

# TMDL Update – What’s going on & what’s next

PACRS

22 April 2022

Pat Oldenburg

Wisconsin River TMDL Coordinator

# Permitted Municipal Stormwater

- Not much to report yet
- Permit requires report on status due this spring 2022
  - Updated maps and assessment of existing controls vs. TMDL requirements
- Spring 2023 - plans due on how to achieve TMDL reductions



**STATE OF WISCONSIN**  
**DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**  
**GENERAL PERMIT TO DISCHARGE UNDER THE WISCONSIN**  
**POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM**  
**WPDES PERMIT NO. WI-S050075-3**

In compliance with the provisions of ch. 283 Wis. Stats., and chs. NR 151 and 216, Wis. Adm. Code, owners and operators of municipal separate storm sewer systems are permitted to discharge storm water from all portions of the

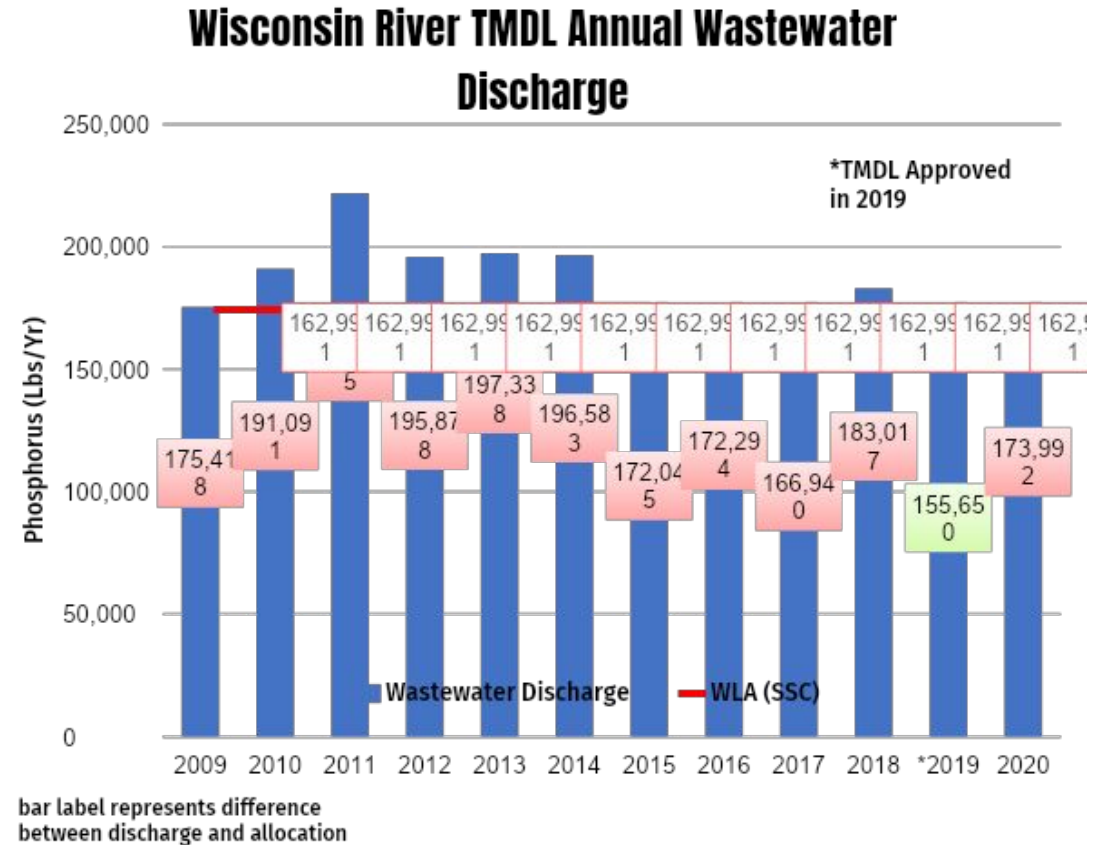
**MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEM**

owned or operated by the municipality to waters of the state in accordance with the conditions set forth in this permit.

With written authorization by the Department, this permit will be used to cover a municipal separate storm sewer system initially covered under a previous version of a municipal separate storm sewer system general permit. The **Start Date** of coverage under this permit is the date of the Department letter sent to the municipality authorizing coverage under this permit. The Department is required to charge an annual permit fee to owners and operators authorized to discharge under this permit in accordance with s. 283.33(9), Wis. Stats., and s. NR 216.08, Wis. Adm. Code.

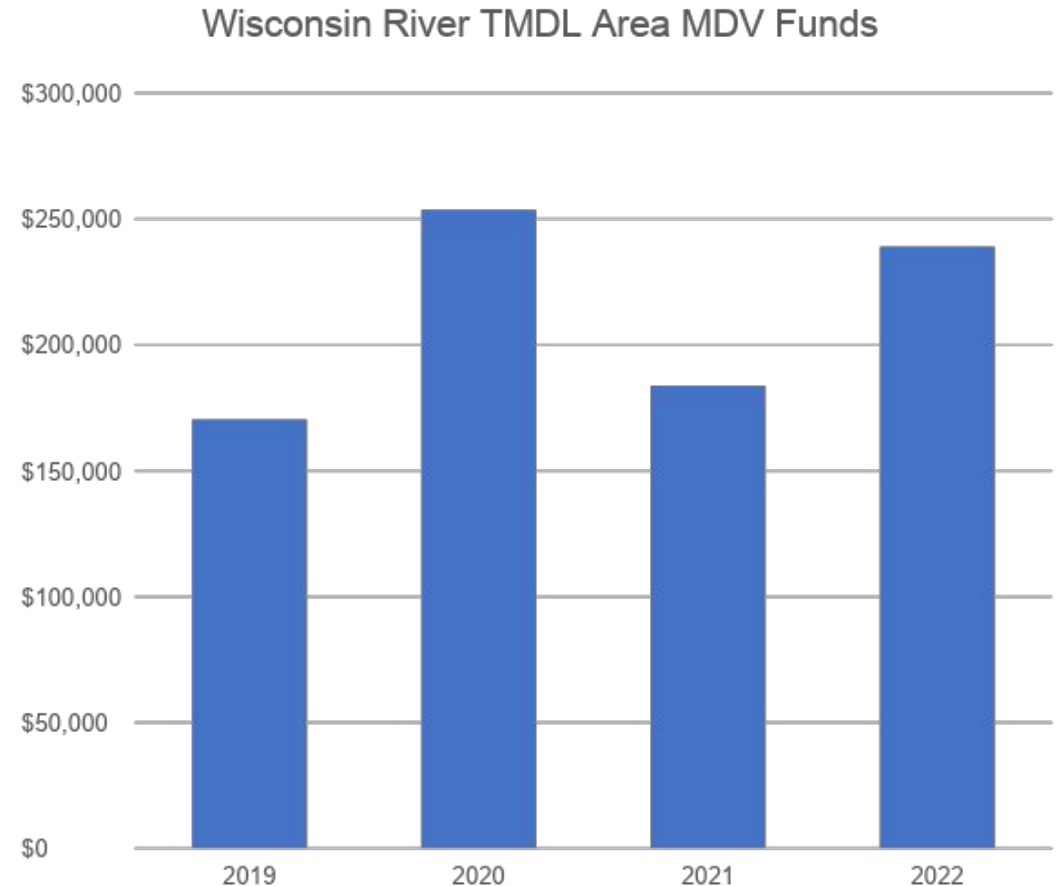
# Wastewater

- 48 out of 105 permits issued under the TMDL
- Vast majority of permittees still pursuing traditional “brick & mortar” compliance options
- A handful permittees engaged in watershed alternatives (pre and post TMDL)
- Multi-discharger variance being used by ~25% of permittees



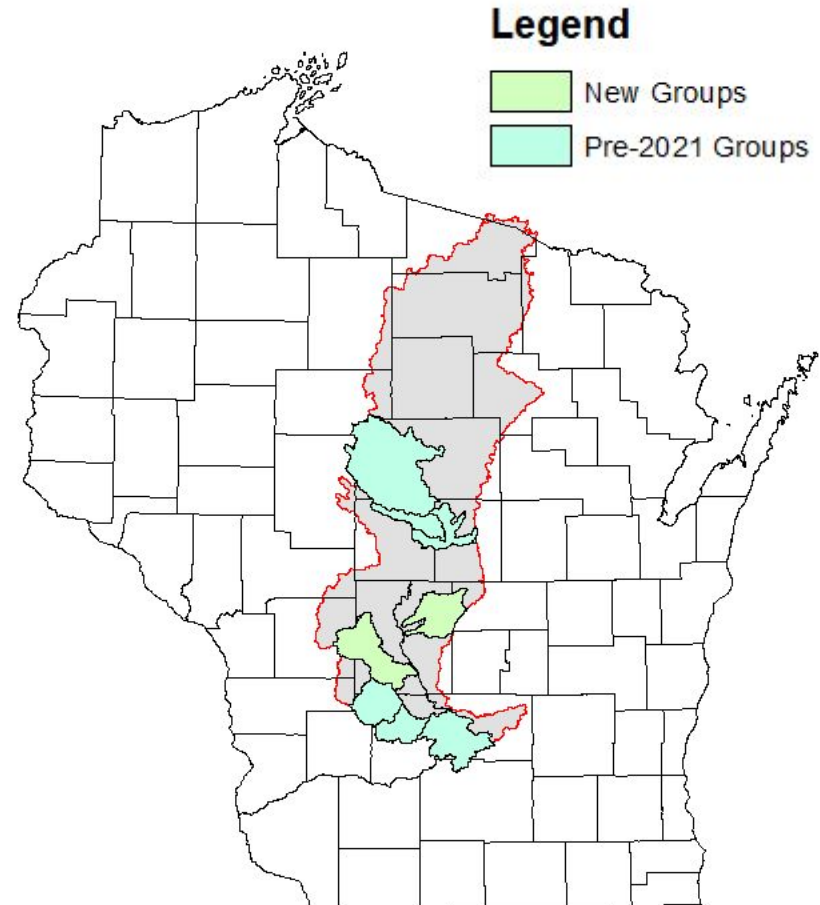
# Multi Discharger Variance (MDV)

- Two main alternatives under the MDV
  - Permittee directed watershed projects
  - County payment alternative
- Since 2019 permittees have provided \$850,000 in MDV funds in the WRB TMDL area
  - 5 counties in WRB have participated all 4 years
  - MDV  $\approx$  1% of total conservation dollars statewide



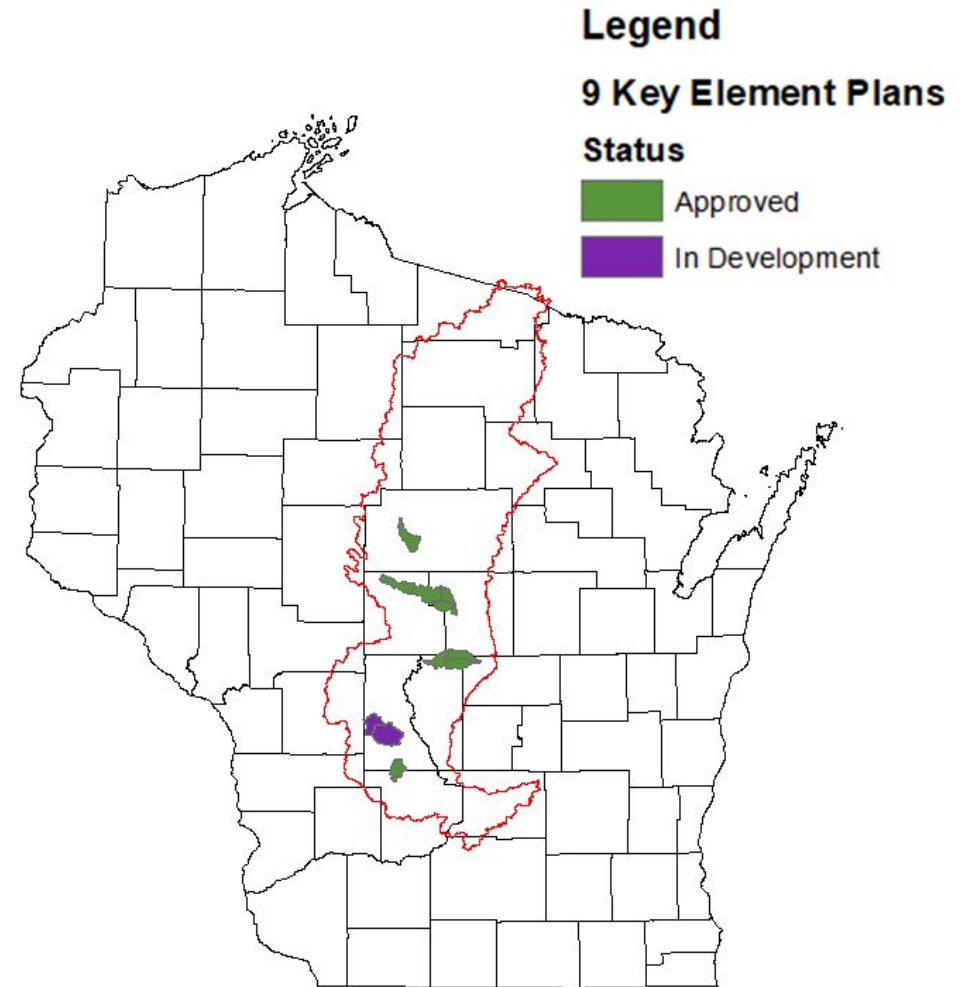
# Producer Led Groups

- Existing Groups:
  - Central Wisconsin Farmers' Collaborative (CWFC)
  - Eau Pleine Partnership for Integrated Conservation (EPPIC)
  - Farmers of Mill Creek
  - Lake Wisconsin Farmer Watershed Council
  - Producers of Lake Redstone
  - Sauk Soil and Water Improvement Group (SSWIG)
- New Groups:
  - Farmers of the Roche-a-Cri
  - Farmers of the Lemonweir Valley



# 9 Key Element Plans

- Gateway to EPA s. 319 funding
- 4 Plans Approved in WRB TMDL
  - Fenwood Creek (2017)
  - Mill Creek (2019)
  - 14 Mile Creek (2020)
  - Lake Redstone (2022)
- 1 Plan in development
  - Fountain Creek & Brewer Creek HUC 12s (Lake Decorah)



# Targeted Runoff Management Grants

## FY 2021

- Funded
  - Wood County Small Scale TMDL
  - Village of Rothschild Urban Construction
- Unfunded
  - Portage County Small Scale TMDL
  - Marathon County Large Scale TMDL
  - City of Antigo Urban Construction

## FY 2022

- Funded
  - None
- Unfunded
  - Adams County Small Scale TMDL
  - Marathon County Large Scale TMDL
  - Village of Plover Urban Planning Grant

# Select Surface Water Grants

- FY 2021

- Funded

- Adams County
- Northwoods Land Trust, Inc.
- Multiple Lake Planning & Education Grants and Healthy Lakes & Rivers Projects

- Unfunded

- No major projects

- FY 2020

- Funded

- Oneida County
- Multiple Lake Planning & Education Grants and Healthy Lakes & Rivers Projects

- Unfunded

- Marathon County received less than 10% of requested amount



# Fenwood Creek Pilot

- Senate Bill 968
  - Introduced in February by Senators Bernier And Petrowski
    - Cosponsored by Representatives Rozar, Snyder, Edming and Spiros
  - Supplemental funding request of \$600,000 to implement
  - Goal to further Marathon County's work in Fenwood Creek



State of Wisconsin  
2021 - 2022 LEGISLATURE

LRB-4456/1  
MCP:cjs

## 2021 SENATE BILL 968

February 9, 2022 - Introduced by Senators BERNIER and PETROWSKI, cosponsored by Representatives ROZAR, SNYDER, EDMING and SPIROS. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources and Energy.

1 AN ACT to create 20.115 (7) (g) of the statutes; relating to: funding for the  
2 Fenwood Creek watershed pilot project.

### *Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

This bill creates an unfunded appropriation from the environmental fund for the purpose of providing grants to the Fenwood Creek pilot project in Marathon County to reduce watershed phosphorus and sediment levels. The bill requires the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection to request that the Joint Committee on Finance supplement this appropriation, in an amount up to \$607,000, for this purpose in the 2022-23 fiscal year. The bill also requires DATCP to include a request for funding for this purpose in its 2023-25 budget request.

*The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:*

3 SECTION 1. 20.005 (3) (schedule) of the statutes: at the appropriate place, insert  
4 the following amounts for the purposes indicated:

# Fenwood Creek Pilot

- Pay for performance approach
  - Approach started with MDV funding
- Target whole farm conversion
  - Rates based on nutrient reduction performance (\$10/ac/yr to \$40/ac/yr )
- Longer cost share periods
  - 3 year conversion + 3 year maintenance

Old Approaches	Fenwood Pilot Project Approaches
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reward poor performers, based primarily on practice implementation</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reward based on actual on-farm performance</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Practice criteria are prescriptive and difficult to understand</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Non-prescriptive, easy to understand, farmer has more control</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No guarantee of nutrient and sediment runoff reduction</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Participation ensures 60-90% reduction from the state standard, for total farm phosphorous level</li></ul>

A New Approach to Sediment and Phosphorous Management : The Fenwood Pilot Project—Marathon County

# More consistent tracking of nonpoint source reductions

- DNR
  - BMP Implementation Tracking System (BITS)
  - Geolocated reporting of DNR program BMPs (MDV & TRM)
- DATCP
  - To develop similar tracking system for Soil and Water Resource Management grants
- Interim Approach
  - New voluntary tracking spreadsheet
- Tracking spreadsheet
  - When
  - Why
  - Where
  - What
  - Nutrient Reduction Estimate
  - Funding Source

# Other tracking approaches

- Government funded conservation only represents a small fraction
  - 2020 NRCS CREP Program – \$31 million -1.8% of Wisconsin cropland
- Need to understand the broader picture
  - USDA National Agricultural Statistics Survey tracks what crops are grown annually
  - DNR and partners exploring use of satellite imagery to track trends in how crops are grown (tillage + cover crops)

2021 Normalized Differential Tillage Index (NDTI)

# CONNECT WITH US

Pat Oldenburg

715-492-0589

[patrick.oldenburg@wisconsin.gov](mailto:patrick.oldenburg@wisconsin.gov)



/WIDNR



@WIDNR



@WI\_DNR



/WIDNRTV



"WILD WISCONSIN:  
OFF THE RECORD"