

ATSDR Public Health Investment

Wisconsin

CDC/ATSDR support helps Wisconsin reduce exposures to hazardous substances in the environment

ATSDR funds 25 cooperative agreements to help states build their capacity to assess and respond to site-specific issues involving human exposure to hazardous substances in the environment.

Public Health in Action

Dental Clinic Mercury Spill Cleanup, Dodgeville — The Iowa County Public Health Department requested assistance with a large elemental mercury spill that occurred in the basement of a dental clinic in Dodgeville, WI. WDHS staff monitored mercury vapor to determine the extent of contamination and to guide cleanup efforts. As a result of WDHS involvement, mercury vapor exposures were minimized for clinic staff and clients with minimal disruption of clinic operations.

Wisconsin

Award amount:

\$458,843 per year

Term: 3 years

Grantee since: 1987

About ATSDR

The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), based in Atlanta, Georgia along with 10 regional offices, is a federal public health agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. ATSDR serves the public by using the best science, taking responsive public health actions, and providing trusted health information to prevent harmful exposures and diseases related to toxic substances.

Key projects

- **Ashland/NSP Lakefront** — This NPL site consists of coal tar contaminated sediments in Lake Superior. WDHS is conducting public outreach related to coal tar removals and ensuring that public exposure to odors is minimized. ATSDR works with states on NPL sites to support their recommended actions to protect the public's health.
- **Cedar Creek** — Cleanup of PCB contamination in Cedar Creek from multiple industries is ongoing. WDHS has participated in hazard assessment and remediation planning and is now educating the community on potential health impacts of PCB exposure.
- **Kewaunee Marquette High School** — Abandoned since 1999, this former school contains many hazardous materials, including asbestos, lead, PCBs, and mercury (all on ATSDR's priority substance list). WDHS is working with local, state and federal (ATSDR and EPA) partners to prevent access, assess health hazards, and clean up the site for future redevelopment.

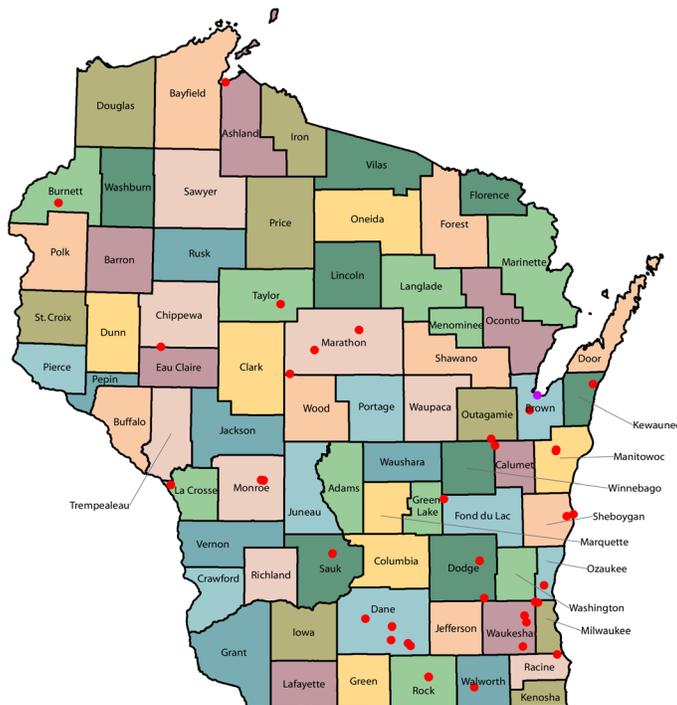
State Priorities

- **Indoor Air Quality** — Evaluating indoor air concerns from many sources, including contaminated soil and groundwater, household materials and products, underlying geology, and illegal drug labs; WDHS is working with their partners and the public to prevent, assess, and address these health concerns.
- **Safe Drinking Water** — Ensuring that groundwater aquifers, which provide drinking water for two-thirds of Wisconsin residents, are safe from chemical contaminants. ATSDR regional staff and subject matter experts on polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) ensure the proper application of the latest federal health advisories.
- **Brownfields and Land Reuse** — Performing site assessments and working with local, state, and federal (ATSDR and EPA) partners to revitalize brownfields and other sites created by Wisconsin's long manufacturing tradition to promote the healthy reuse of these sites.

"I learned a lot and have definitely gained a greater appreciation for the field of environmental health and all the work you do! Thanks!" Dr. Jasmine Zapata, UWSMPH Preventive Medicine Residency Program

Did you know?

- More than 1000 unevaluated former dry cleaners in Wisconsin may have potential vapor intrusion contamination.
- Wisconsin has over 12,000 active water supply sources, and the total volume of groundwater withdrawals in 2014 equaled 224 billion gallons.
- As of 2014, Wisconsin has 37 current NPL sites (as of 2014), 70 former MGP (manufactured gas facilities), and 261 CAFOs (Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations) (as of 2012).



Sites on Final National Priorities List (NPL) as of September 9, 2016

● On Final NPL

● Proposed for NPL

Data sources: Esri, U.S. EPA "Search Superfund Site Information" query (2016), U.S. EPA SEMS (2016), U.S. EPA Facility Registry Service (2016).

Learn more

Follow these links to learn more about programs protecting public health in Wisconsin:

ATSDR — <http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/>

Division of Community Health Investigations (DCHI) — <http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/hac/index.html>

ATSDR Public Health Assessments and Consultations for Wisconsin — <https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/HAC/PHA/HCPHA.asp?State=WI>

WDHS Environmental Health <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/environmental/index.htm>

Chemical Vapor Intrusion and Residential Indoor Air <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/air/vi-professional.htm>

Water Quality Issues

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/water/index.htm>

Public Health and Brownfields

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/environmental/brownfields.htm>

Lead in Home Garden Soil

<https://learningstore.uwex.edu/Lead-in-Home-Garden-Soil-P1774.aspx>

Groundwater

<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/groundwater/gcc/>

Vapor Intrusion

<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/brownfields/vapor.html>

Superfund <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/brownfields/superfund.html>

ATSDR – The most trusted Agency protecting American communities from environmental health threats through application of state of the art science.

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