#### JANUARY 2017

# THE TRACKING TIMES

## GEARING UP FOR 2017

What would you like to see from Tracking this year?

The **Environmental Public Health Tracking** team will be reapplying for our grant in the next few months, and we want to hear from you!

- Is there something you'd like to see or be able to do on the <u>data portal</u>?
- Are there resources or toolkits we could create to make your job easier?
- Do you need more training on how to use Tracking data?

Let us know your wants and needs (no idea is too big or too small!), and we will thoughtfully consider them as we prepare to write our grant application.



## TRACKING IN ACTION

In each newsletter, we share a Tracking success story.

#### Identifying Nitrate Sources to Improve Future Planning in Rock County, Wisconsin

Rock County Health Department (RCHD) staff noticed a steady uptick in the amount of nitrate in private wells over the last 20 years. About one in three well samples analyzed by RCHD had unsafe nitrate levels in 2014.

In their <u>County Environmental Health Profile</u>, the amount of nitrate in public water supplies was nearly two times higher than the Wisconsin average. The average amount of nitrate in private wells was higher than most of Wisconsin as well. But where was the nitrate coming from? <u>Read more...</u>



How can we identify nitrate sources in a community?

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# YOUR TRACKING TOOLBOX

In each newsletter, we share environmental health articles and resources.

#### Wisconsin Tracking Featured in CDC Video

After the mass carbon monoxide poisoning event that took place at a Wisconsin ice rink in 2014, the Tracking team put alerts in place to help us know when these poisoning events happen. This <u>video</u> <u>from CDC</u> talks all about the event and the new alert system.

#### Brush Up on Epidemiology Terms

While you're using our data portal, you might run into words like age-adjusted rate, confidence interval, or suppression. If you need a refresher on



these terms—especially in relation to our portal—watch <u>Tracking 270: Portal Terminology and Data Details</u>, our latest training module.

#### **Updated Climate and Health Toolkits**

Our friends in the Wisconsin Climate and Health Program recently updated all of their <u>toolkits for public</u> <u>health professionals</u>. These toolkits contain fact sheets, talking points, and general information on nearly a dozen climate-related topics, such as winter weather, vectorborne disease, and flooding.



stop by and see us sometime

We'd love to talk in person. Check out our <u>calendar of</u> <u>events</u>, stop by, and say hello!



### DROP US A LINE ANYTIME

Have questions about Tracking? Unsure how to use your data? Want to share a success story? Got feedback? We want to hear from you!

**Environmental Public Health Tracking** 



### JOIN THE CONVERSATION

Interested in Wisconsin environmental public health? Connect and share with public health colleagues by joining the envhealth listserv.





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