



JOEL KITCHENS

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 1ST ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PPF Water Well Program

Madison – Rep. Joel Kitchens (R-Sturgeon Bay) applauds Peninsula Pride Farms’ announcement of their Water Well Program. The Program is a collaborative effort with local business partners to provide clean water to those in need. It provides free water and private well assistance to anyone in Kewaunee County who has a well contaminated with fecal matter. Peninsula Pride Farms is a group of 43 livestock and crop farmers in Kewaunee and southern Door Counties who have united with the objective of improving ground and surface water through innovative practices and technologies.

“Groundwater contamination in Kewaunee County is a very serious public health concern, and it has led to a great deal of division and finger pointing within the community,” Kitchens said. “Today, Peninsula Pride Farms is saying, ‘everyone in Kewaunee County deserves clean, safe drinking water, and we are going to provide it as we work toward a solution to this problem.’ This is a tremendous step forward, and I cannot give enough praise to those community-minded people who are making this happen.”

Kitchens singled out Bob Atwell, CEO of Nicolet Bank, for his leadership role in rallying business support for the Well Water Program. “This is a great example of the collaborative and innovative spirit that exists in Northeast Wisconsin,” Kitchens continued. “This is a complex issue, and there is a role for state and local governments, as well as for the farmers, businessmen and citizens of our area. We will solve this by working together, not by pitting neighbor against neighbor.”

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has initiated the administrative rule process that will, for the first time, promulgate new rules for manure management that are specific to the karst region. “Coupled with the voluntary efforts being made by Peninsula Pride members and other forward thinking farmers, there is now a clear path to the resolution of our groundwater contamination problems,” Kitchens said. “In the meantime, every citizen of Kewaunee County can be assured access to clean water.”

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