

What's do these municipalities have in common?

Fitchburg

Dane County

River Falls

Grafton

Sun Prairie

Middleton

Waukesha County

Beloit

Mukwonago

Weston

Manitowoc

Darlington

Whitewater

Brown Deer

Stevens Point

Ashland

Bristol

Bayfield

Menomonee Falls

DeForest

Egg Harbor

Plymouth

Wisconsin Water Star



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Water Star Coordinator

Water Star

Inspire, guide and recognize municipalities for exemplary work in groundwater, surface water and recreation



Water Star's Development:



Water Star recognizes efforts

Surface Water



Improving water quality
Decreasing runoff
Addressing land use



Water Star recognizes efforts

Groundwater



Protect groundwater quality

Address degraded grh2o

Protect quantity –

Conservation & recharge

Wildlife and Habitat



Protect high quality ecosystems

Restore degraded ecosystems

Link big and small habitats



Recreation & Human Health

Promote recreation & enjoyment while protecting the waters

Protect human health: microbes and toxins





Water Star

- *On-line application*
- *No Cost (yes, free!)*
- *Not an audit program*
- *Self-administered*
- *Customized*



water star
WISCONSIN

guiding, inspiring and recognizing municipalities for exemplary efforts in
surface water groundwater recreation

- ★ about the program
- ★ sponsors & endorsers
- ★ Water Star municipalities
- ★ minimum requirements
- ★ FAQs
- ★ media releases
- ★ contact
- ★ go to application
- ★ demo application

★ WHY BECOME A WATER STAR COMMUNITY?

First, to be publicly recognized for your good work through designation ceremonies and local and state-wide media releases.

Second, to promote your community as a responsible unit of government and a good place for people to live and businesses to locate and thrive.

★ WHO CAN BECOME A WATER STAR COMMUNITY?

Water Star is designed for all types of municipalities including cities, villages, counties and towns. We recognize that larger villages, cities and towns may have an easier time meeting the requirements to be designated a Water Star. The Water Star Steering Committee is interested in working with smaller and more rural municipalities to make this program work well for them.

What is the Water Star program?

Water Star is designed to honor municipalities who do outstanding work to provide their communities with safe and abundant groundwater; lakes and streams protected from polluted runoff; maintain and enhance desirable aquatic habitats; and provide appropriate recreational opportunities for their citizenry.

Starting on the 40th anniversary of Earth Day, Water Star will celebrate the work that top municipalities of all sizes do to protect and improve their water resources.

Water Star believes municipalities who meet these challenges should be thanked and celebrated. Download the [Water Star brochure \(pdf\)](#) for more information.



★ Apply Now!



<http://www.waterstarwisconsin.org>

Bronze – Silver – Gold



Bronze 40% of potential points



Silver 50% of potential points



Gold 65% of potential points

65%? Not all actions are smart or needed for a specific municipality

Water Star Communities



Gold: Dane County, Fitchburg, River Falls, Grafton,
Sun Prairie, Middleton

Silver: Mukwonago, Waukesha County, Beloit, Weston

Bronze: Manitowoc, Darlington, Brown Deer, Whitewater,
Stevens Point, Ashland, Bayfield, Bristol, Plymouth,
Menomonee Falls, Egg Harbor

Community Pride

- Water Star logo on website
- Signs at entrances to the community

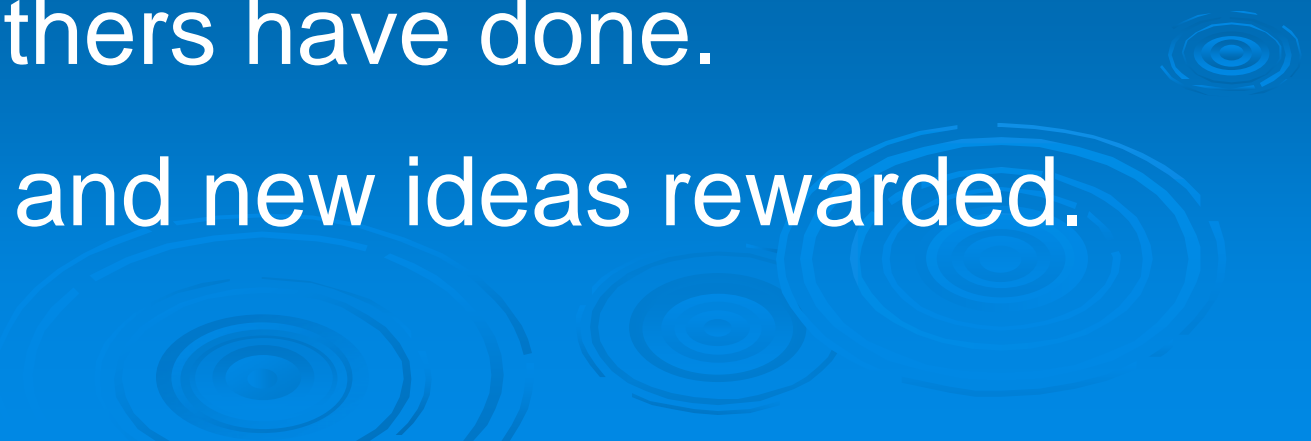


Let people know you care about water

- Citizens, elected officials, employees
- Potential new businesses



Better Water Quality

- Many easy activities available – can make improvements without significant resources
 - Many important activities to protect surface and groundwater, guidance on what others have done.
 - Creativity and new ideas rewarded.
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Water Star Partners

Private Sector:

MSA Professional Services

Natural Resources Consulting

(now Stantec)

Ruekert-Mielke

Water Star Partners

Rock River Coalition

Town & Country RC&D

UW-Extension/UW Colleges

Wisconsin DNR

Wis. DOA Coastal Management

Wisconsin Public Service Comm.



Next Steps

- Webinar series July – September 2011
- Workshops offered
- Annually application taken off-line, for changes to actions, answers and points
- Website back on-line in February
- Hope to add special taxing districts

Become a Water Star at

www.waterstarwisconsin.org

Application takes 2.5 – 3 hours
to complete, and can be done
by multiple individuals