



Water Quality

Ensuring Clean and Safe Drinking Water

How the Madison Water Utility produces safe and clean water

- **From aquifer to your faucet:** The Madison Water Utility (MWU) uses a series of wells, pumps, filters, storage tanks, and distribution lines to bring its customers safe water. The MWU uses chemical treatment to ensure the absence of bacterial contamination.

What are the Current Concerns with Water Quality on Madison's East Side?

- **Where and how can contaminants enter the system?** Contaminants can enter the system at the well from either naturally occurring or industrial chemicals.
- **Potential contaminant sources:** Contaminants found in groundwater originate as either naturally-occurring or industrial chemicals.
- **Well 15:** This well has shown increasing concentrations of a single volatile organic compounds (VOC), namely tetrachloroethylene [PCE], that is starting to approach the EPA drinking water standard.
- **Wells 7 and 8:** These wells have naturally occurring concentrations of iron and manganese that can cause taste and odor in the drinking water. These naturally-occurring groundwater minerals cause discolored water at the tap when they accumulate in the distribution system over long periods of time

What is the Citizen's Advisory Panel advice to achieve the desired water quality?

- **Well 15:** Implement a treatment system for Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC)
 - Anticipated cost: \$2.8 million
 - Anticipated increase to yearly water bill: \$8.40
- **Well 7 and Well 8:** Implement an Iron and Manganese treatment system at each well, similar to what was constructed for Well 29.
 - Anticipated cost: \$12 million
 - Anticipated increase to yearly water bill: \$36

For more project information:

Al Larson, P.E.

Madison Water Utility

119 East Olin Ave

Madison WI 53713

608-266-4651

ALarson@

madisonwater.org

[www.cityofmadison.com/water/plans/](http://www.cityofmadison.com/water/plans/eastWaterSupply.cfm)

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