Madison and Dane County Environmental Health Report Card 2010



Introduction

- Data collected from multiple sources
 - Including public health professionals and agencies throughout County, State, and Federal levels
- Comparisons to:
 - National and state health promotion agendas
 - Existing State and Federal standards
 - Other communities

Data and Grading System

- Inclusion of new datasets, potential areas of concern, and emerging issues
- Continued the use of the Arrow Grading system started in the last edition
 - The grading system demonstrates progress and areas that need improvement overall and comparison with last edition of this report
- Continued to refine the section evaluating the sustainability of Madison and Dane County environmental resources

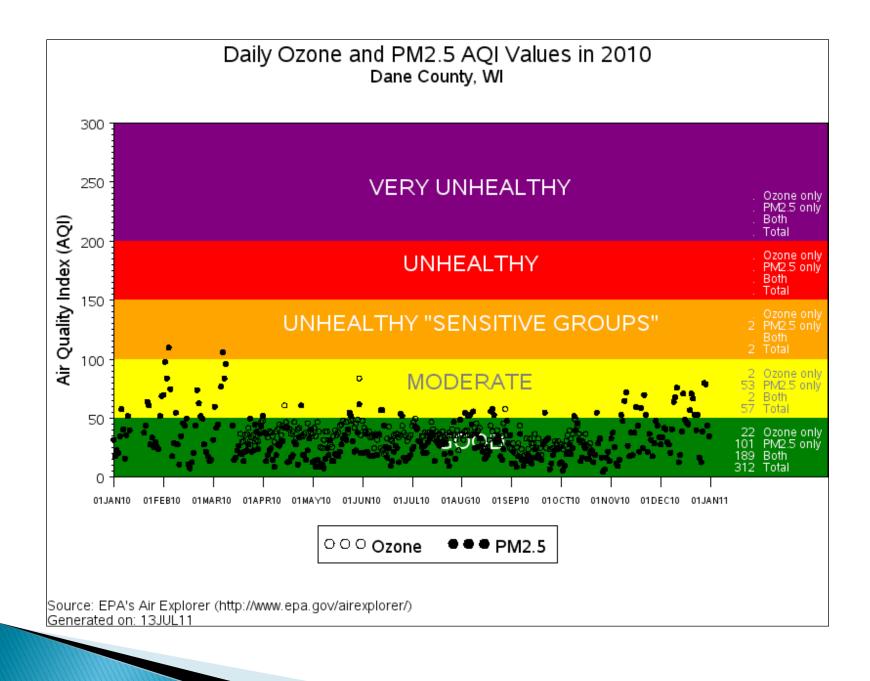
Air Quality - Summary

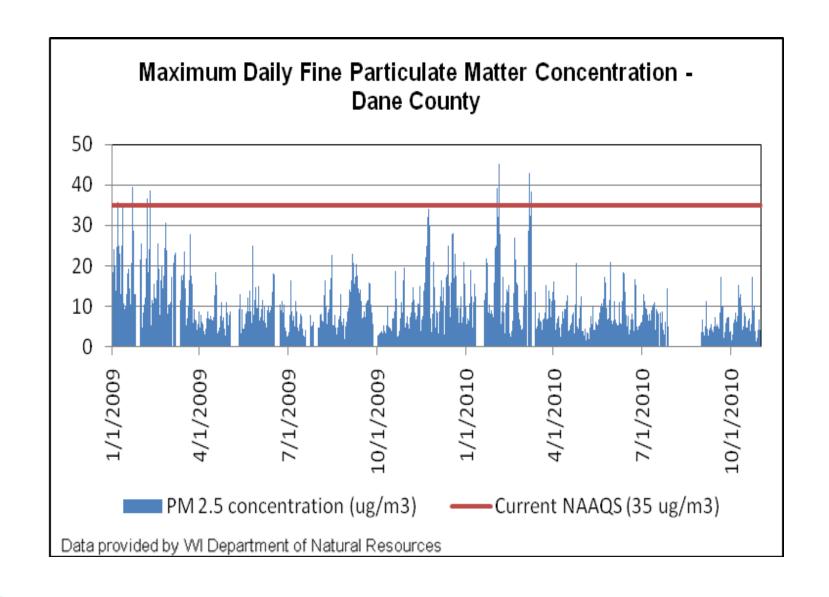
Good News:

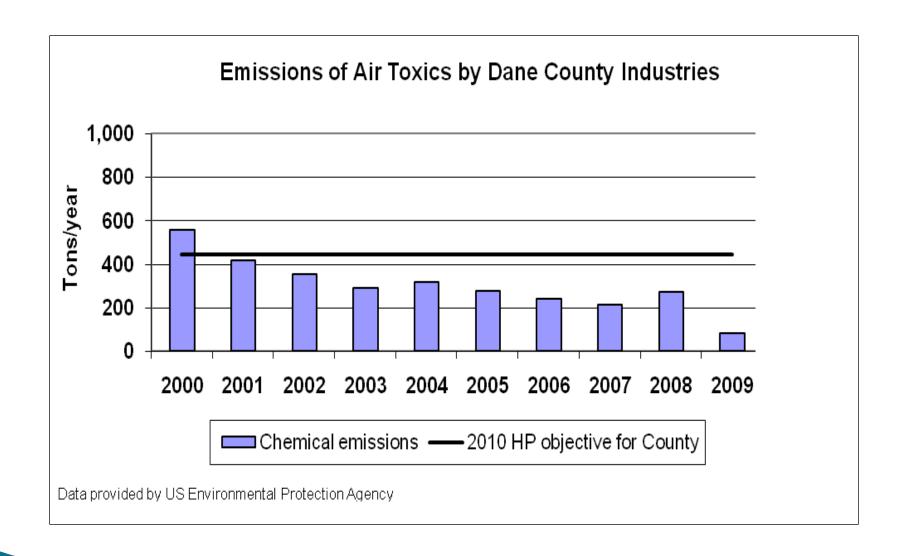
- There were zero days in 2009 and 2010 that exceeded the current federal and state standards for Ozone
- Continued reduction in reported air toxics from industry
- Consistently good air quality during 2009 2010

Bad News:

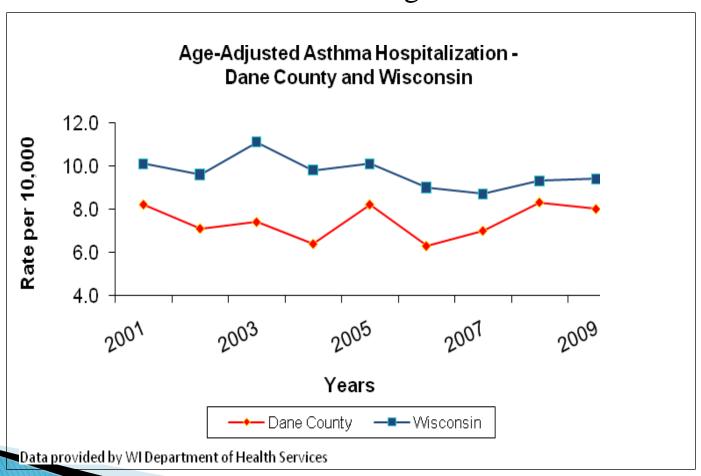
- Days still occur with unhealthy quality for sensitive populations; mainly driven by PM 2.5
- Asthma-related hospitalizations have increased but still meets the Healthiest Wisconsin 2010 objective
- Cars and trucks greatly contribute to air quality problems and the levels of overall traffic volumes have increased.







- Exposure to air pollution (indoor and outdoor) can trigger and/or exacerbate asthma symptoms.
- ❖A potential causative role that pollution may play in the initiation of asthma is still under investigation



Air Quality - Example of Individual and Community Actions

Individual Actions

- Whenever possible walk, bus, bike, carpool, and/or use mass transit systems
- Purchase energy efficient products such as appliances, electronics, etc. (ex: Energy Star approved)
- Purchase renewable energy from providers

Community Actions

- Support, promote, and improve mass transit systems and other alternate modes of transportation
- Continue to develop alternative energy sources
- Monitor air quality and develop initiatives to decrease emissions

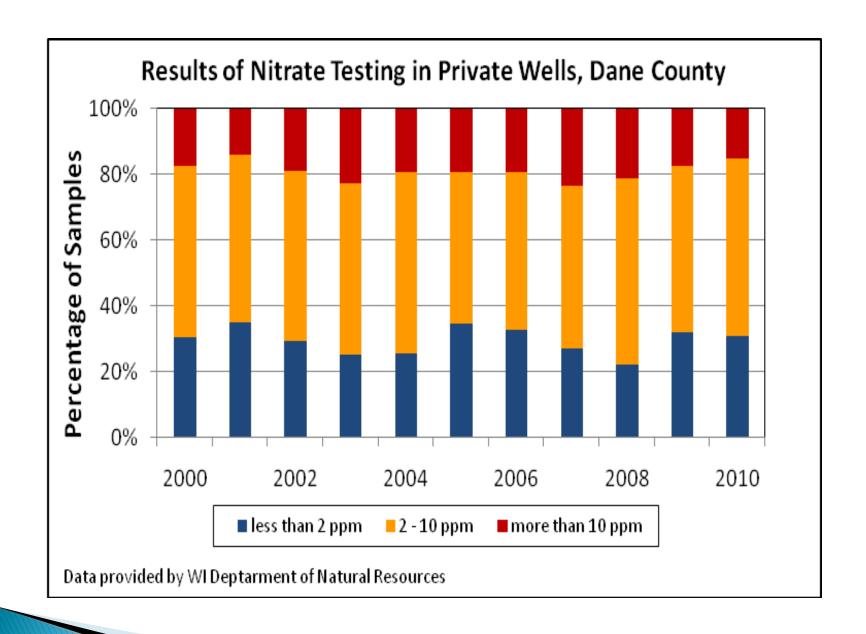
Water Quality – Summary

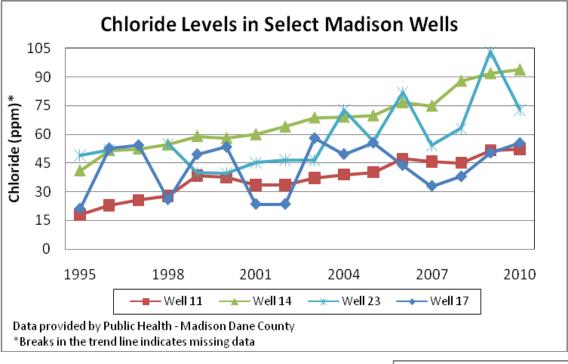
Good News:

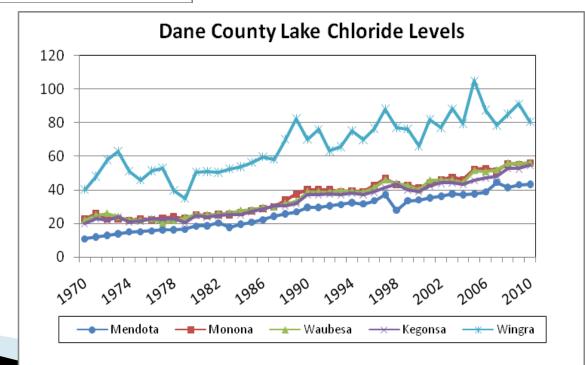
- Low manganese concentrations found in most Madison homes
- Waterborne illness rarely occurs in Dane County

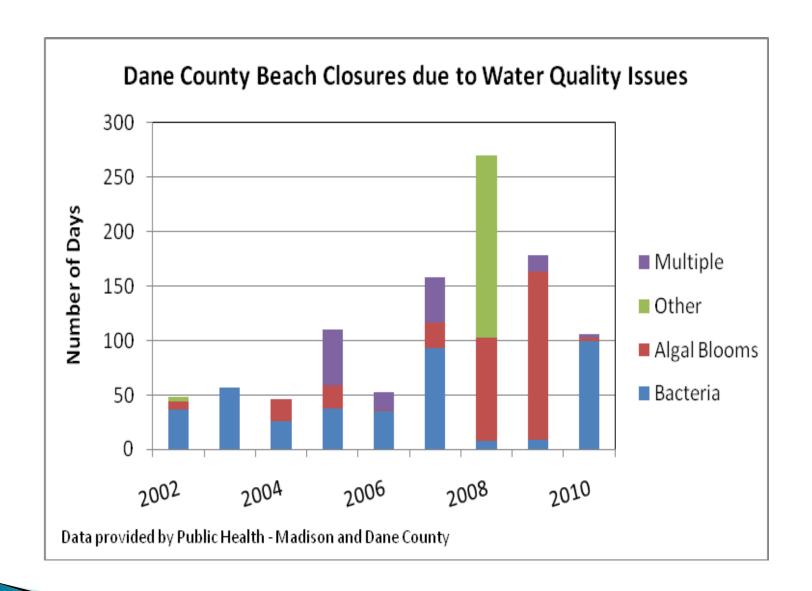
Bad News:

- Nitrate levels high in some Dane County homes and private wells tested infrequently
- Chloride levels increasing in municipal wells and surface waters
- Algae and bacteria causing problems in lakes and leading to beach closures









Water Quality – Human Health

- Recreational water use
 - Four cases of illness related to harmful algal blooms were reported in 2009; four additional cases reported in 2010.
 - *Over consumption of contaminated fish may increase the risk of chronic health conditions including cancer and neurological effects.
 - Fish consumption advisories are available from both the WI DNR and PHMDC

Water Quality – Individual Actions

- Know your water quality
 - Private wells: annual testing for nitrate and bacteria
 - ❖ Public wells: Consumer Confidence Report
- Reduce or eliminate use of chemicals and lawn care products on property
 - Salt for melting ice, pesticides, and fertilizer should be used judiciously
- Keep yard waste and leaves out of street gutters
- Oils, solvents, and cleaning chemicals should be disposed of properly.
- Know and follow fish consumption guidance

Water Quality – Community Actions

- Monitor surface water sources and public drinking water supplies to ensure water quality
- Update fish advisories (as necessary) to reflect changes in levels of pollutants and/or federal regulatory standards.
- Reduce salt use on Dane County roadways, parking lots, and sidewalks.
- Take necessary actions to reduce water quality problems in a timely manner.

Food Protection – Summary

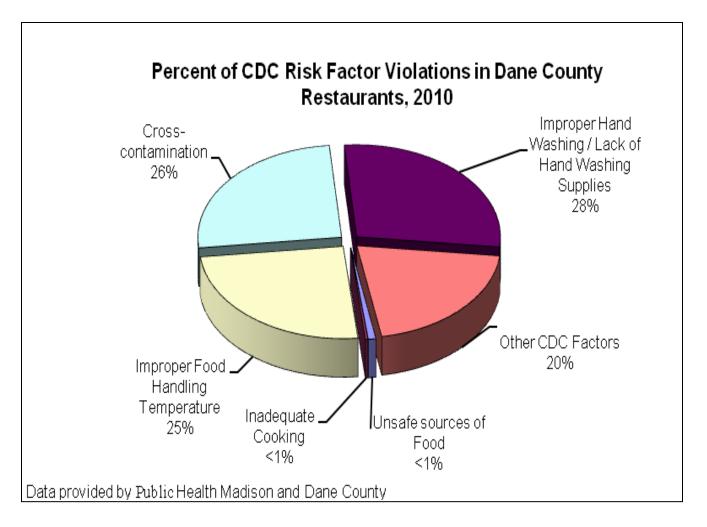
Good News:

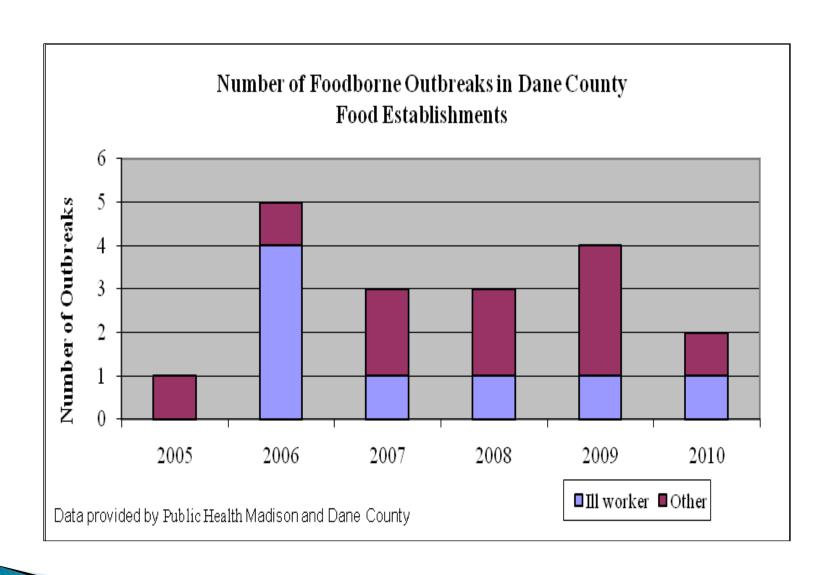
- Many high quality places to eat
- Few foodborne outbreaks in 2009 and 2010 that led to multiple cases

Bad News:

- Problems that may lead to illness continue to persist in local restaurants and food vendors
 - Examples: Improper food handling and ill workers

- ❖The 3 most common violations in 2009 and 2010 were:
- 1.) Inadequate hand washing
- 2.) Improper food handling temperature
- 3.) Cross-contamination





Food Protection – Individual and Community Action

- Individual Actions
 - Wash your hands
 - Keep cold food cold and hot food hot
 - ❖Keep the fridge at or below 40°F
 - Report illnesses and concerns to Public Health
- Community Actions
 - Inspect food establishments
 - Investigate potential outbreaks
 - Educate food service workers

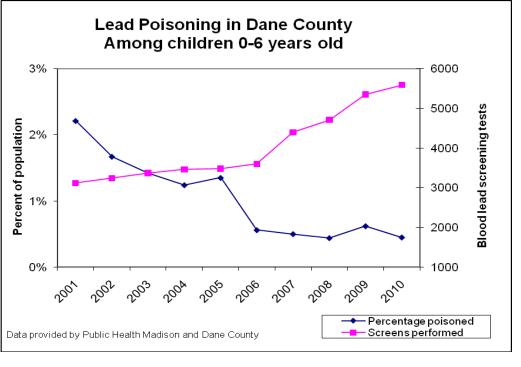
Healthy Homes & Communities – Summary

Good news

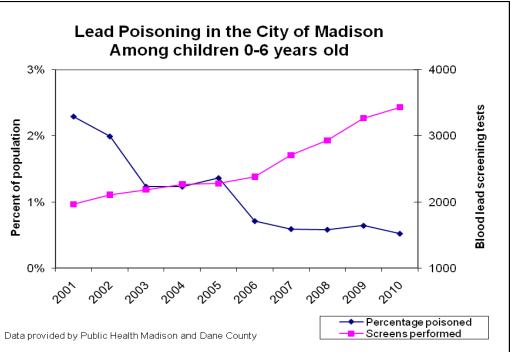
- Low number of childhood lead poisoning cases in the City of Madison and Dane County
- Dane County and the State of Wisconsin have passed smoking bans that prohibit smoking in all workplaces (including bars and restaurants)
 - > Dane County ban took effect August 2009
 - > Statewide ban took effect in July of 2010

Bad news

- *Mold remains an issue in many Dane County homes; nearly 20% of all health complaints to PHMDC are mold related.
- Approximately 40% of homes with a reported radon test were higher than the US EPA guideline of 4 picocuries of radon per liter of air (4 pCi/L).



- ❖ At both the City and County level:
- Number of reported childhood lead poisonings has consistently decreased.
- Number of children screened has continued to increase



Healthy Homes & Communities – Individual and Community Actions

Individual Actions

- Test your home for lead and radon
- Take action if lead and/or radon levels are high
- Quit smoking or establish restrictive policies in your home and automobile to reduce exposure to second hand smoke

Community Actions

- Continue to provide outreach services and/or low cost testing options for lead, radon, and mold
- Continue to enforce restrictive smoking policies established at the City, County, and State level

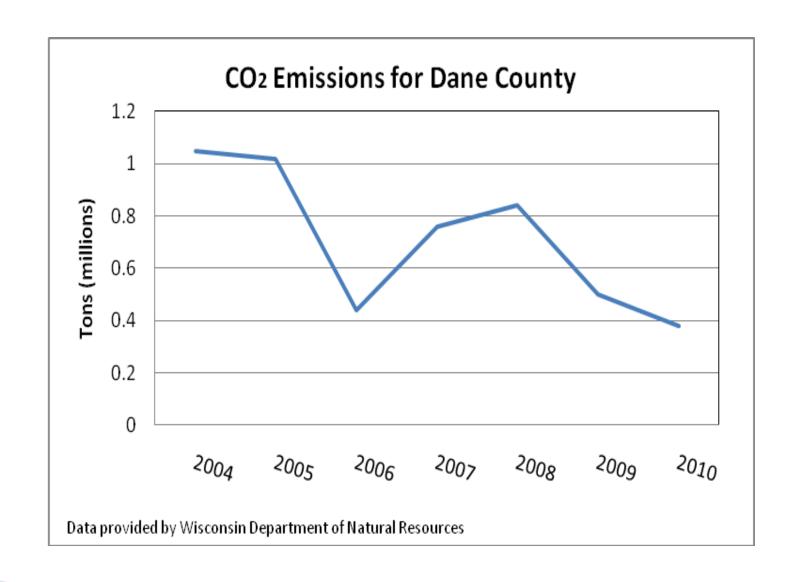
Sustainability-Summary

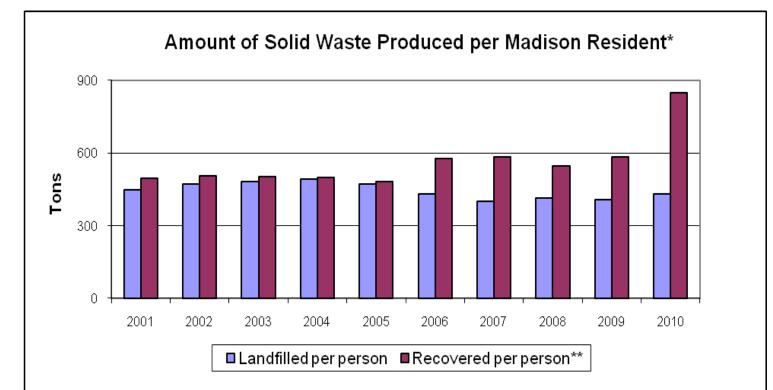
Good news

- ❖Point source emissions of CO₂ continues to decrease
- The amount of recycled material per City of Madison resident has increased approximately 70% since 2001
- Annual per capita residential municipal water use has consistently decreased since 2005

Bad news

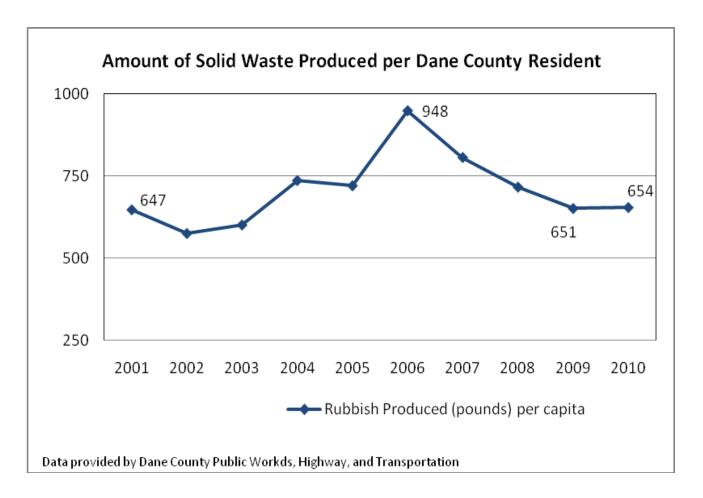
- Data for mobile and area source emissions of CO₂ unavailable
- At county level, an approximate 13% increase in the amount of waste delivered to landfill
- Only 23% of annual waste is recycled at County level
- Draw downs in aquifer water levels reported



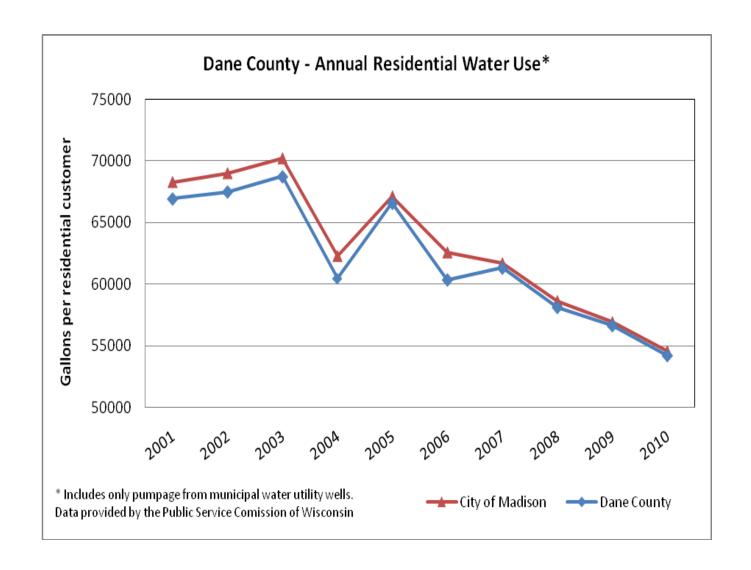


^{*} Includes solid waste collected by the City of Madison. Waste collected from businesses and large apartment complexes by private haulers is not included.

^{**} Accounts for waste that is recycled, composted, reused, or otherwise diverted from the landfill.



- ❖At the county level, the amount of material deposited in the Dane County landfill has slightly increased over the past decade but has decreased steadily since 2006.
- ❖ Much of the recycling at the county level has been privatized and the data is no longer available for surveillance purposes.



Sustainability – Individual and Community Actions

Individual Actions

- Adjust individual behavior and lifestyle choices to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and water usage
- Increase individual recycling efforts and purchase products derived from recycled material
- Purchase electricity generated from renewable sources

Community Actions

- Design and support programs to increase energy efficiency and water conservation
- Provide and expand alternatives to land filling waste
- Increase availability and promote the use of energy from renewable sources



Thanks for your attention

Additional questions?