



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

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Press Conference on Year of Clean Drinking Water

Governor Evers Focuses on Clean Water in Biennial Budget

MADISON, WI – This morning Representatives Amanda Stuck, Staush Gruszynski and Senator Dave Hansen held a press conference in Green Bay on the importance of clean drinking water to communities in Northeast Wisconsin and supporting Governor Evers' investments in clean water in his Biennial Budget.

“Wisconsin has an abundance of freshwater resources and we are the envy of states across the country and countries around the world simply because of how much water we have in our state. However, while we have a large quantity of water, there is plenty of work to make sure that the water we do have is clean and safe,” Stated Rep. Amanda Stuck.

“I am glad that Governor Evers has recognized this fact and has declared it the ‘Year of Clean Drinking Water’, as part of that plan, the Governor has proposed to provide \$40 million to help water utilities work with homeowners to replace antiquated lead service lines in their homes, with the funding to cover up to 50% of the cost of replacing the lines,” said Rep. Stuck. “No amount of lead is safe, especially for young children and it’s great to see the Governor emphasize this issue in his budget.”

“Another serious threat to our drinking water, groundwater and surface water is the complex compounds referred to as PFAS, which many of us are just beginning to understand. If you live in the Town of Peshtigo and Marinette area or in Madison, we are hearing about contamination from these compounds from Tyco and Truax Field.” stated Sen. Dave Hansen.

“I am extremely pleased that Governor Evers not only recognizes the danger these compounds pose, but that he is taking it seriously by including funding in his budget to start addressing this growing problem,” said Sen. Hansen.

“Governor Evers is bringing science back to the Department of Natural Resources and has made water quality a key focus by creating five new science positions tasked with researching water quality and contamination issues affecting our state,” stated Rep. Staush Gruszynski.

“These positions, coupled with increased funding for county conservation staff, will help communities across the state clean up local waterways, reduce the frequency of algae blooms, and begin to eliminate the toxic dead zone in Green Bay,” said Rep. Gruszynski. “I am proud to support Governor Evers’ budget, and I look forward to working to move common sense clean water solutions forward in Wisconsin.”

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