

The Water Quality Protection Checklist

As the Speaker's Water Quality Task Force works to find solutions and the legislature continues its 2019-2020 session, Wisconsin Conservation Voters has compiled a checklist to ensure all lawmakers understand what success is, and how to address the state's water quality crisis in a comprehensive manner.

To properly protect your constituents and the state of Wisconsin from the harmful effects of unsafe drinking water, which is linked to cancer, diabetes, infant brain damage, lifelong learning and behavioral problems, and many more negative health outcomes, you must:

Draft legislation, or support rulemaking, to incorporate a water quality standard for nitrate pollution in targeted performance standards for manure.
Provide adequate and ongoing funding for county conservationists, water quality data collection, and staff at the U.S. Geological Survey to conduct water quality mapping.
Draft legislation to increase CAFO fees to cover the cost of staff necessary to oversee the CAFO permitting program.
Draft legislation to increase cost-share to farmers, with a priority in sensitive areas.
Adopt AB 21 to modernize income requirements and make wells that human beings use – not just farm animals – eligible for replacement.
Adopt the CLEAR Act (SB 302/AB 321), which will require the DNR to establish standards for emerging toxins like PFAS in our drinking water, surface water, groundwater, soil, and air.
Adopt SB 371/AB 399, which will provide \$40 million in bonding authority for communities to replace lead pipes.
Adopt the SCHOOLs bills to require testing for lead in schools (SB 423) and in daycares and summer camps (SB 424) and remediate when necessary.