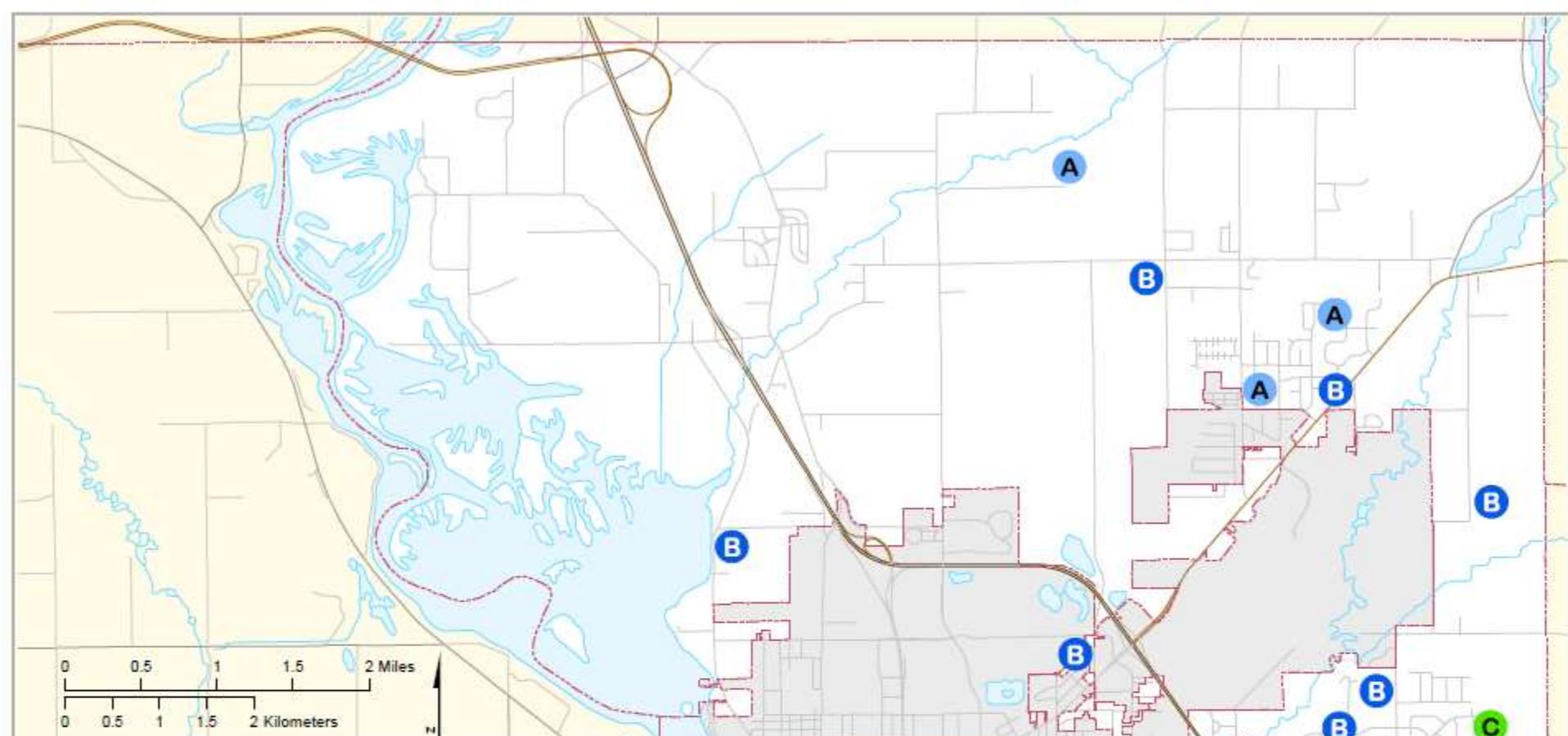
- Natural (rocks and soils)
- Aesthetic issues: taste, odor, color (black staining or precipitates)
- Health Advisory Level: 0.300 mg/L
 - Many years of exposure to high levels of manganese can cause harm to the nervous system. A disorder similar to Parkinson's disease can result. This type of effect is most likely to occur in the elderly. The federal health advisory for manganese is intended to protect against this effect.

Greater than 0.300 mg/L

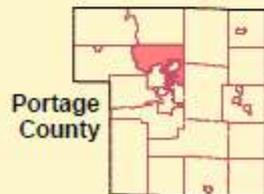
Greater than 0.050

Less than 0.050





Town of Hull
Portage County Oct-Nov 2013



MANGANESE (mg/l)

| | | | |
|----------|---------------|---|------|
| A | None Detected | 5 | 33 % |
| B | ... 0.050 | 9 | 60 % |
| C | 0.051 - 0.300 | 1 | 7 % |
| D | 0.301 - 0.500 | 0 | 0 % |
| E | 0.501 - 1.000 | 0 | 0 % |
| F | 1.001 ... | 0 | 0 % |

Mapped value is the average unless otherwise indicated.
Treated samples not mapped.



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Test Important to Health

Copper

- **Sources:** Copper water pipes
- **Standard:** Less than 1.3 mg/L is suitable for drinking

Health Effects:

- Some copper is needed for good health
- Too much may cause problems:
 - Stomach cramps, diarrhea,
 - vomiting, nausea
 - Formula intolerance in infants



Test Important to Health

Lead

Sources: Lead solder joining copper pipes (pre-1985) or brass fixtures

Standard: 0.015 mg/L (15 ppb)

Health Effects:

- Young children, infants and unborn children are particularly vulnerable.
- Lead may damage the brain, kidneys, nervous system, red blood cells, reproductive system.



Lead and Copper

Solutions:

- Allow water to run for a minute or two before using for drinking or cooking

or

- Use a treatment device, but generally not necessary



Improving water quality

➤ Long-term improvements

- Eliminate sources of contamination

➤ Short-term improvements

- Repair or replace existing well
- Connect to public water supply or develop community water system
- Purchase bottled water for drinking and cooking
- Install a water treatment device
 - Often the most convenient and cost effective solution

understanding water treatment

- **Advantages:**

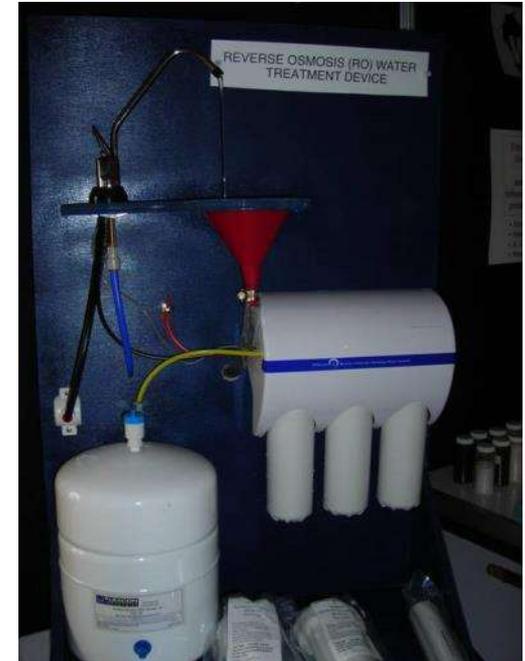
- + Reduce level of contaminants and other impurities
- + Improve taste, color and odor

- **Disadvantages:**

- Require routine maintenance.
- Can require large amounts of energy.
- Testing is often the only way to know it is functioning properly for most health related contaminants.

- **Cautions:**

- Treatment methods often selective for certain contaminants
- Multiple treatment units may be necessary
- Treatment may also remove beneficial elements from water in the process.

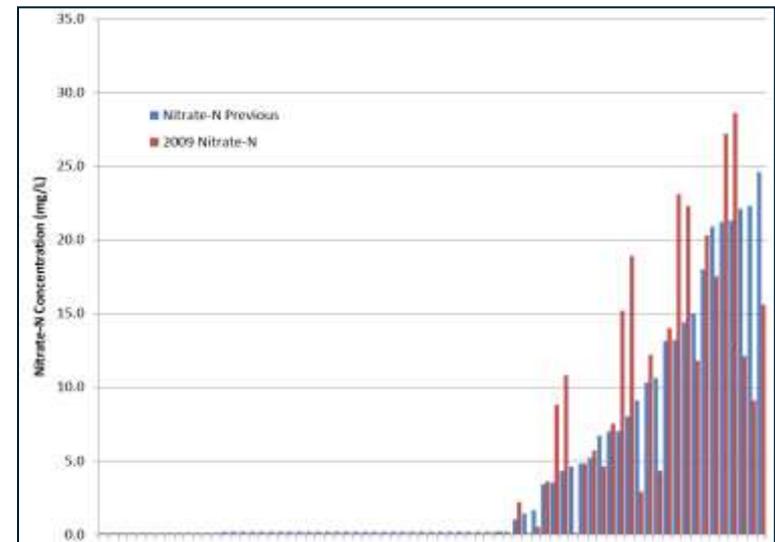
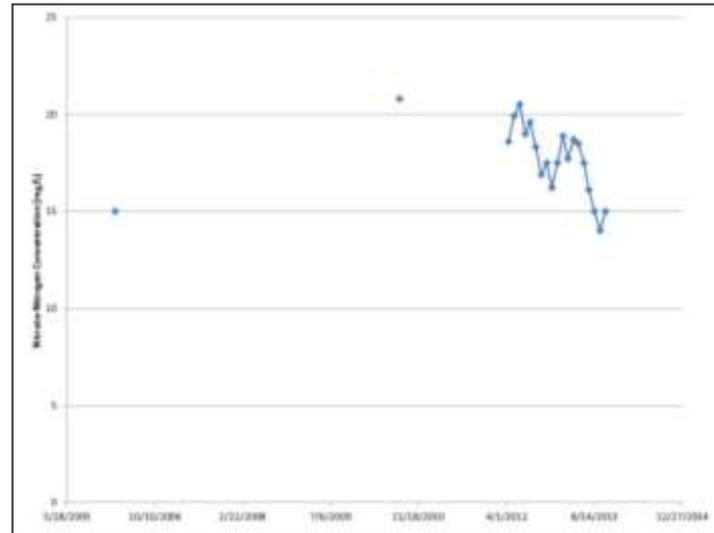


Before investing in treatment....

- Always have water tested at a certified lab before investing in water treatment.
 - Know the types and amounts of chemicals you would like removed.
- Choose a device that has been approved by the Wisconsin Department of Commerce.
 - Ask for a copy of the approval letter.
or
 - Check the agency's Drinking Water Treatment Product Approval website:
http://dsps.wi.gov/sb_ppalopp/disclaimer1.phtml/c/270

Where do you go from here: Recommended next steps

- Test well annually for bacteria, or if water changes color or clarity.
- If levels are elevated, test again in 15 months for nitrate.





Center for Watershed Science and Education

College of Natural Resources and University of Wisconsin-Extension

- Home
- Water & Environmental Analysis Lab
- Groundwater Center
- Activities
- Reports
- WI Well Water Quality Viewer
- Student Involvement
- Staff/Contact Us



About our Center

The Center for Watershed Science and Education is a partnership between the UW-Stevens Point College of Natural Resources and UW – Extension. In the spirit of the Wisconsin Idea, the Center works across the state helping to:

- Support watershed stewardship
- Assist citizens with lake, river and drinking water quality problems
- Promote management strategies for water resource protection
- Provide water quality assessment and support
- Prepare students for careers as water resource professionals.

Wisconsin Well Water 101:
Helping you make decisions about your private water system

Wisconsin Well Water 101: Helping you make decisions about your private water system. Includes information on: 1. Understanding Your Water, 2. Testing Your Water, 3. Interpreting Test Results, 4. Fixing Common Problems, 5. Protecting Your Water, 6. Finding a Professional.



News From The Center

[Postcards from the Central Sands: Kraft interviewed for article on groundwater](#)

[USGS report on groundwater pumping impacts on streams](#)

[Use our Well Water Quality Viewer to access groundwater information for your community](#)

[Central Sands study on pumping effects on lakes and streams published in international scientific journal](#)

[Walking on Water: Essays for the Central Sands. Get your free copy today!](#)

www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/watershed



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College of Natural Resources

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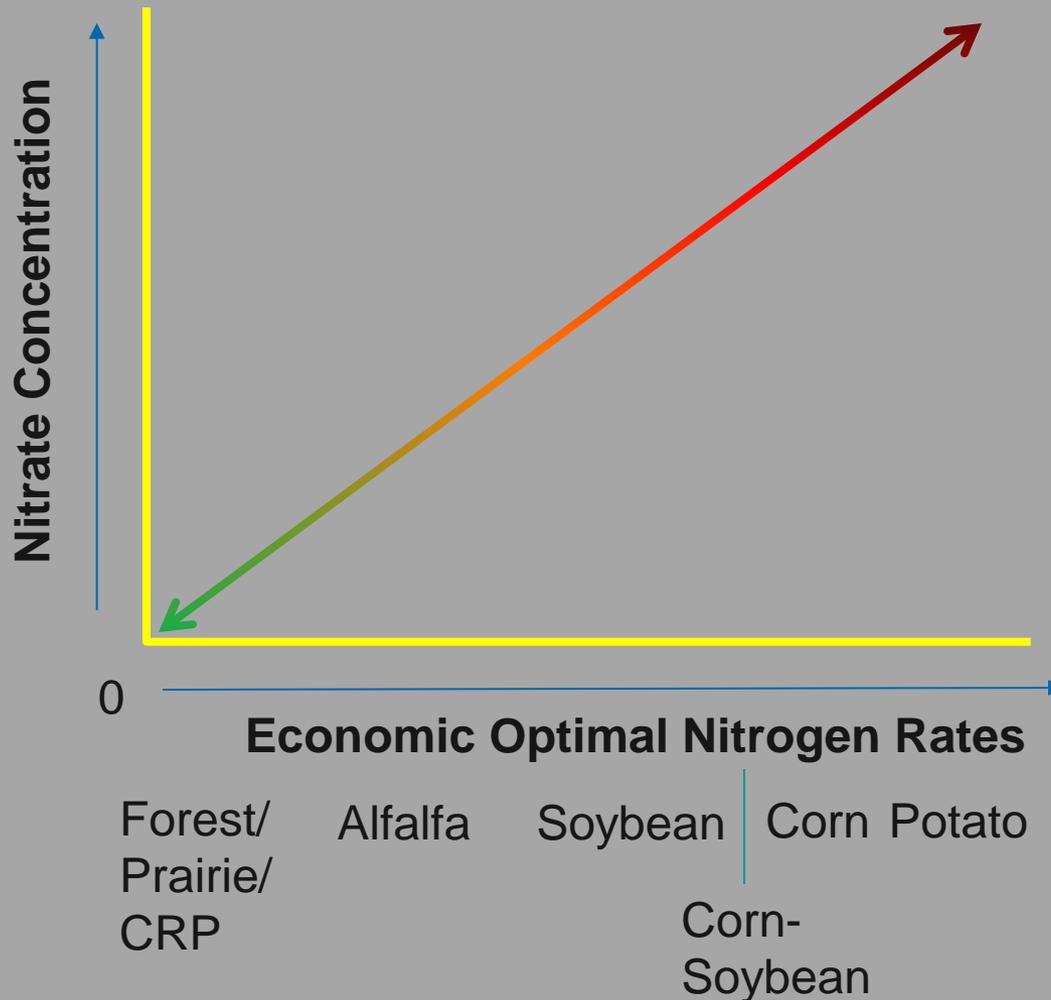
- **Town of Hull – John Holdridge, Patty Amman, Barb Sandridge**
- **Portage County UW-Extension Office – Nathan Sandwick**

Kevin Masarik
Center for Watershed Science and Education
800 Reserve St.
Stevens Point, WI 54481
715-346-4276
kmasarik@uwsp.edu

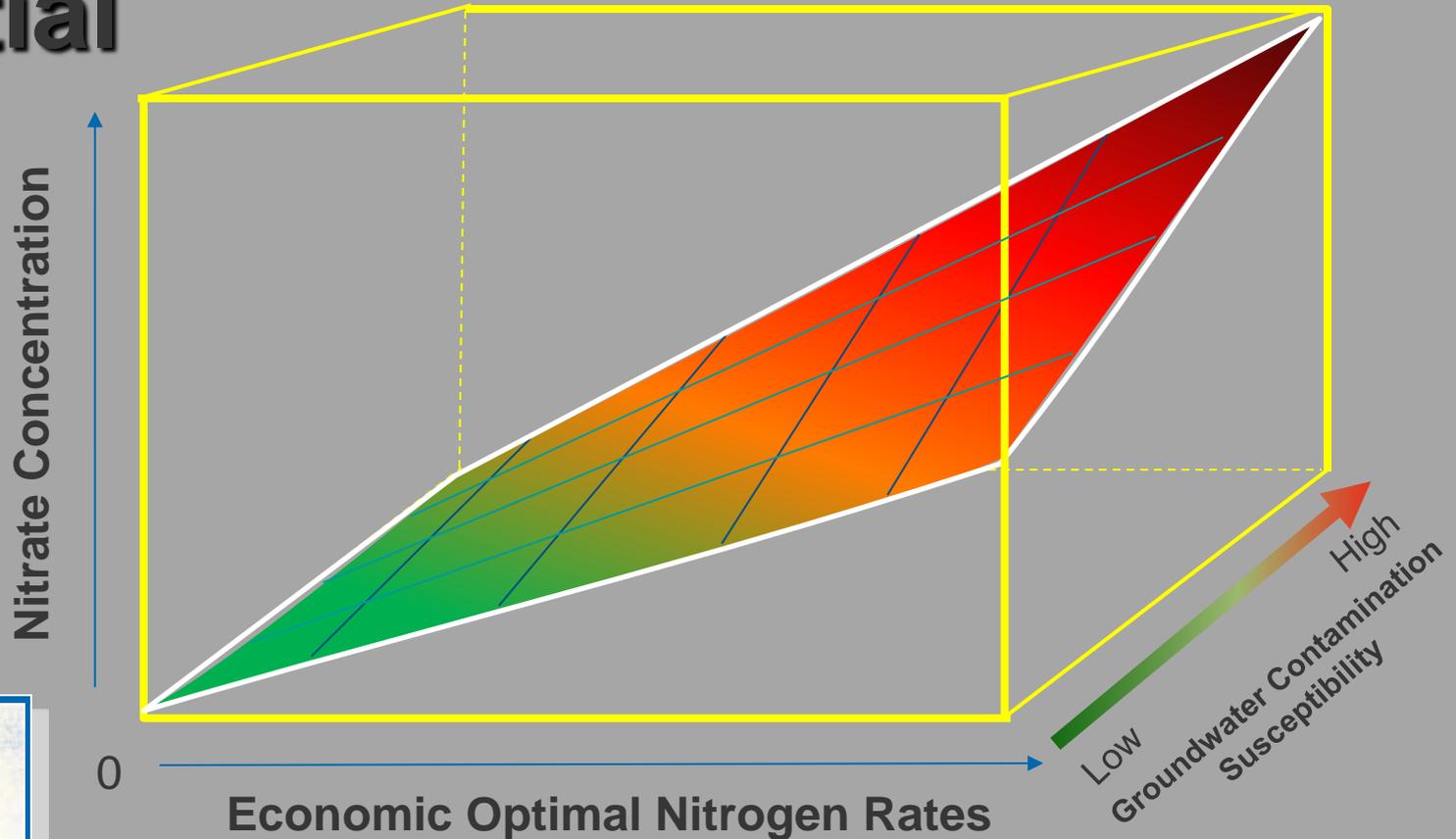
www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/watershed

Through the University of Wisconsin-Extension, all Wisconsin people can access University resources and engage in lifelong learning, wherever they live and work.

Generalized Nitrate Leaching Potential



Generalized Nitrate Leaching Potential



Forest/
Prairie/
CRP

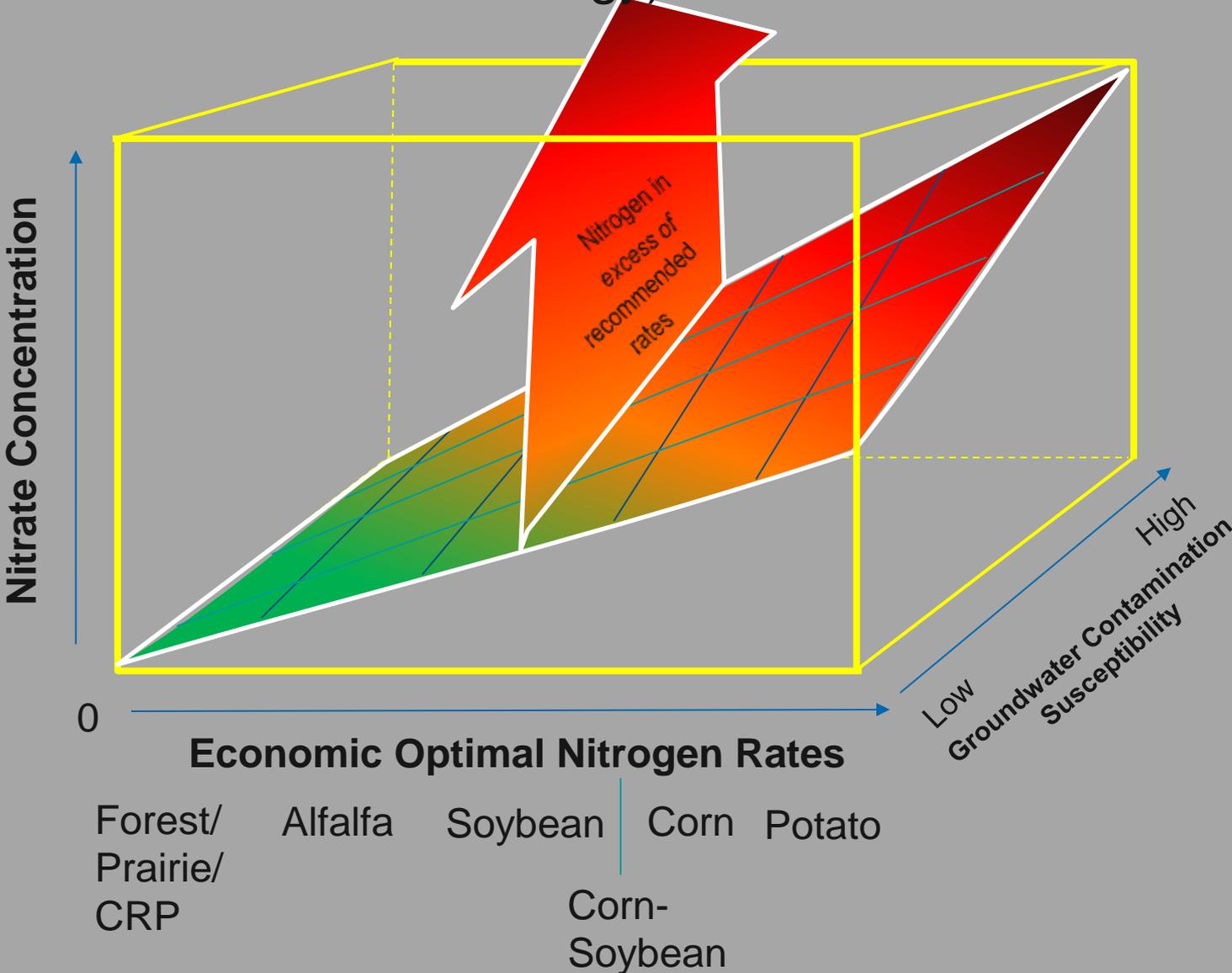
Alfalfa

Soybean

Corn-Soybean

Corn Potato

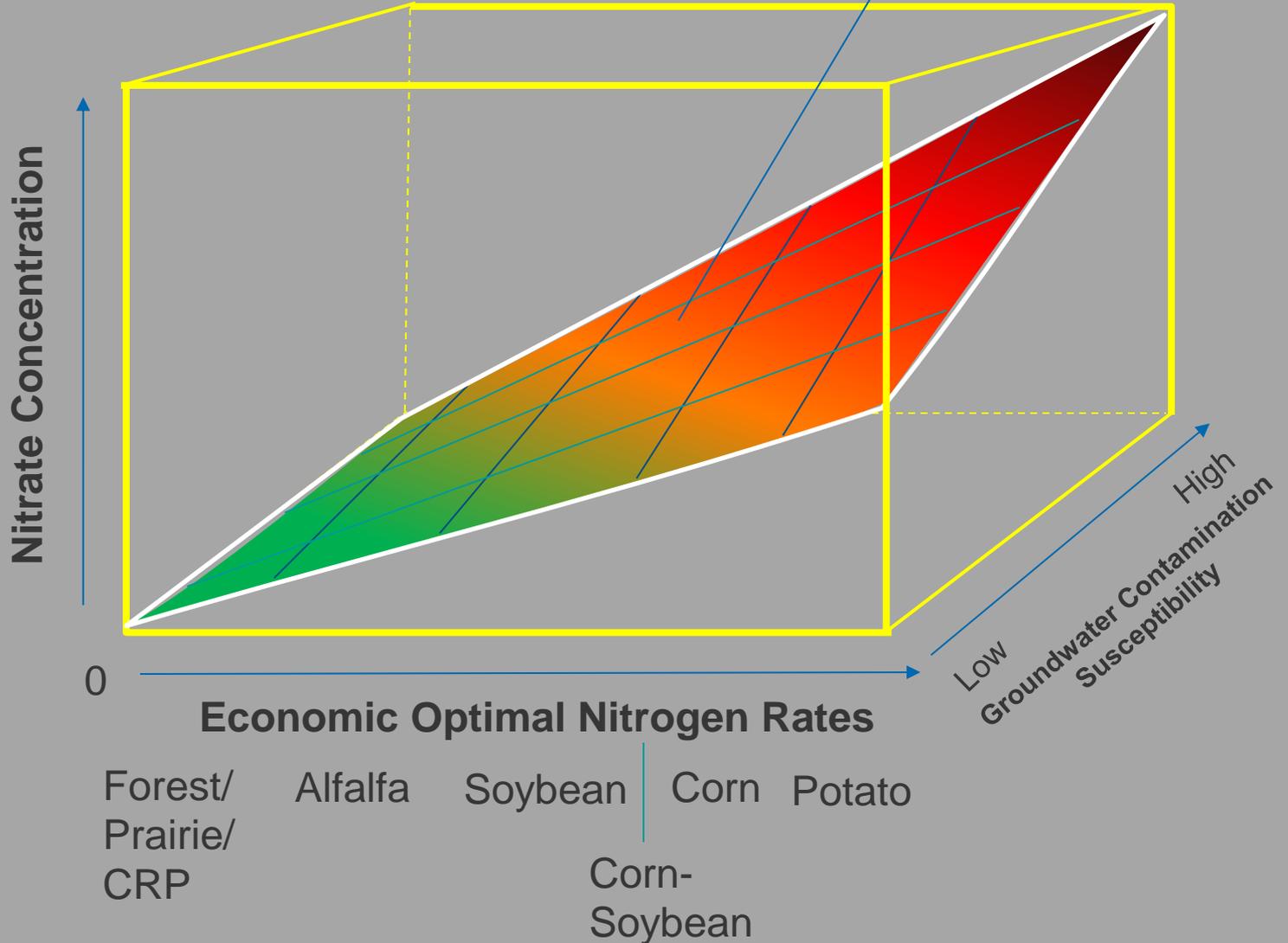
GW NO3-N = f(Crop N Requirements, Excess N, Soils, Geology)



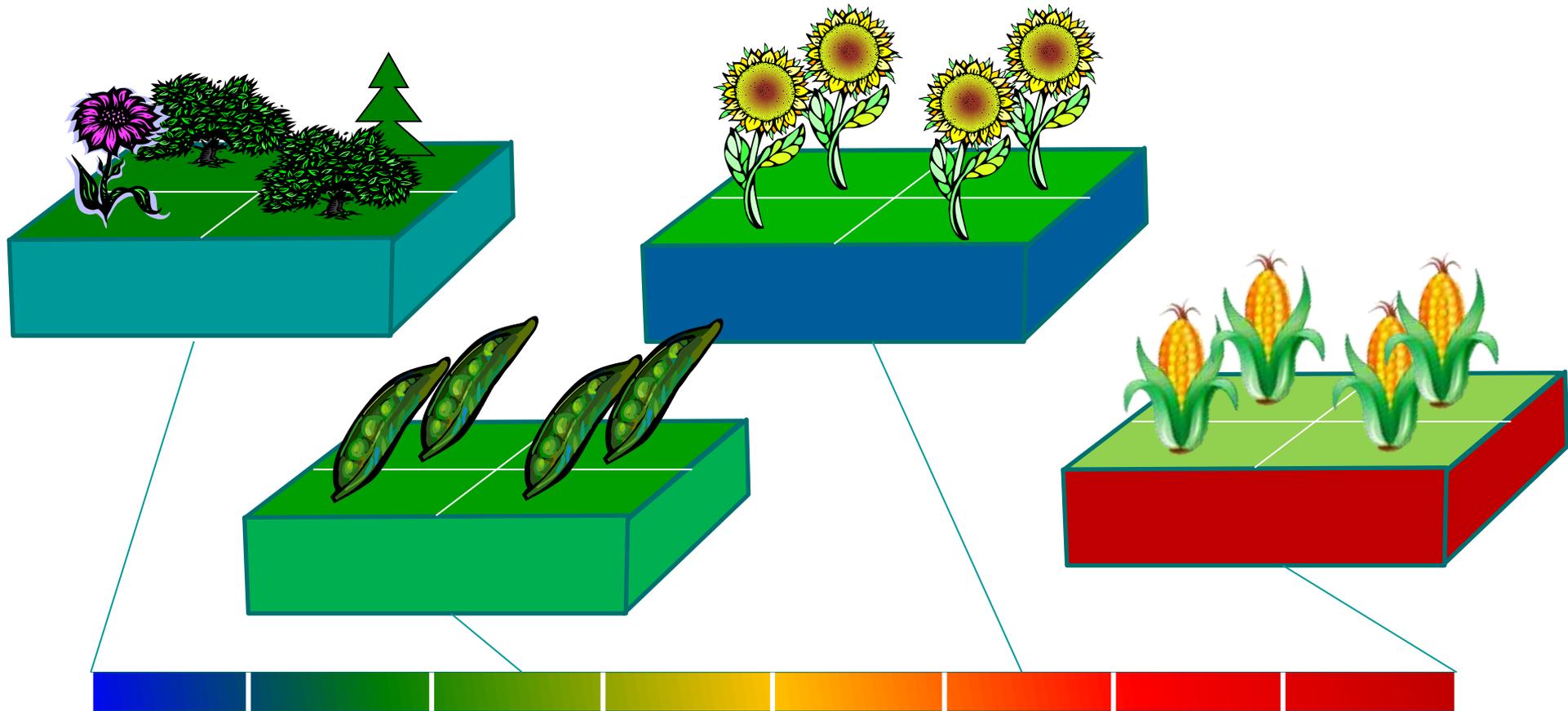
Water Quality/
Nitrate Concentration



UW Nitrogen Guidelines get us to a baseline Level of nitrate concentration in groundwater



Water quality as a function of crop N recommendations



No Inputs

Medium Inputs

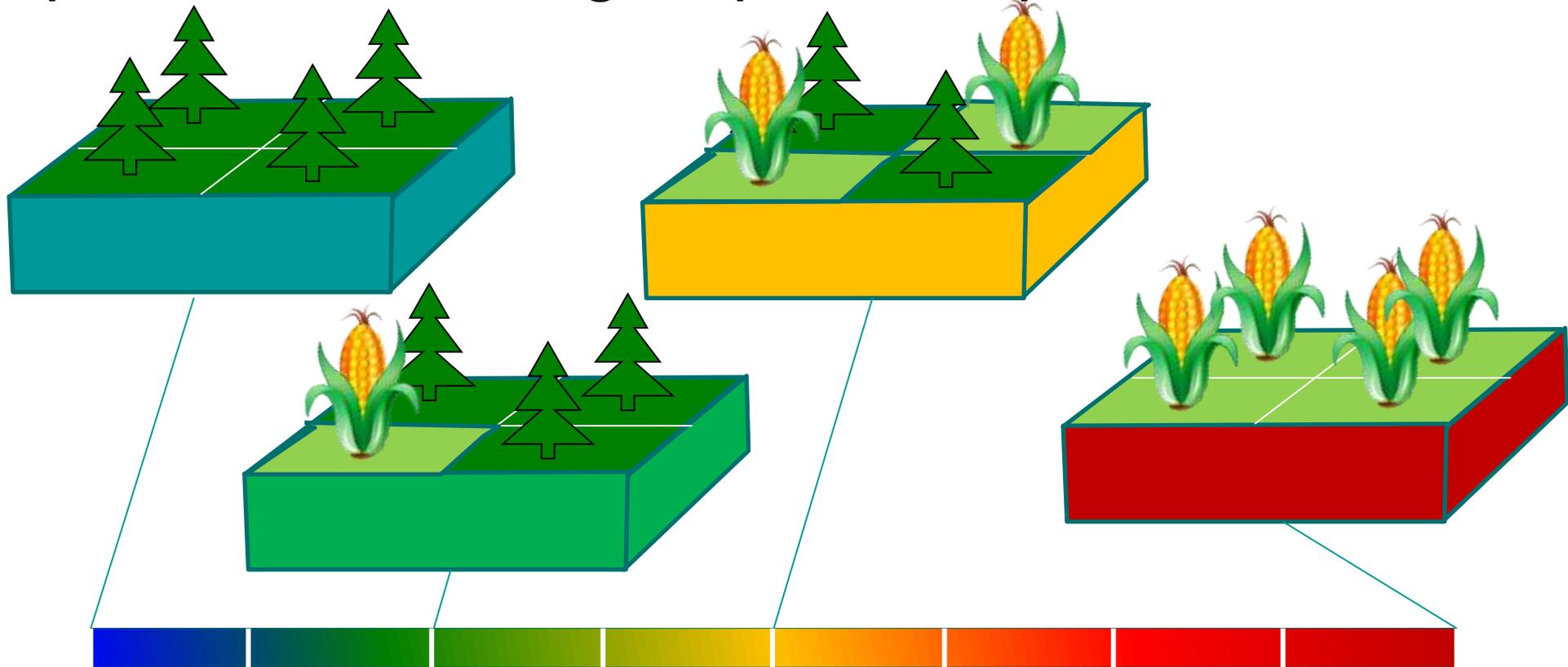
High Inputs

Amount of nitrogen applied

Water Quality/
Nitrate
Concentration



Water quality as a function of watershed area in production of a high input N crop



0%

50%

100%

Percent of land base in production

Water Quality
- Nitrate
Concentration

Low

High



Water quality as a function of Nitrogen Use Efficiency

Studies show efficiency typically about 30-50% (Cassman et. al. 2002)

