

# Currents & Waves

Summer 2023



## Importance of Water System Maintenance and How It Affects Water Quality By Water Superintendent, Adam Breunig

### Private Well Inspections and Water Testing

In 1992, the City of Wisconsin Rapids adopted a program to protect groundwater by requiring proper abandonment OR ten (10) year inspection and five (5) year permitting of private wells which are located on any premises served by the public water system. Unused or improperly abandoned wells are a significant threat to groundwater quality and if they are not properly sealed, these wells can provide a direct conduit to channel contaminated water into the groundwater. The purpose of the well program is to allow individuals to keep their well provided the well is structurally compliant, produces bacteriologically safe water, and has no cross connections with the city water system. In order for the well on your property to be properly permitted, please follow these steps:

1. Well Inspection

If the well is new, **has not been inspected by a certified well driller or pump installer within the last 10 years**, or any modifications to the well have occurred since the well was last permitted, it is required that the well be inspected. Please contact Jerry Halbersma, WW&LC Water Inspector/ Licensed Pump Installer at **715-422-9041** or email [jerry.halbersma@wrwwlc.com](mailto:jerry.halbersma@wrwwlc.com)

2. Water Test

Your well water must be tested for bacteria. WW&LC will supply you a water test kit when the well is inspected. You will need to return your water sample to our office to complete the test. Please make sure to follow the instructions for obtaining your water sample.

3. Application Form and Fee

Fill out the application form that arrives with your letter requiring permit action and return it to Jerry on the day of the inspection. The cost for the inspection, water test, and permit is \$200.00.

4. Permit

You will be mailed a ten (10) year well inspection letter after the following is completed:

- ✓ Your well passes inspection.
- ✓ We have your completed application form.
- ✓ A safe water sample is completed.
- ✓ Payment is received.



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**Water Works & Lighting  
Commission**  
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Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495-0399  
Office - 715.423.6300  
Service Department - 715-423-6310  
[wrwwlc.com](http://wrwwlc.com)

## Electric Rate Increase Public Notice

Wisconsin Rapids Water Works and Lighting Commission (WW&LC) has filed an application with the Public Service Commission (PSC) to increase electric rates. The adjustment is necessary to cover inflationary increases in the operation and maintenance expenses that will allow the utility to continue to provide reliable, safe, and quality service to our customers. The last electric rate increase was approved in 2020.

In its application to the PSC, the utility requested an overall increase of \$1,490,891, or 5.23% above present rates. The request is detailed in WW&LC's electric rate application submitted to the PSC on January 26, 2023. After review, PSC staff proposed a revised increase in rates of \$1,512,248, or 5.31%. The actual change to individual customers will vary with electric usage, class of service, and the final rates approved by the PSC. If the application is approved per PSC staff recommendation, the average residential customer using 660 kWh of electricity per month would see a monthly increase of \$4.95, or 6.16%.

A hearing on the application has been scheduled for Tuesday, July 18, 2023, at 10:00 am (CDT). This virtual hearing has no physical location. Members of the public may attend by internet or telephone or listen to the live broadcast on the PSC's website at <http://psc.wi.gov>. Connection information is available on the utility's website at <http://www.wrwwlc.com>.

A person may testify in this proceeding without becoming a party and without attorney representation. A person may submit testimony in one of the following ways:

- **Web Comment:** Go to the PSC website and click on the "File A Comment Online" button under "Public Participation". On the next page select the "File a Comment" link that appears for docket number 6700-ER-106. Web comments shall be received no later than July 20, 2023.
- **Oral Comment:** Spoken testimony at the public session.
- **Mail Comment:** All comments submitted by U.S. Mail shall be received no later than the day before the hearing. A mail comment shall include the phrase "Docket 6700-ER-106 Comments" in the heading, and shall be addressed to:

Docket 6700-ER-106 Comments  
Public Service Commission  
P.O. Box 7854, Madison, WI 53707-7854

The PSC intends to webcast this hearing live on its website under the "PSC Live Broadcast" button.



The recipient of the Water Works and Lighting Commission 2023 scholarship is Benjamin Klingforth from Lincoln High School. Ben is a graduating senior enrolled in the Information Technology/Engineering Program at the University of Wisconsin Stout. Congratulations to all 2023 graduates.

### A Greener tomorrow can start today!

You can make a difference towards a cleaner environment. Sign up for the WWLC Green Energy Program for as little as \$1.70 per block to support clean renewable energy in our community. Purchase as little as one block of power per month or as many as 10 blocks from a clean resource like wind or hydro. To find out more on purchasing clean energy, please contact Conservation Manager, Shawn Reimer, at 715.451.1805, or email [shawn.reimer@wrwwlc.com](mailto:shawn.reimer@wrwwlc.com).