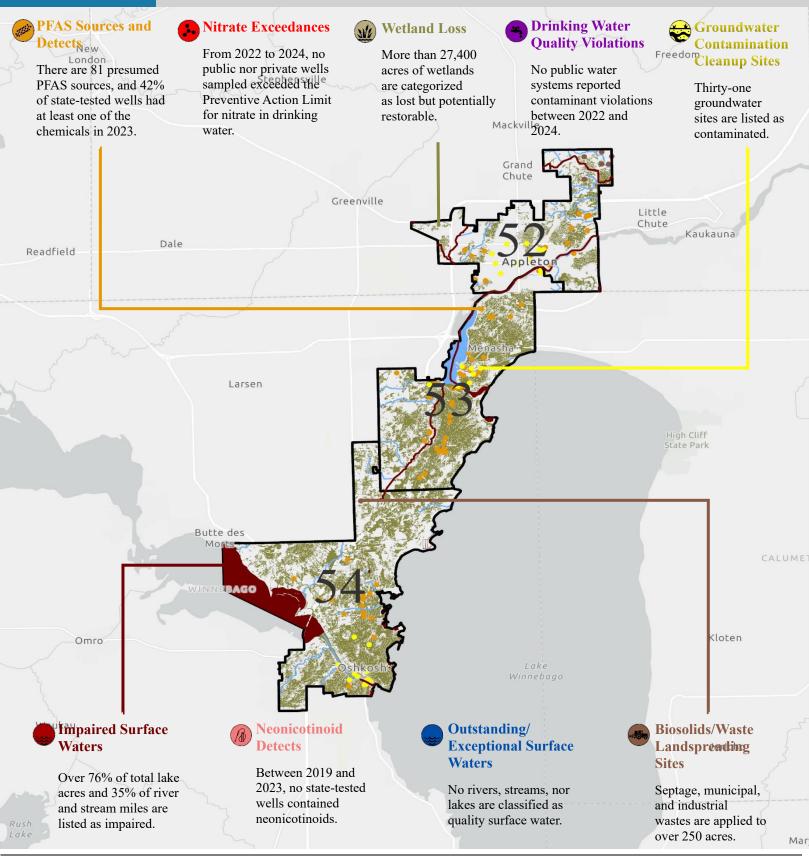
## 18 SENATE DISTRICT

## 2024\* Water Quality Report

177,000 Constituents | 6% Rely on Private Wells for Drinking Water









- No private nor public\* wells sampled exceeded the Preventative Action Limit from 2022-2024.1
- Elevated levels of nitrate are generally due to agricultural runoff and industrial discharges.
- Nitrate has been linked to blue baby syndrome, colon cancer, thyroid disease, and neural tube defects.
- Current permit holders have applied approximately 53 million gallons of waste to over eight separate fields.<sup>2</sup>
- The liquid and solid waste is generated from paper mills, septage operations, and food processing plants.
- Landspreading waste can transport contaminants by contaminating groundwater and food and feed crops in the area.

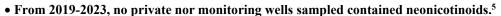




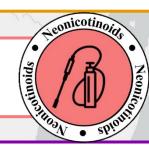
• Five municipal wells tested by the state had detectable levels of PFAS in 2023.<sup>3</sup>

- The 81 presumed sources include facilities that manufacture, manage, and/or discharge PFAS materials.<sup>4</sup>
- PFAS consumption can cause developmental effects in children, decreased fertility, and some cancers.

Merrill



- Neonicotinoid insecticides are applied to agricultural crops, lawns and gardens, golf courses, and more.
- Negative impacts to non-target insect species cause food chain issues in fish, birds, and potentially other taxa.





March Field WISCONSIN

- No violations occurred in public\* water systems from 2022-2024.6
- Common contaminants such as nitrate and heavy metals often enter drinking water from agricultural and natural sources.
- Sustained ingestion at high levels can cause many adverse health effects.

Appleton

Petenwell

• Thirty-one groundwater sites are contaminated with PFAS, solvents, gasoline, and/or volatile organic compounds.

- These chemical mixtures enter water through industrial/military discharges, storage tank leaks, and landfill leachate.
- If ingested through drinking water, the pollutants pose serious cancer and organ damage health risks.

Fond du Lac





- Of the thousands of wetland acres lost, 47% of the total land acreage has the potential for restoration.<sup>3</sup>
- Degradation and loss of Wisconsin wetlands is primarily due to invasives, development, and conversion to cropland.
- Wetlands absorb pollutants before they enter water, including drinking water; without them, we lose natural filters.
- More than 6,400 acres and 20 miles of surface waters are listed as impaired under the Clean Water Act.<sup>3</sup>
- The mercury, phosphorus, lead, and/or PCBs throughout are often from agricultural and industrial discharges.
- Ingestion of these pollutants can lead to organ damage, cardiovascular and reproductive issues, cancer, and more.





- No surface waters are classified as Outstanding or Exceptional Waters by the state.<sup>3</sup>
- These waterbodies support fisheries and wildlife and have high water quality from effective management and protection.
- As some drinking water is sourced from surface water, these are essential public health resources, too.

Freeport

Rockford

Crustallako

