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Farmer

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Founder of EPPIC, Central Wis. No-Tillers

Farmer



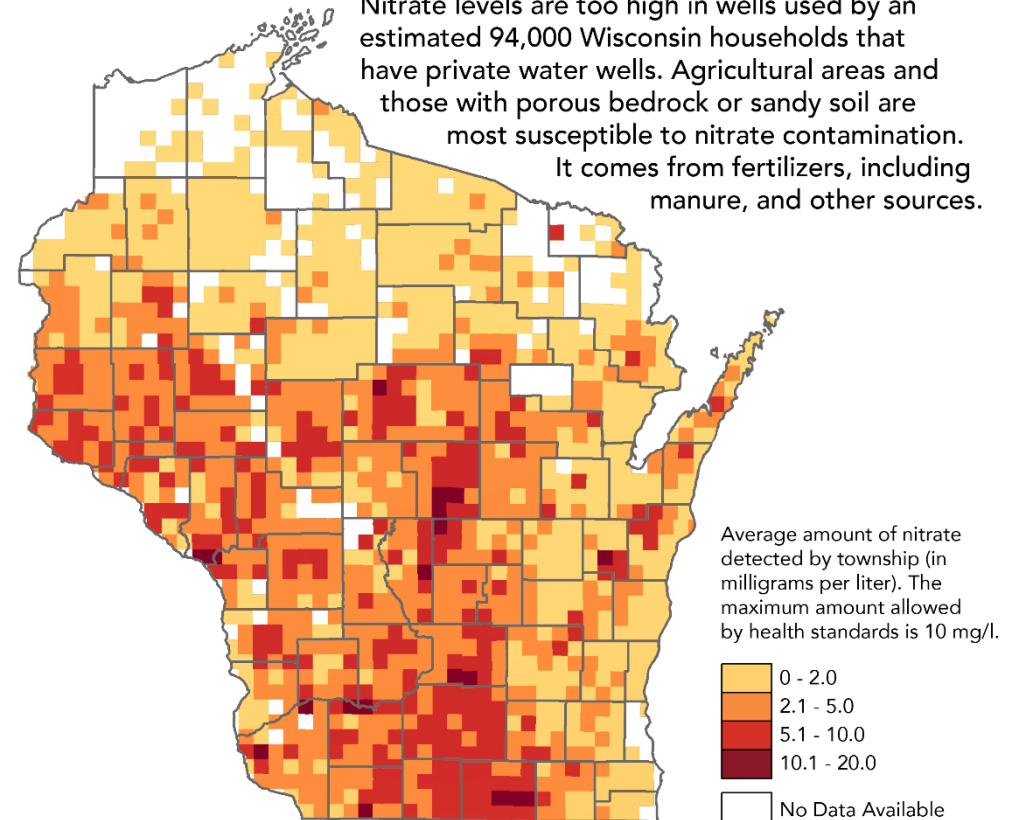
A photograph of a man wearing a hat and a jacket, operating a tractor in a field. The tractor is pulling a plow, and the field is being tilled. The scene is set during sunset or sunrise, with a warm, golden light illuminating the landscape. The tractor is moving away from the viewer, leaving a trail of tilled earth behind it. The background shows a line of trees and a distant horizon.

The way we
have been
doing things do
not work
anymore.



Nitrate in drinking water around Wisconsin

Nitrate levels are too high in wells used by an estimated 94,000 Wisconsin households that have private water wells. Agricultural areas and those with porous bedrock or sandy soil are most susceptible to nitrate contamination. It comes from fertilizers, including manure, and other sources.



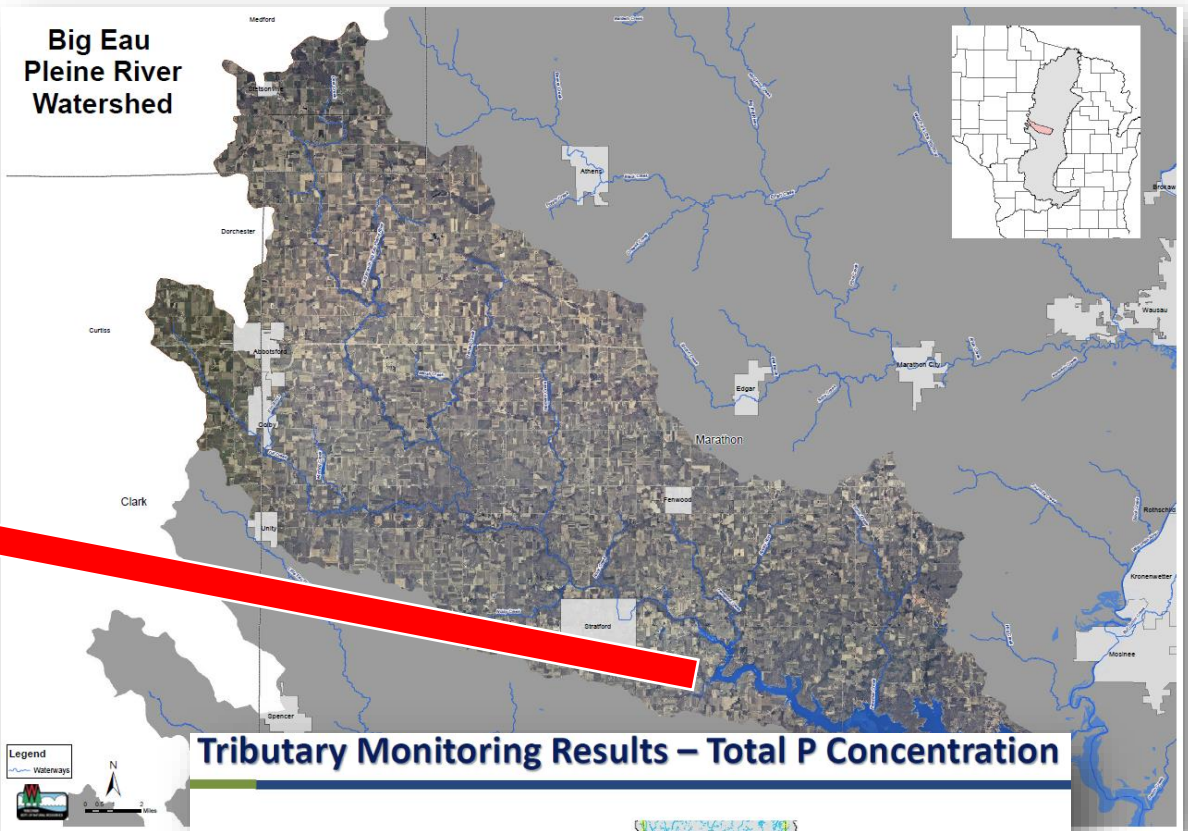
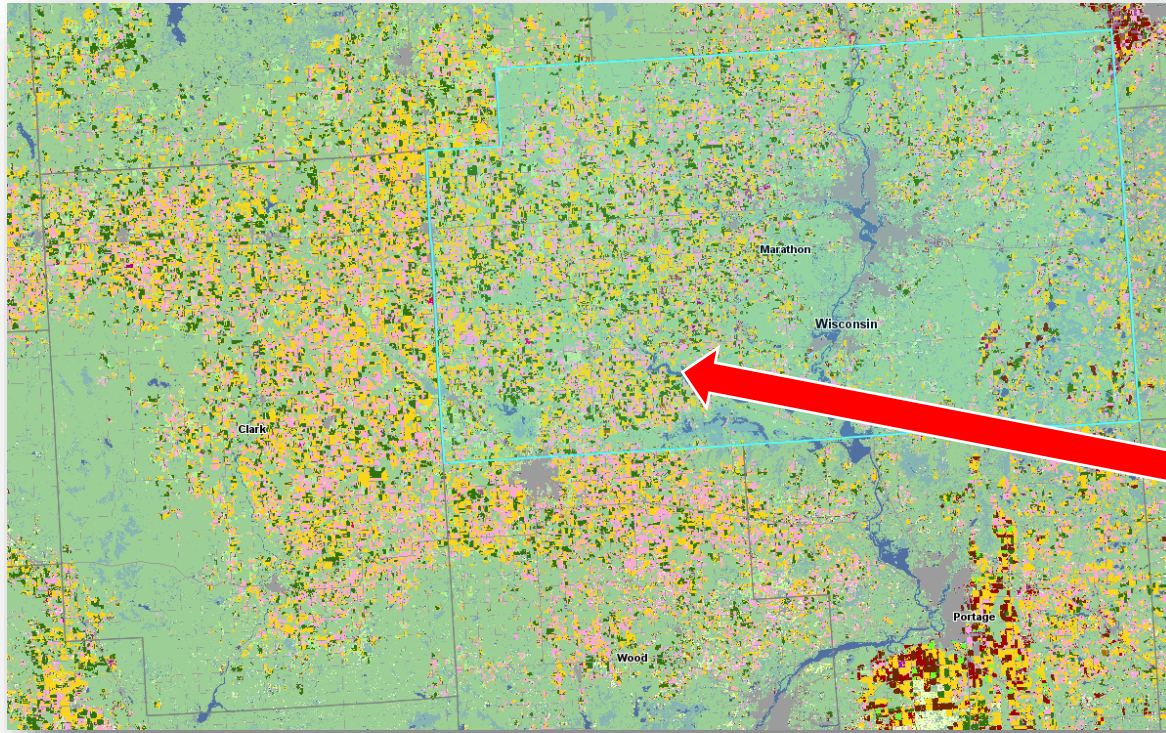
CREDIT: Katie Kowalsky/Wisconsin Center for Investigative Journalism

SOURCE: Well Water Quality Viewer, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point's Center for Watershed Science and Education. Private Drinking Water Quality in Rural Wisconsin, Journal of Environmental Health, 2013.

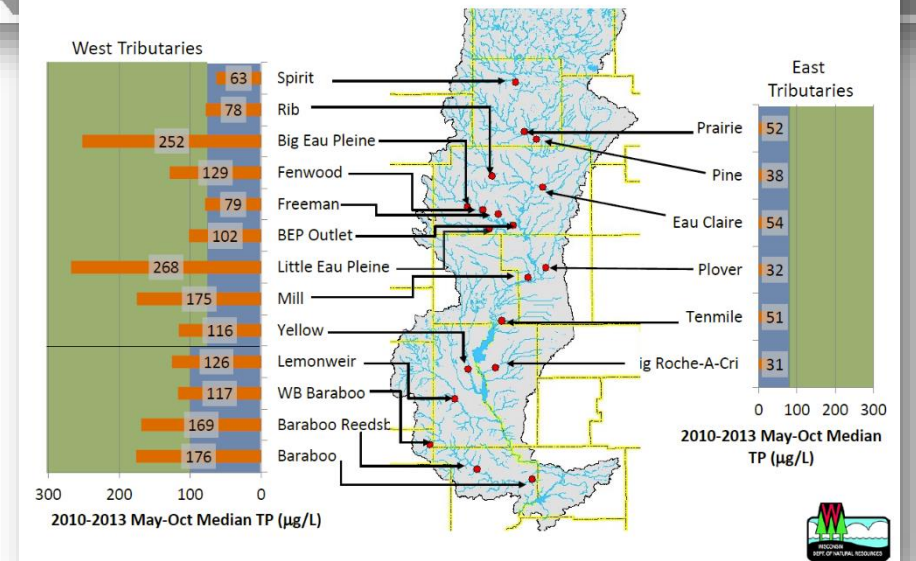
NEW AT SIX
CONCERNS OVER GREEN ALGAE
BIG EAU PLEINE RIVER



6:10 67°



Tributary Monitoring Results – Total P Concentration



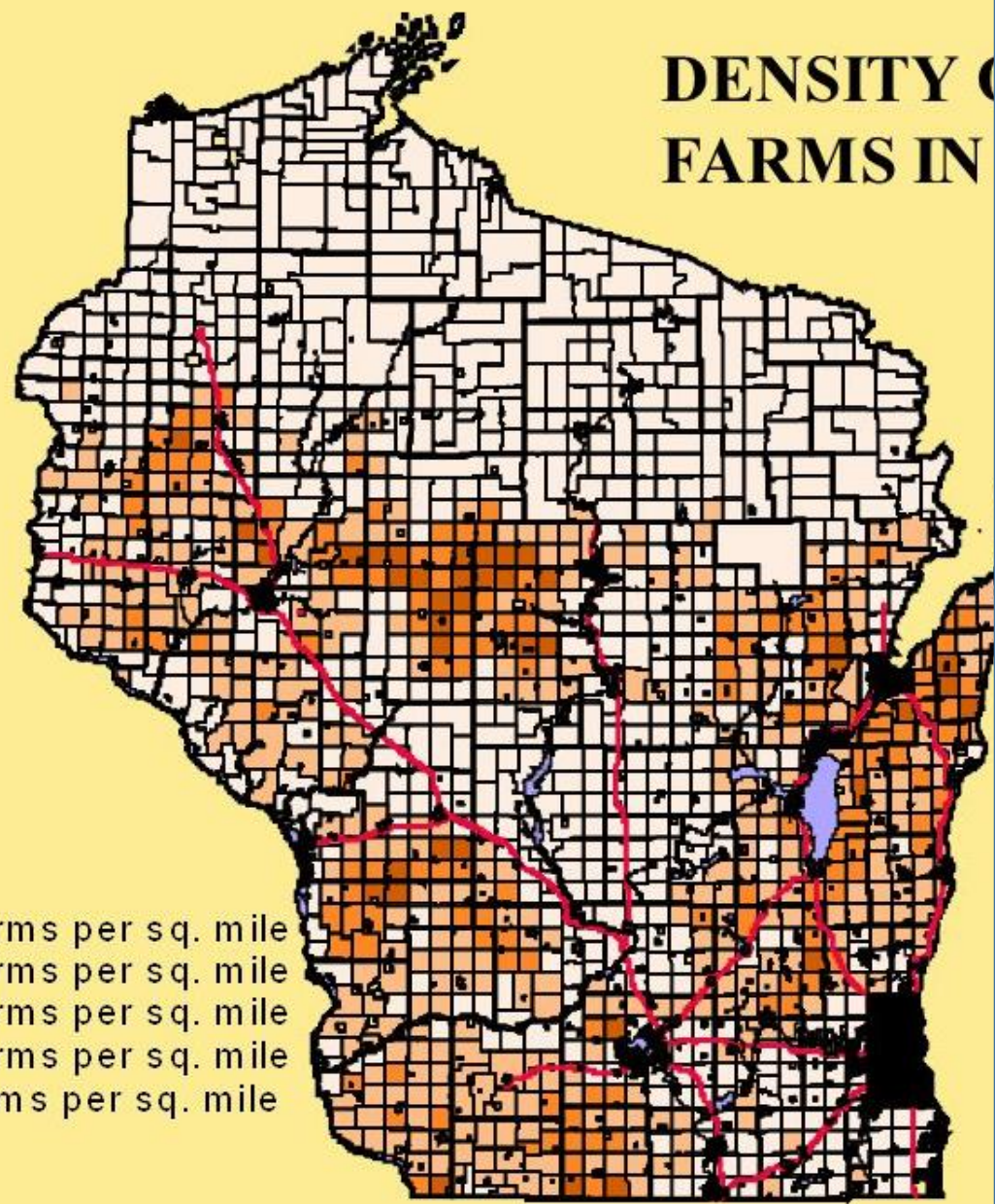
➤ Corn Silage

- Marathon County: 37,800 acres (2016) Rank 1
- Clark County: 34,700 acres (2016) Rank 2

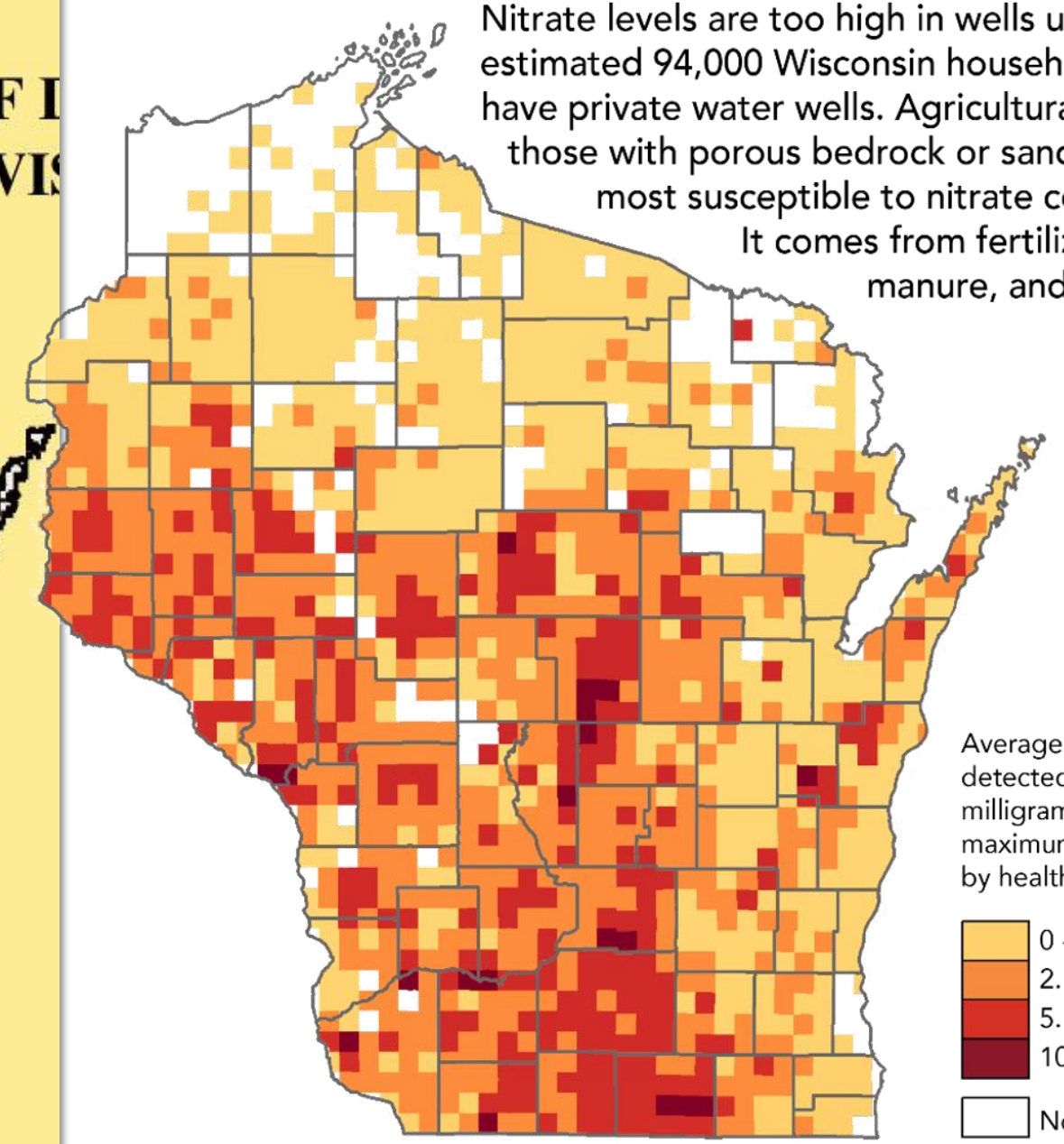
➤ Dairy Production

- Marathon County: 61,000 cows (2016) Rank 2
- Clark County: 68,000 cows (2016) Rank 1

DENSITY OF FARMS IN WIS



Nitrate levels are too high in wells used
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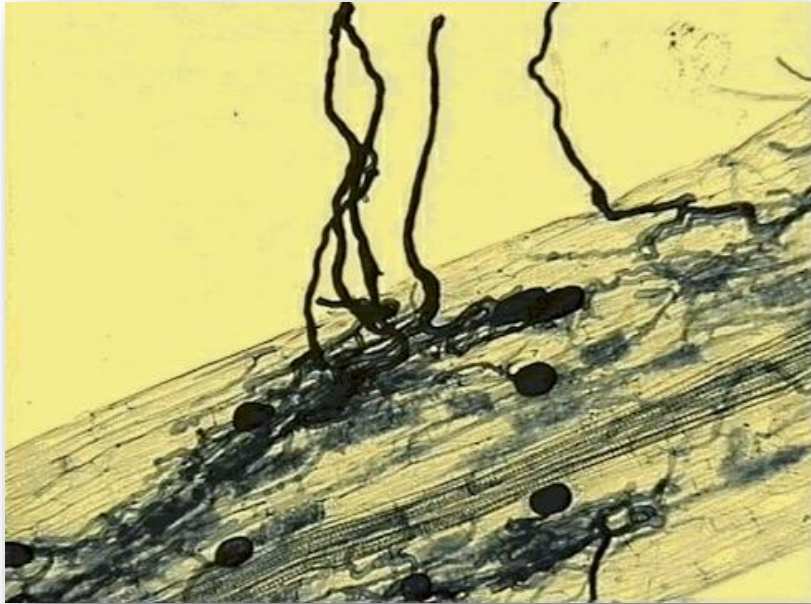


Soil Biology



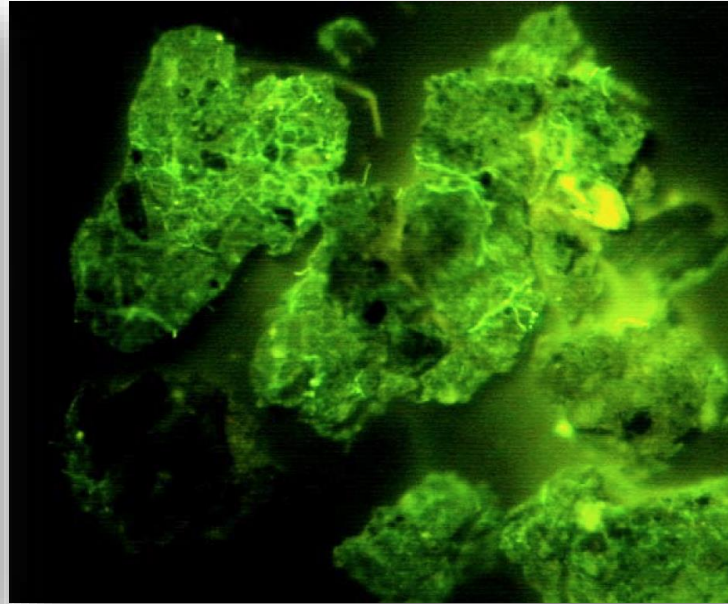


Soil Biology – Symbiotic Relationships



Mycorrhizal fungi

Rockstars of
the Rhizosphere



Glomalin

Snot of
the Soil



CAUTION

It is possible to till the snot out of the soil

Fall Tillage

A combine harvester is shown in the background, harvesting a cornfield. The foreground shows rows of corn plants, with the soil between the rows exposed and dark brown.

Surface
drastically
exposed

DATCP approved Nutrient Management action:
10,000-20,000 gal manure allowed as long as it is
incorporated with tillage. Erosion and soil type
restrictions may apply



Followed by
manure and
tillage

Winter spreading

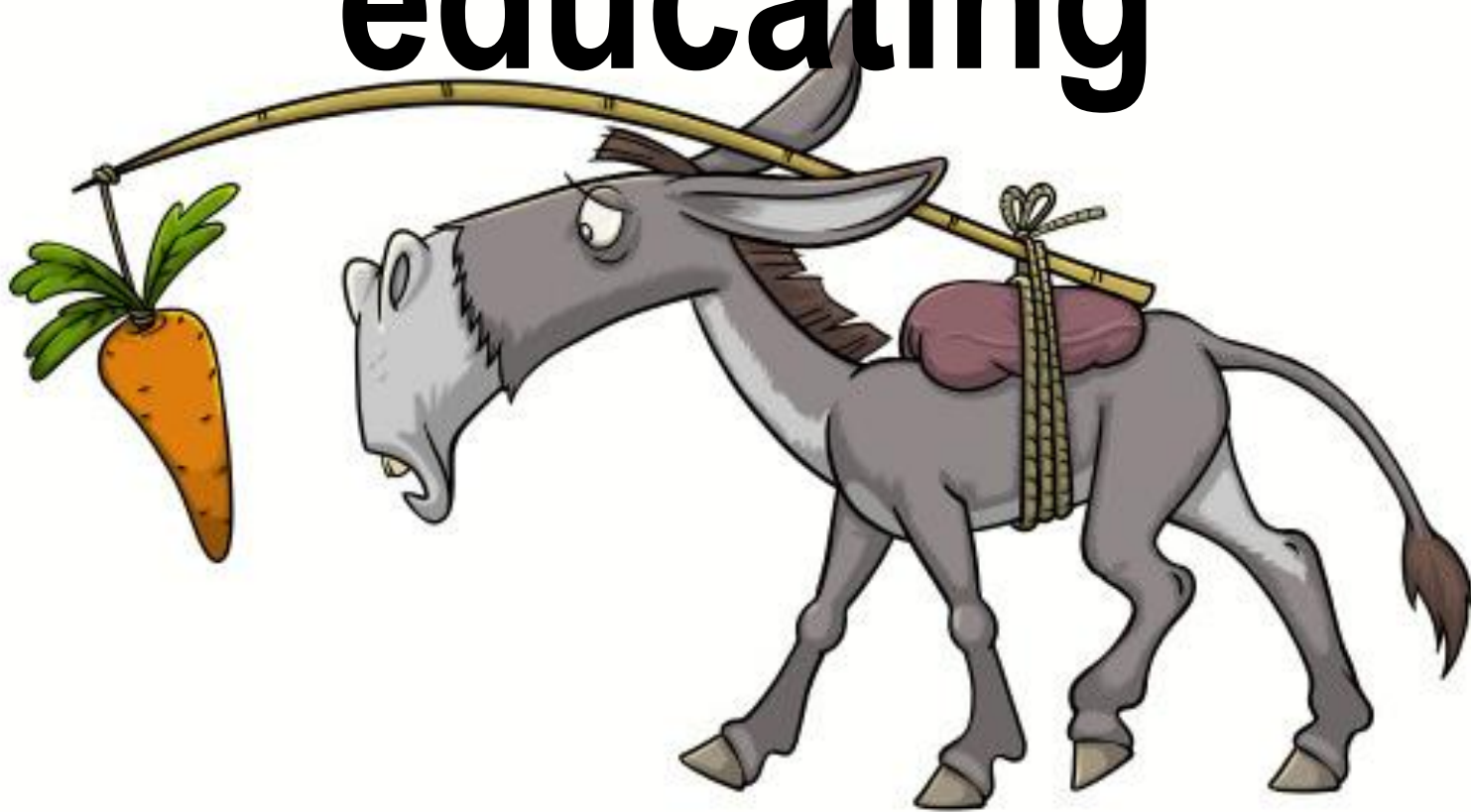
DATCP approved Nutrient Management action:
Continuous winter spreading of manure allowed on
approved frozen acreage



Disconnect of knowledge



Incentivizing not educating





Loss of revenue
and sustainability



TOP SOIL

8.8 tons of dirt/a

contains highest
fertility and biology
for sustainable yield



Nutrient runoff in to water = Everybody's loss

DATCP approved Nutrient Management action:
10,000 gal manure applied in a SQMA (area prone
to flooding conditions), with a vegetative 'buffer on
edge of field.

Half the manure applied on this 35a field was lost
into the Little Eau Pleine



Soil Health & Conservation

The Importance of Soil Biology for Soil Health

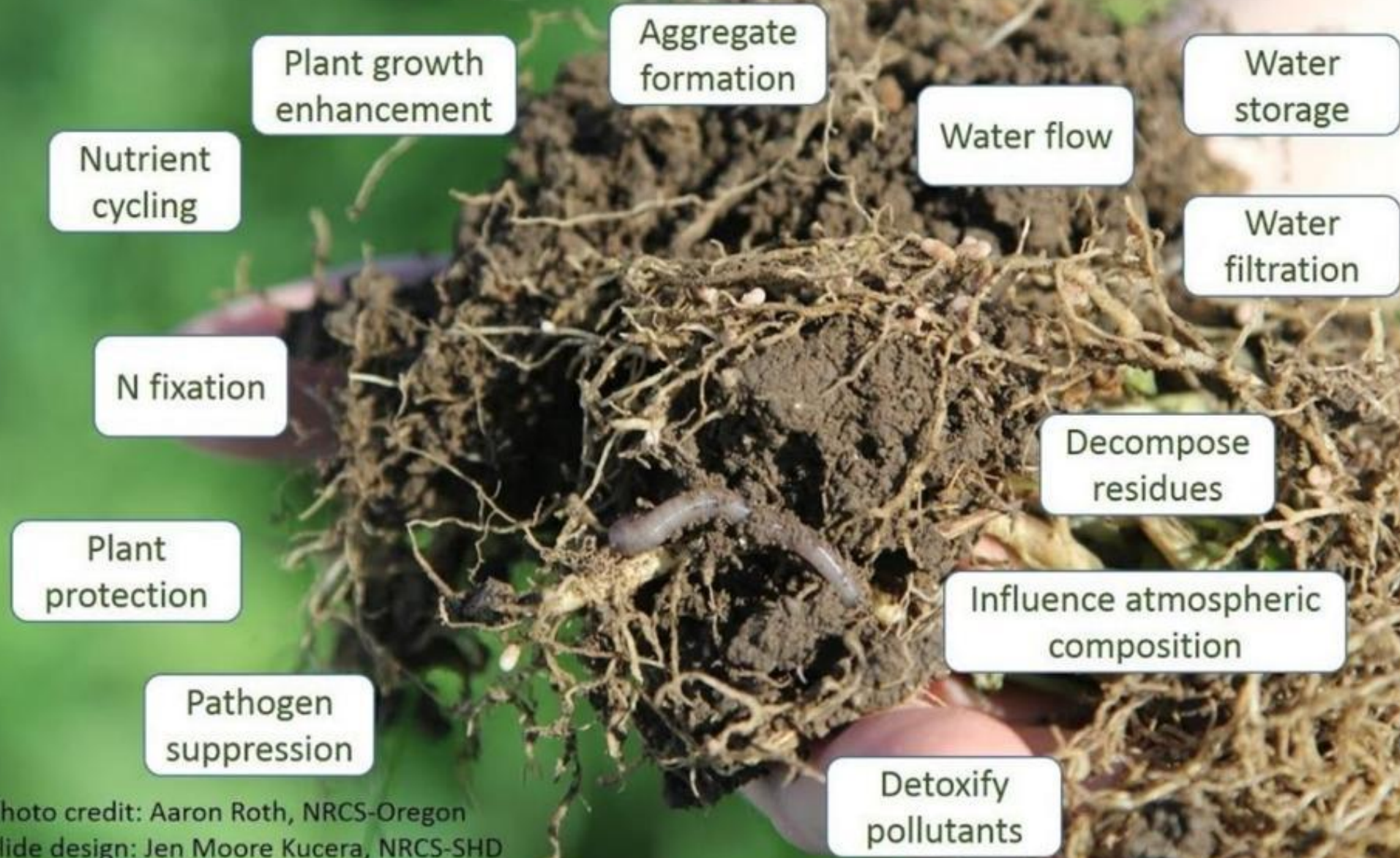


Photo credit: Aaron Roth, NRCS-Oregon
Slide design: Jen Moore Kucera, NRCS-SHD



**Minimum-No
Till**



**Low
Disturbance
Manure
applications**



Managed grazing



Precision Yield Plans



Conservation plans



**Cover crops
regenerates soil biology**

A microscopic view of a plant root with mycorrhizal fungi. The root is a light greenish-brown color, and the fungi appear as a dense, dark, branching network of hyphae covering the root surface.

**and
creates**

Mycorrhizal fungi creating more avenues for roots on crops to obtain water and nutrients

A photograph of a corn plant with its root system exposed. The plant is green and healthy, and the roots are a light brown color, showing a dense network of fine roots and larger taproots.

**more
nutrient
uptake
crops**

A close-up photograph of several ears of yellow corn. The corn is bright yellow and appears to be freshly harvested, with some husks still attached.

by

**biomass cover to
suppress weeds
for less herbicide
applications**



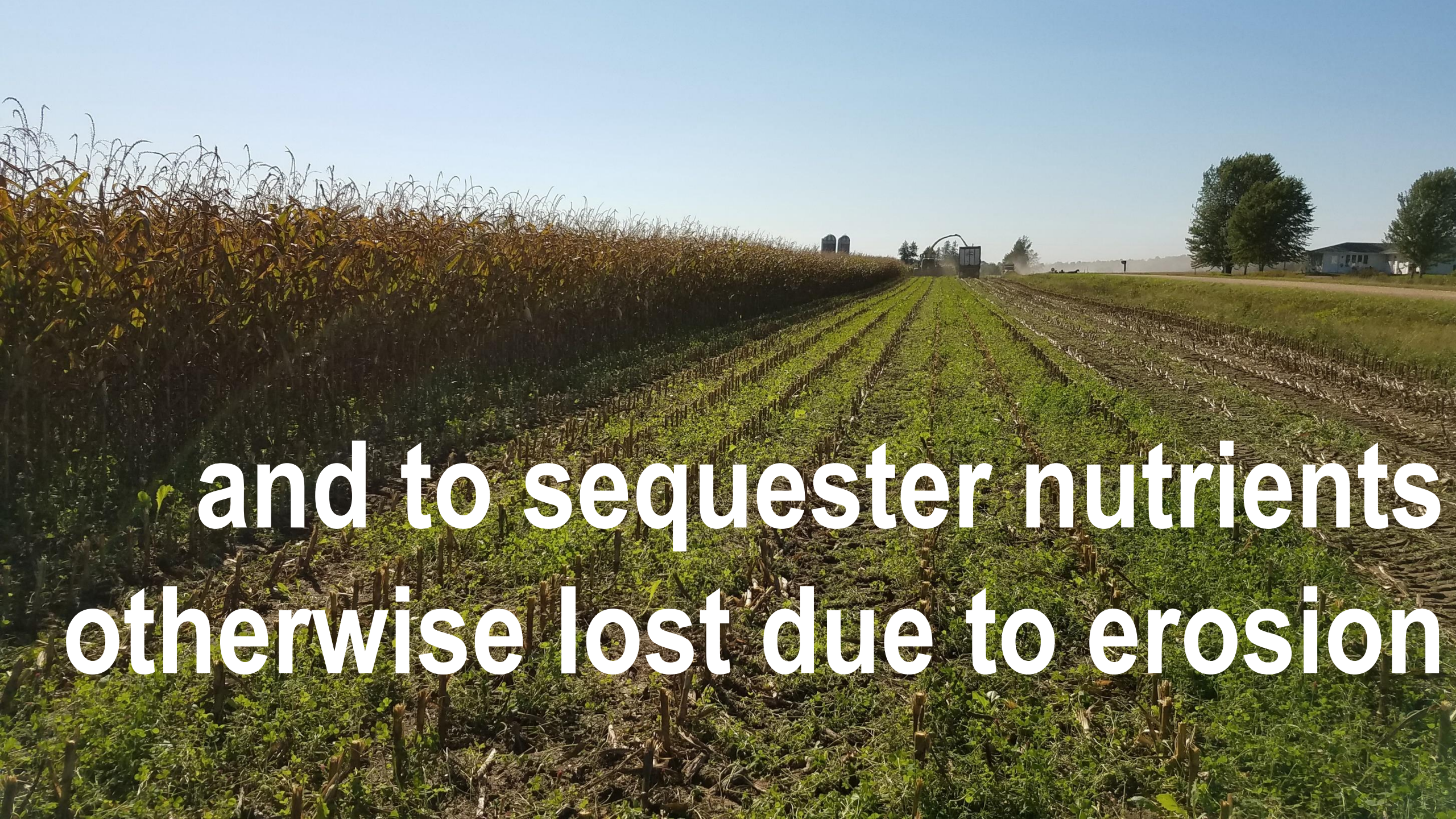
Brassica cover crops are cited to suppress and eliminate harmful soil nematodes, that can drastically reduce yield and are hard to control otherwise



Synergy with biology and allelopathic benefits



growth to aid in manure
management



**and to sequester nutrients
otherwise lost due to erosion**



Partners

Halder Bridge
Bar & Grill



RIVER ALLIANCE
of WISCONSIN

Thank You!

In finding common ground in soil and water conservation



Ancestor Acres
100% Grassfed Beef
Bob & Tammy Brandt



Obituaries Business Lifestyles Entertainment

BREAKING TOPICAL FEATURED

DE PREVENTION | A POPULATION AT RISK

farmers struggle to prevent suicide

HLBERG dwahlberg@madison.com Jan 27, 2019 6 min to read

**STOP THE LOSS OF RETURN ON
INVESTMENT AND POLLUTION OF
WATER**





Educate & Applicate



This isn't just an agriculture problem, it's *all* our problem....

But farmers are the only ones working towards a solution....

What are city centers doing?



A backhoe sits next to a portion of sewer line that will be replaced after an underwater leak caused up to 100 million gallons of waste to flow into the confluence of the Eau Claire and Chippewa rivers near Eau Claire's downtown.

Rich Kremer/WPR

After Major Sewage Leak, Eau Claire Working To Replace Broken Pipe

Up To 100 Million Gallons Of Sewage Leaked Into Chippewa River

By Rich Kremer

Published: Monday, December 12, 2016, 2:40pm

REPORT: 3.7 million gallons of raw sewage leaked into Wisconsin River

By WSAW Staff | Posted: Mon 3:05 PM, Jan 29, 2018 | Updated: Mon 5:47 PM, Jan 29, 2018



WAUSAU, Wis. (WSAW) -- The city of Wausau estimates 3.7 million gallons of raw sewage flowed into the Wisconsin River when a sewage line became plugged.

7 Investigates spoke with Public Works Director Eric Lindman last week who said raw sewage plugged a sewage line on the north side of Sturgeon Eddy Road, near the intersection with Wisconsin Street.

Lindman said that line carries a million gallons of sewage a day from the southeast side of Wausau, across the Wisconsin River and to the wastewater treatment plant.

Lindman spoke with the Marathon County Health Department, who said at this point there is not a public health impact, though they recommend any fish caught be washed and cooked thoroughly.

A homeowner called the public works department Jan. 23 about a smell, said Lindman, which is how they found out about the plugged line.

The city said the amount represents a very small the overflow event.



MMSD dumps untreated sewage into rivers, Lake Michigan

Posted: 6:17 PM, Jun 19, 2018 **Updated:** 8:11 PM, Jun 19, 2018

By: Ben Jordan



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Up To 100 Million Gallons Of Sewage Leaked Into Chippewa River

By Rich Kremer

Published: Monday, December 12, 2016, 2:40pm

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FEATURED TOP STORY

City dumps nearly 75 million gallons of sewage into bay

By RICK OLIVO rolivo@ashlanddailyress.net Aug 6, 2018 0



What can you do?

- Invest in research towards conservation practices
- Enforcement of excessive runoff of manure (no more winter spreading)
- Update SNAP Plus and UW recommendations to accommodate conservation practices
- Maintain farm watershed groups
- All land conservation office be fully staffed (Clark County)
- Comprehensive education programs for farmers

Renaissance of Wisconsin policy

- 1948-49; new era in state policy toward the natural environment...where citizens had once seemed willing to tolerate pollution as a public necessity, they increasingly defined it instead as an unwarranted threat to the welfare of the community.
 - *Consuming Nature*, Gregory Summers



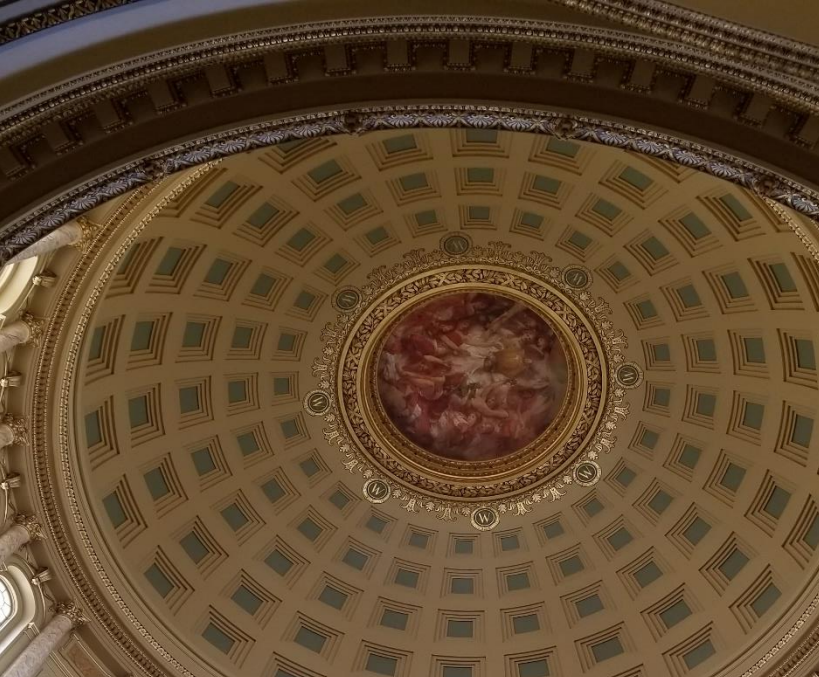
A wide-angle photograph of a lush green field, likely corn, stretching to a flat horizon. In the distance, a line of trees and a few structures are visible under a bright, hazy sky with scattered clouds. The sun is positioned high in the sky, creating a strong glow and lens flare effects.

Conservation is a state of harmony
between men and land

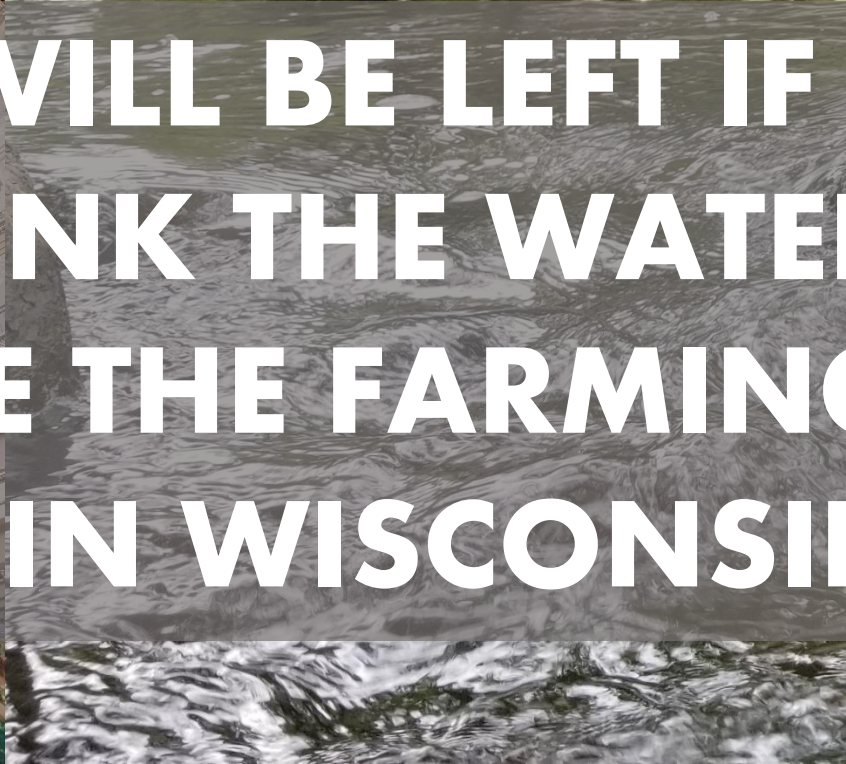
Aldo Leopold

FORWARD





**NO ONE WILL BE LEFT IF YOU CAN'T
DRINK THE WATER OR
PRESERVE THE FARMING CULTURE
IN WISCONSIN**





A global map showing atmospheric concentrations of carbon monoxide and carbon dioxide. The map uses a color scale where blue and green represent lower concentrations, and yellow, orange, and red represent higher concentrations. High concentrations of carbon dioxide are visible over the Northern Hemisphere, particularly in the mid-latitudes. Carbon monoxide concentrations are also shown, with higher values in the tropics and over the oceans. The map is overlaid with a grid of latitude and longitude lines.

Cover crops take CO₂ and turn it into carbon in the soil



2006 / 03 / 14

Global Modeling and Assimilation Office

Carbon Monoxide Column Abundance [1.0×10^{18} molec cm^{-2}]



Carbon Dioxide Column Concentration [ppmv]



