

**MICHIGAN SEPTIC SUMMIT | 11.06.19** 

Protecting Fresh Water from Septic System Pollution



Liz Kirkwood, Executive Director, FLOW
Dr. Joe VanderMeulen, Publisher, Nature Change
#misepticsummit

# Thank you to all of our Michigan Septic Summit sponsors!





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Landscape Architecture Planning, Engineering & Environmental Services











# **Thanks to Our Community Partners:**

- Au Sable Institute
- Clean Water Action
- Leelanau Clean Water
- Michigan Resource Stewards
- Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council
- The Watershed Center Grand Traverse Bay

#### FLOW's Sixth Great Lake: Michigan's Groundwater Crisis



#### SOURCES OF GROUNDWATER CONTAMINATION

Urban runoff





Fracking

Agricultural runoff (Nitrate contamination)





Leaking underground storage tanks, landfills

Legacy contamination (closed sites)





Failing septic systems

Abandoned wells





Chemical contamination (eg. PFAS & TCE)





#### Purpose of the Septic Summit

- To learn about recent and emerging research on the human health and environmental risks posed by old and failing septic systems.
- To characterize local and regional programs and regulations.
- To foster continued dialogue toward more effective about how to reduce risks posed by old and failing septic systems in Michigan.

## MICHIGAN SEPTIC SUMMIT | 11.06.19



#### **Desired Outcomes**

- o Greater recognition and understanding of the risks posed by old and failing septic systems.
- o Better understanding of local, regional and state options for controlling the risks posed by septic systems.
- o Momentum and a discussion on how to work together for adopting pollution control measures across Michigan.

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## <u>Basics: Construction & Maintenance of Septic</u> <u>Systems (Old & New)</u>

Scott Kendzierski, Dir. Env. Health Services, Health Dept. of Northwest MI Scott Kendzierski, REHS, MS Director of environmental Health Services Health Department of Northwest Michigan

# Construction and Maintenance of Septic Systems

#### Wastewater (Septic) Systems

- Designed to treat domestic sewage and discharge effluent to the environment through a sewage treatment and disposal system (STDS)
- Treatment occurs through a combination of physical, biological and chemical processes
- Objective: separate solids, liquids and fats, oils and greases and remove harmful fecal contamination (ie. bacteria, pathogens and limiting nutrients).
- Decentralized systems are necessary in many rural areas not provided with municipal sewer or community systems.
- Disposal vs. Treatment
- Oversight and Maintenance
- Management Programs

#### Wastewater Systems – Local Regulations

- Michigan has 45 Health Departments with separate sanitary codes for single and two-family uses.
- All have requirements for the oversight of wastewater systems within their counties or districts
- Important elements of wastewater programs require that:
  - A septic system is properly sited
  - The system is properly designed
  - The system is installed correctly
  - Assure proper maintenance
- Approval criteria include acceptable soils, separation from groundwater and isolation from surface water, drinking water wells etc.
- Design includes proper sizing for soil and groundwater properties and proposed use (ie. number of bedrooms, seating capacity, etc.)
- Installation requires a final inspection by LHDs to assure compliance with permitted design parameters

#### Other Wastewater Regulations Administered by LPH:

- Michigan Criteria for Subsurface Disposal (1994)
- The Condominium Act and Administrative Rules, Land Division Act and Septage Regulations



#### Basic Septic System Components

Septic Tank: The septic tank is a buried, water-tight container usually made of concrete, fiberglass, or polyethylene. Its job is to hold the wastewater long enough to allow solids to settle down to the bottom forming sludge, while the oil and grease floats to the top as scum.

Compartments and a T-shaped outlet prevent the sludge and scum from leaving the tank and traveling into the drainfield area.

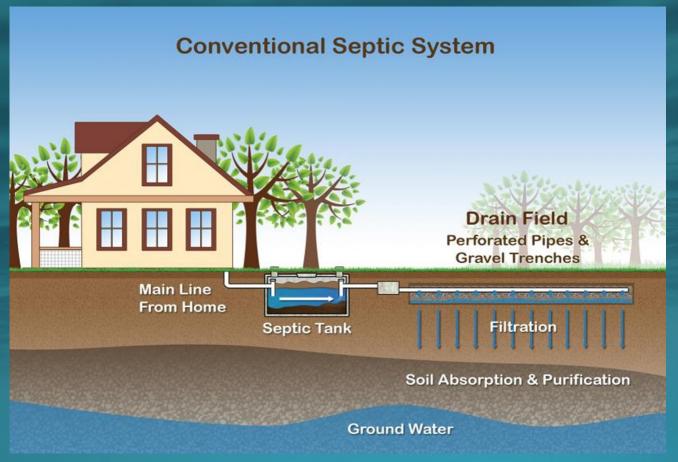
The liquid wastewater (effluent) then exits the tank is then conveyed to the drainfield for treatment and disposal.

Soil Absorption System (ie. drainfield): The drainfield is a shallow, covered, excavation made in unsaturated soil. Pretreated wastewater is discharged through piping, or other means, onto porous surfaces that allow wastewater to filter though the soil. The soil accepts, treats, and disperses wastewater as it percolates through the soil, ultimately discharging to groundwater.

If the drainfield is overloaded with too much liquid, it can flood, causing sewage to flow to the ground surface or create backups in toilets and sinks.

Finally, the wastewater percolates into the soil, naturally removing harmful coliform bacteria, viruses and nutrients. Coliform bacteria is a group of bacteria predominantly inhabiting the intestines of humans or other warm-blooded animals. It is an indicator of human fecal contamination.

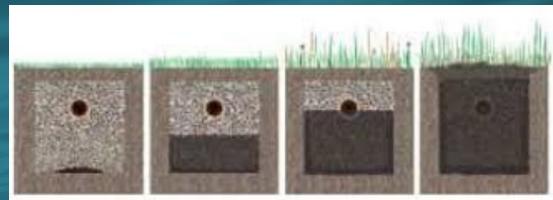
#### Typical Wastewater System Design



#### Uniform Distribution and Biomat Development

#### Biomat Development and Benefits

- Consist of Anaerobic bacteria that accumulate at the soil interfase below the drainfield
- When wastewater from your tank washes through the biomat, the anaerobic bacteria consume some of the excess nutrients and disease-causing organisms
- A healthy biomat will promote uniform distribution of effluent across the entire drainfield area



Progressive build up of organic matter in leach field and subsequent hydraulic failure

#### Wastewater System Designs

#### Conventional System

- Installed at or below the natural grade
  Primary treatment Septic Tank
- Secondary treatment Soil Absorption System.

#### Mound Systems

- Installed on fill material above natural grade
- Primary treatment Septic Tank
- Secondary Treatment Low Pressure Distribution System

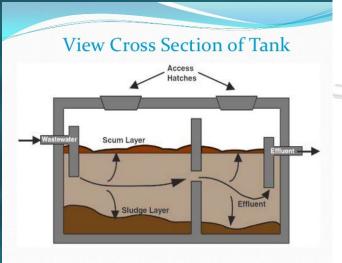
#### Advanced Treatment Systems (ATS)

- Installed on fill material above natural grade
- Primary treatment Septic Tank
- Secondary Treatment Advanced Treatment Unit
- Tertiary Treatment Low Pressure Distribution System

#### Off-Site Systems

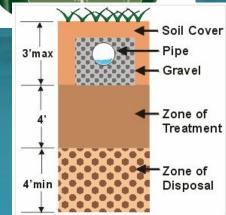
- Installed on land through an easement
- Drainfield can be any of the above

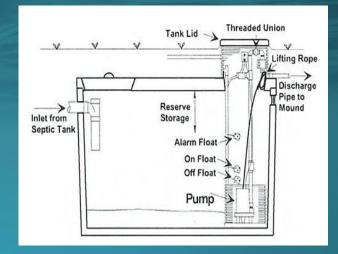














#### Wastewater Treatment

Bacteriological Indicators	Septic Tank Effluent (mg/l)	After 24" of soil
Total Coliform (TC)	10 <sup>6</sup> - 10 <sup>8</sup>	ND
Fecal Coliform (FC)	10 <sup>8</sup> - 10 <sup>10</sup>	ND

Analyte	Septic Tank Effluent (mg/l)	ATS Treatment Average	Percent Reduction
Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD)	155 – 286	6.25	96 - 98%
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	155-300	9.75	93.7 - 97%
Total Inorganic Nitrogen (TIN)	26 - 75	12.14	53.3 – 83.8%

# Oversight and Maintenance of Wastewater Systems Self Initiated: Most commonly pumping septic tanks

- response to a problem
- some will maintain routinely
- some will never maintain

**Enforcement**: LHDs required to investigate complaints

- LHD staff observations
- complaints from the public
- referrals by other regulatory agencies

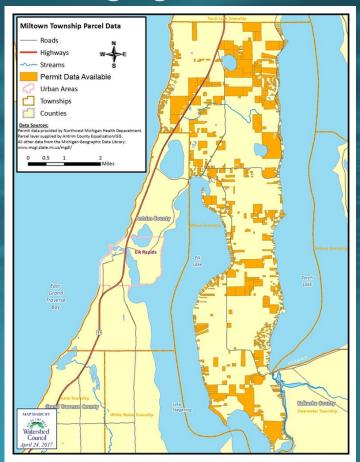
Mandatory Maintenance Programs: Requirement for routine maintenance through-

- contracts
- agreements
- operation permits etc.

Wastewater Management Programs

#### Management Programs and Emerging Issues

Time of Transfer / Point of Sale **Mandatory Pumping Mandatory Inspection Management Districts Operation Permits** Seasonal Rentals Statewide Code



# Thank You!



#### **Risks to Human Health & the Environment**

Dr. Mark Borchardt, Microbiologist/Researcher USDA Agriculture Research Service, Marshfield, WI

# When It Hits the Fan: Private Onsite Wastewater System Risks to Groundwater and Health

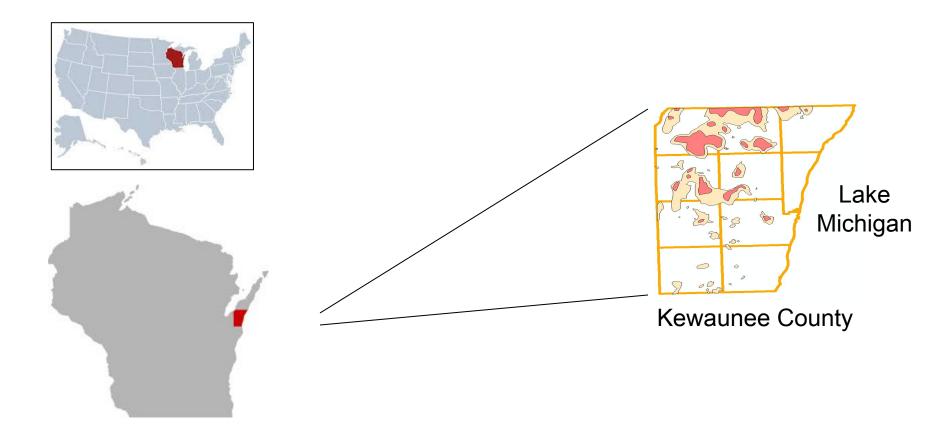
#### Mark Borchardt, Ph.D.

Laboratory for Infectious Disease and the Environment
USDA-Agricultural Research Service
USGS Upper Midwest Water Science Center

# **Key Point #1**

The density of septic system drainfields is related to private well contamination in northeastern Wisconsin

# Study Location – Kewaunee County, Wisconsin



#### Brown Water Events in Northeast Wisconsin

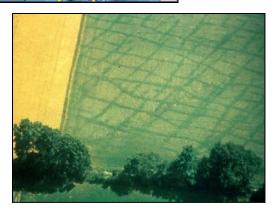


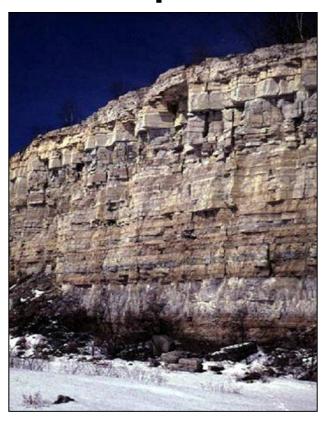


- Groundwater recharge, especially spring snow melt, can generate brown water events
- Several outbreaks associated with these events e.g., EHEC, Campylobacter jejuni
- This well is code compliant, 123 ft deep, cased to 63 ft Photos courtesy of Chuck Wagner

Silurian Dolomite Aquifer







Photos courtesy of Ken Bradbury and Maureen Muldoon

# Silurian Dolomite Aquifer Characteristics

- Dense and ubiquitous fracture network
  - little surface runoff
  - water easily infiltrates to subsurface
- Recharge
  - exceedingly rapid
  - carries surface contaminants to the water table
- Flow within the aquifer occurs primarily along bedding plane fractures
  - Little to no attenuation of contaminants within the aquifer
- Flow rates vary from 10's to 100's of ft/day

# Kewaunee County Cattle

- All cattle & calves in 2016 = 97,000
- Milk cows in 2013 = 45,500
- Milk cow herds in 2016 = 167
- Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) 15 dairy, one beef
- Approximately 700 million gallons cattle manure per year





# Kewaunee County Septic Systems

- 4822 septic systems in the county
- 540 holding tanks, 155 abandoned

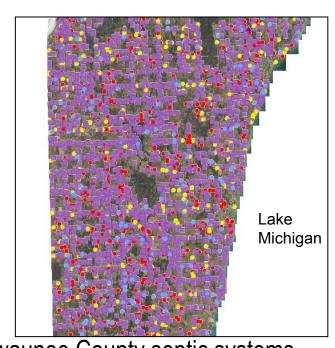
Personal comm. Lee Luft, Kewaunee County Supervisor, March 7, 2017 Legend

Purple = replaced or inspected

Red = not inspected

Yellow = holding tank

Kewaunee County septic systems Blue = abandoned system Approximately 200 million gallons septic effluent per year released to the subsurface



# Research Objectives

- 1. Estimate county-wide contamination rate for nitrate and indicator bacteria
- 2. Determine source of fecal contamination using viruses and fecal markers
- 3. Identify risk factors for private well contamination using statistical models

# Study Sampling and Analyses

- Collected 138 samples from 131 household wells in Kewaunee County
- Pump ~800 L through hemodialysis filters
- qPCR for microbial genetic targets
  - Human-specific microbes
  - Bovine-specific microbes
  - Non-specific microbes (pathogens of both people and cattle)





# Microbes: Identifying the Fecal Source

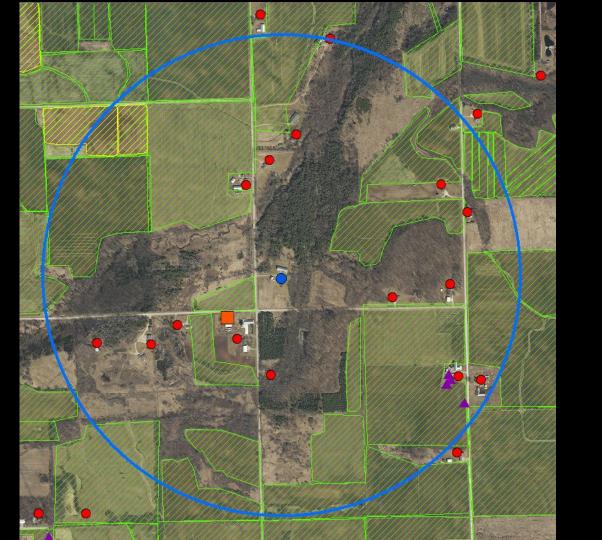
(n = 138 samples from 131 wells) (red font indicates pathogenic)

Host	Microorganism	Wells
	Adenovirus A	1
	Bacteroidales-like Hum M2	7
Human-spe	Human Bacteroides	27
cific	Cryptosporidium hominis	1
	Rotavirus A (G1 P[8])	7
	Any human microbe	33

Not detected: [human-specific] adenovirus B & C, D, F, enterovirus, human polyomavirus, norovirus GI & GII [bovine-specific] coronavirus, bovine diarrheal virus 1 & 2

#### Risk Factors Investigated

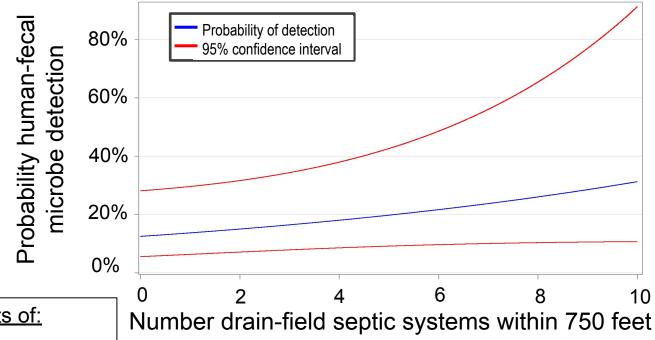
Land Use -		
<u>Agricultural</u>	Septic Systems	
	All septic types	
	Drain fields	
Bedrock Features –		
Precipitation –		
Precipitation –		
Groundwater Recharge –		
Groundwater Recharge –		
Depth to Bedrock		



- Septic system
- Manure storage
  - Exposed bedrock & sinkholes Septage field

Agricultural field

# More septic systems around a well means greater risk for contamination by human fecal microbes



Model accounts for the effects of:
Rainfall total previous 2 days
Depth to groundwater previous 14 days
Depth to bedrock

### **Key Point #2**

# The density of septic holding tanks in central Wisconsin is related to sporadic infectious diarrhea in children

#### Children's Health | Article

Septic System Density and Infectious Diarrhea in a Defined Population of Children

Mark A. Borchardt, Po-Huang Chyou, Edna O. DeVries, and Edward A. Belongia

<sup>1</sup>Marshfield Medical Research Foundation and <sup>2</sup>Department of Pediatrics, Marshfield Clinic, Marshfield, Wisconsin, USA

742

VOLUME 111 | NUMBER 5 | May 2003 • Environmental Health Perspectives

Environmental Health Perspectives, 2003, 111:742-748

# Holding Tank Capacity and Pumping Status Wood County 1991 - 1994

	1991	1992	1993	1994 <sup>1</sup>
Holding tank capacity	3,062,170	3,342,633	3,727,991	4,144,855
Expected gallons to be pumped	30,621,700	33,426,330	37,279,910	41,448,550
Reported gallons pumped	7,283,380	10,337,916	11,685,550	11,064,340
Gallons unaccounted for	23,338,320	23,088,414	25,594,360	30,384,210

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Except for "gallons unaccounted for," 1994 figures are for January through June. Note: 1994 "reported gallons pumped" are projected, based on first half pumping reports.

SOURCE: Wood County Planning & Zoning Office, September, 1994









## Study Design

- Case-control epidemiological study
- Cases (sick children) enrolled when seeking medical care at Marshfield Clinic, Feb 1997 to Sept 1998
- Controls (healthy children) randomly selected from MESA, frequency matched (2:1) by age and gender
- Structured telephone interview, 68 questions on risk factors
- Stool specimens analyzed for cause of diarrhea

### The Marshfield Epidemiologic Study Area (MESA)



### Case Definition and Exclusions

A case was defined as a child 1 to 18 years old with acute diarrhea (≥ 3 loose stools/day).

### **Exclusion criteria:**

- Chronic diarrhea
- Immunosuppression
- Antibiotic use within 48 hours before diarrhea

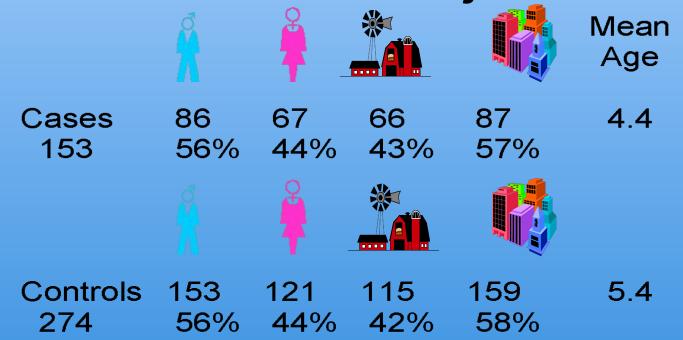
# Behavioral, dietary, and lifestyle risk factors investigated

- Person to person transmission
- Travel
- Dietary history
- Pets
- Farm activities
- Recreational water activities
- Drinking water source

## Septic System Data Abstraction

- Location of rural cases and controls determined by county parcel identifier
- Section neighbors determined by county property tax records
- Parcels with septic systems identified by improved value >\$10,000
- Septic system type and age from county sanitary permits
- Excluded closed and replaced septic systems
- Cases and controls with municipal sewer assigned septic system density = 0
- Septic system densities determined by section, 1/4 section,
   1/4 1/4 section

# Characterization of Case and Control Subjects



# Number of Septic Systems per Section (640 acres) Where Cases and Controls Resided

Туре	Mean	Range
All septic systems	14	1 - 56
Holding tanks	6	0 - 50
Drainfields	8	1 - 25
Drainfields less than 20 years old	1	0 - 5
Drainfields more than 20 years old	7	0 - 25

# Septic System Type and Density Related to Diarrhea Etiology (Significant)

Septic Type	Area	Cause of Diarrhea				
	(acres)	Viral	Bacterial	Protozoan	Unknown	
All septic systems	640	$\rightarrow$	-	-	-	
	160	$\rightarrow$	$\rightarrow$	-	-	
	40			-	$\rightarrow$	
Holding tanks	640	$\rightarrow$	-	-	-	
	160		-	-	-	
	40		$\Rightarrow$	-	-	
Drainfields	640	-	-	-	-	
	160	$\Rightarrow$		-	-	
	40	$\rightarrow$	-	-	$\Rightarrow$	

# Independent Risk Factors For Viral Diarrhea (n=18)

Risk Factor	Adjusted Odds Ratio	95% CI	P-value
Holding tanks/sec	1.08	1.02 - 1.15	0.008
Age	0.66	0.47 - 0.92	0.015
Household member with diarrhea previous 4 weeks	5.04	1.70 - 14.95	0.004

# Independent Risk Factors For Bacterial Diarrhea (n=20)

Risk Factor	Adjusted Odds Ratio	95% CI	P-value
Holding tanks / 1/4 1/4 section	1.22	1.02 – 1.46	0.026
Child inside calf hutch or pen	12.74	4.67 – 34.72	<0.001

# Fraction of Diarrhea Attributable to Holding Tanks

Etiology	Risk Factor	Percent Cases Exposed	Attributable Fraction	95% Confidence Interval
Viral	Number of holding tanks in same 640 acre section	28%	20%	2% - 42%
Bacterial	Number of holding tanks in same 40 acre / 1/4 1/4 section	35%	19%	0% - 39%

# Association between holding tank density and infectious diarrhea: Is it plausible?

- Holding tanks constitute 1/3 of all septic systems in study area
- 40% of holding tanks have some illegal discharge to surface
- In Wood County, year 2000, 40 millions gallons of holding tank wastes were unaccountable
- 19% of conventional drain fields were constructed before 1970 and are assumed failing
- Pathogenic bacteria and viruses can be transported long distances and survive for months in the environment

### **Key Point #3**

Septic systems located in vulnerable hydrogeological settings can result in disease outbreaks

#### ground. Water

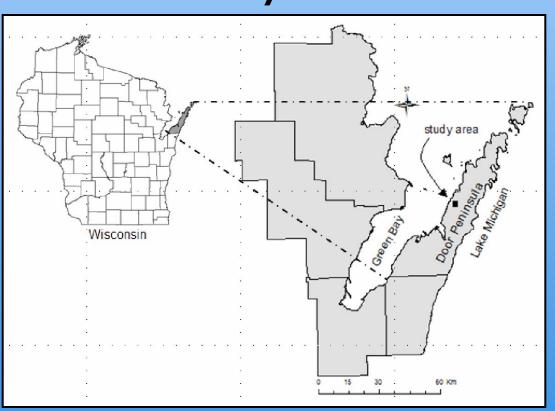
Case Study/

#### Norovirus Outbreak Caused by a New Septic System in a Dolomite Aquifer

by Mark A. Borchardt<sup>1</sup>, Kenneth R. Bradbury<sup>2</sup>, E. Calvin Alexander Jr.<sup>3</sup>, Rhonda J. Kolberg<sup>4</sup>, Scott C. Alexander<sup>3</sup>, John R. Archer<sup>5</sup>, Laurel A. Braatz<sup>6</sup>, Brian M. Forest<sup>7</sup>, Jeffrey A. Green<sup>8</sup>, and Susan K. Spencer<sup>9</sup>

Ground Water, 2011, 49:85-97

## Study Site



### **Outbreak Background**

- In early June, 2007, 229 patrons and employees of a new restaurant in Door County were affected by severe acute gastrointestinal illness, 6 people hospitalized
- New well and conventional drain-field septic system, both conforming to State code
- Hydrogeologic setting: shallow soil over densely fractured dolomite
- Epidemiologic case-control analysis indicated the restaurant's well water was associated with illness

Norovirus
Transmission
Cycle



Tap water from well: 50 genomic copies/L

Norovirus isolates from 3 sources had identical

327 bp polymerase gene sequences

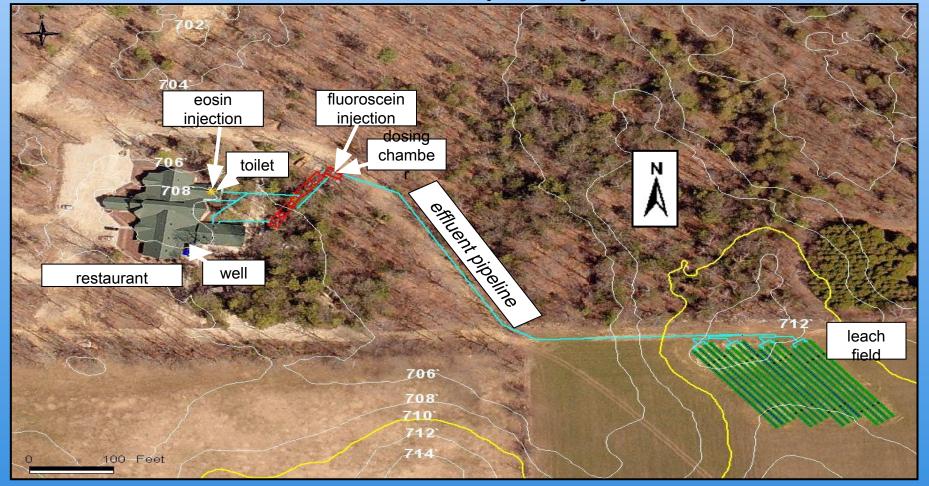




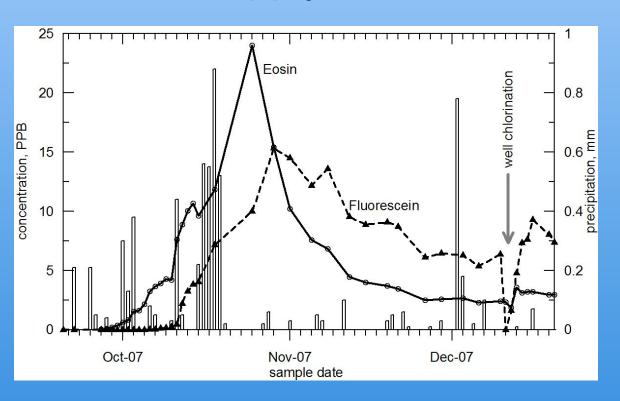
Restaurant patrons: 10<sup>4 -</sup> 10<sup>8</sup> gc/gm stool

Septic tank: 79,600 genomic copies/L

### Restaurant - As Built Septic System and Well



# Tracer concentrations in the restaurant supply well



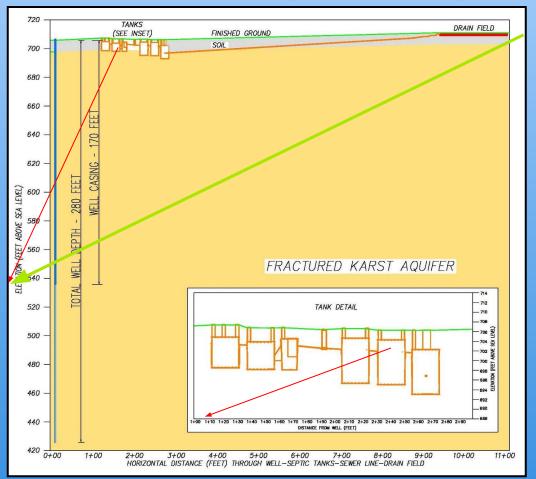
# Forensic Investigation

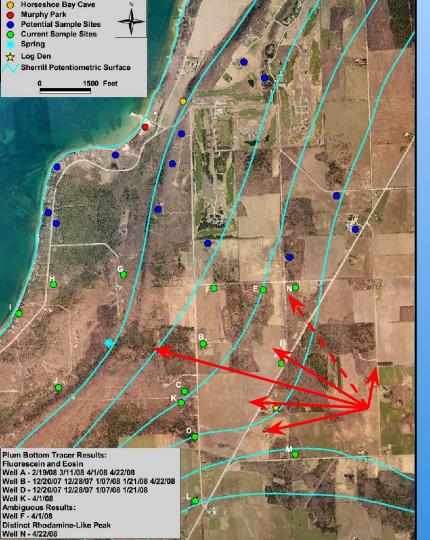




### Torn Boot Leak

### **Restaurant Cross Section**





# Regional Scale Movement of Dye from the Restaurant

Tracer velocities to offsite wells B and D are in the range of 7 to 8 m/d.

#### The Research Team

Maureen Muldoon, Ph.D. UW-Oshkosh Department of Geology Sue Spencer USDA-Agricultural Research Service

Randall Hunt, Ph.D., Joel Stokdyk, Aaron Firnstahl & Dave Owens USGS Upper Midwest Water Science Center

Davina Bonness Kewaunee County Land and Water Conservation Burney Kieke Marshfield Clinic Research Foundation











# Responding to Old & Failing Septic Systems in Mid-Michigan

Jon Beard, Senior Consultant, Public Sector Consultants

# Failing Septic Systems in Mid-Michigan: An Unseen Threat to Public Health

Jon Beard November 6, 2019



#### **About Public Sector Consultants**





PUBLIC SECTOR CONSULTANTS

### Background

- Failing septic systems are identified as a source of pollution throughout Michigan
- Information is often unavailable about the extent of the problem
- PSC has been hired by clients to
  - Understand the scope of the problem in their community
  - Work with community partners to develop solutions

### Septic Systems in Michigan

1.3M<sup>+</sup>

There are more than 1.3 million septic systems in Michigan

50%

Approximately 50 percent of new builds rely on septic systems

1

Michigan is the only state without a comprehensive statewide septic ordinance

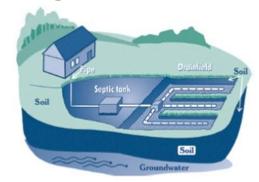
20-30 YR

S

The normal lifespan of a septic system is 20–30 years

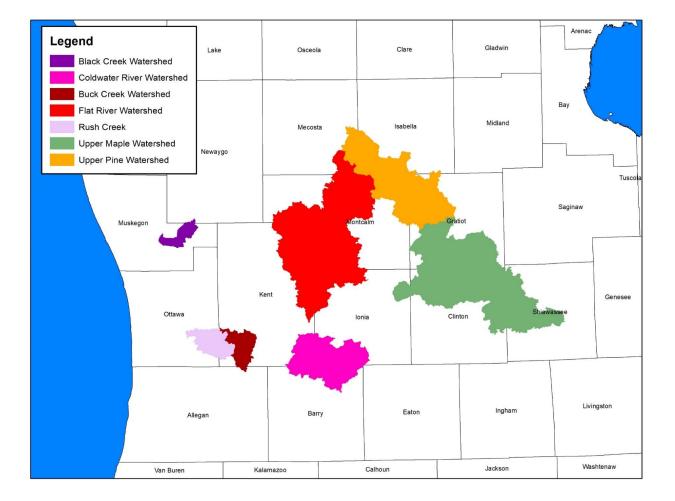
### Septic Management in Mid-Michigan

- Clinton, Gratiot, and Montcalm Conservation Districts leading watershed management
- Suspected there was a problem with bacteria in the river and streams
- Thought failing septic systems were part of the problem











### What Did Partners Do in Response?

- Started a dialogue with the local health department
- Conducted rigorous scientific analysis
  - Sampling demonstrated very high E. coli levels
  - Completed source tracking to determine the causes
    - Canine tracking
    - DNA analysis
  - Confirmed that human sewage was the prominent source
- Engaged the community
  - Conducted a survey of residents
  - Convened community leaders to review the findings and discuss potential solutions



## Water Quality Sampling in Mid-Michigan

**Upper Maple River Watershed** 

100% 80%

of sites sampled exceeded E. coli standards at some point

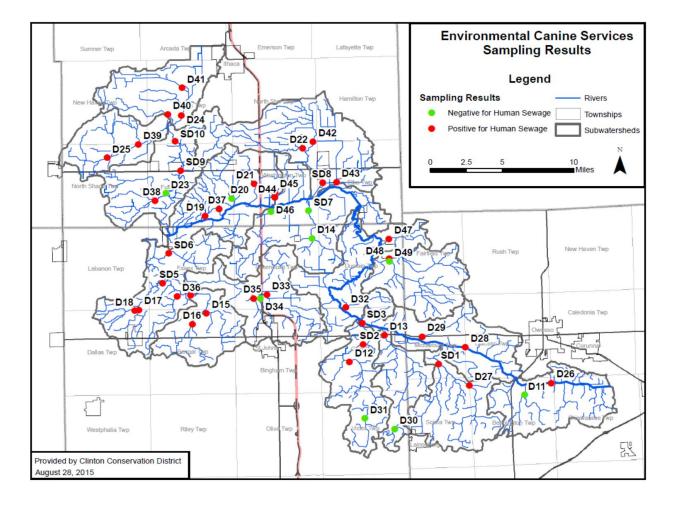
of sites identified by dogs as having human sewage

100% 73%

of sites contained human DNA analysis

of samples showed human DNA was the dominant marker 36%

of samples showed human DNA was the only marker





## Survey of Residents with a Septic System

26<sup>YRS</sup>

is the average length of residency

30%

did not know they had one

28<sup>YRS</sup>

is the average age of a septic system

25%

do not pump or maintain system regularly 15%

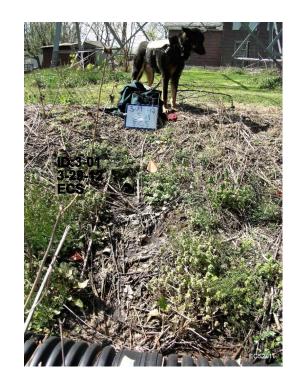
are aware of the normal lifespan of a septic system

## Community Advisory Group Recommendations

- Improve information management
- Increase community awareness
- Develop financial support mechanisms
- Evaluate alternative policy options

### Improving Information Management

- Health department received a grant to develop a new information technology platform to manage environmental services
- Digitizing historic septic records
- Enables partners to identify system location, age, and condition
- Serves as the basis for focused outreach



#### Time-of-sale Ordinances:

Septic systems are inspected during a property transaction.

Pros	Cons
<ul> <li>Inspections occur when money is changing hands</li> <li>Piggybacks on inspections that frequently occur during a transaction</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Not all homes sell frequently</li> <li>Intrafamily transfers are not included</li> <li>Some have concerns about delaying/complicating a sale</li> <li>No mechanism to ensure continued function after the sale</li> <li>Unpredictable frequency</li> <li>Arguably less equitable because only some properties included</li> </ul>

### Discharge Permit:

Properties receive a permit to discharge water from their septic system. Inspections are conducted periodically.

Pros	Cons
<ul> <li>Public health concerns addressed more quickly and consistently</li> <li>Ensures function after installation</li> <li>More predictable workload</li> <li>Arguably more equitable because all properties are equally affected</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Larger administrative footprint than alternatives</li> <li>Some property owners resistant to government intrusion onto private property</li> <li>Added costs for residents to complete inspections</li> <li>Financing not readily available to assist residents in need</li> </ul>

#### What Was the Result?

- Committee recommended the discharge permit approach
- Health department developed ordinance language and sought approval from the Clinton, Gratiot, and Montcalm county commissions
- Ultimately unsuccessful in updating the septic code
- Counties have agreed to fund a new staff position to support septic management activities

#### Lessons Learned



- A little data goes a long way
- Data-driven strategies are more effective
- Work with the community to develop solutions together
- Find financing solutions
- Robust information management can support outreach and education

# How Many Septic Systems Are Failing in Kalkaska County?

10%

Nationally, the Environmental Protection Agency estimates 10 percent of systems are failing 25%+

In Michigan, communities with inspection programs find 25+ percent of systems are failing

1.1K-2.7

K

Estimated failing systems in Kalkaska County

# How Much Pollution Is Generated from Failing Systems in Kalkaska County?

Cover 0.77 to 1.9 acres

in a foot of sewage every day

Cover 0.44 to 1.1 miles

in a foot of sewage every year

Fill 139 to 347 Olympic

swimming pools every year

Cover the Village of Kalkaska

in 1.7 to 4.2 inches of sewage every year





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#### Panel: Local Efforts to Control Risks

Eric Johnston, Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department

Seth Phillips, Manistee Lake Association & Kalkaska County Drain
Commissioner

Grenetta Thomassey, Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council

Matt Allen, Onsite Service Supervisor, Ottawa County Department of Public Health

Toni Morrison, Real Estate One, Elk Rapids



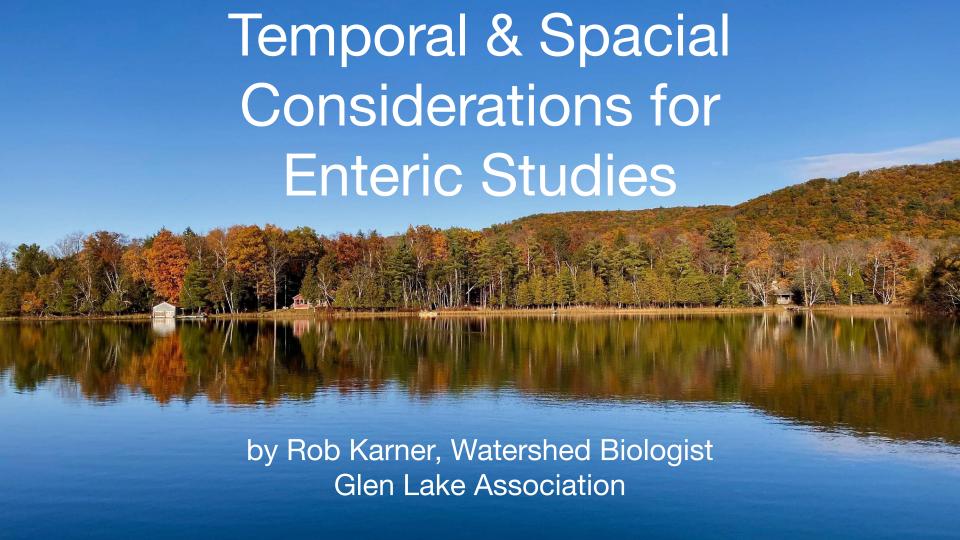
#### **LUNCH – with Two Presentations**

**Enteric Bacteria, Source Tracking & Emerging Techniques** 

Rob Karner, Watershed Biologist, Glen Lakes Association

<u>Kawkawlin River Watershed Septic System Mapping &</u>
<u>Outreach Program</u>

Joel Kwiatkowski, Env. Health Mng., Bay County Health
Department



## Three Basic Considerations

Temporal - based on time-sensitive factors

Spacial - based on location(s) that are logical to sample first

• Financial - How to raise funds

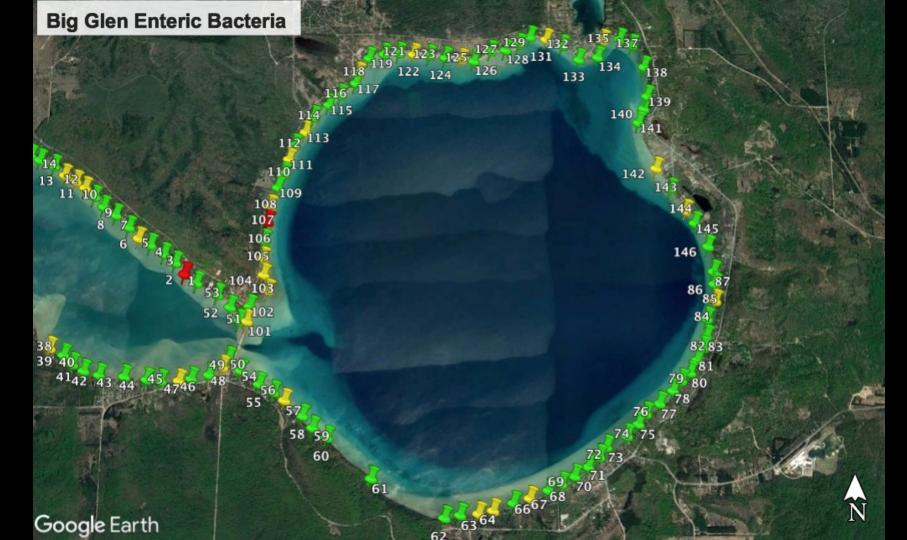
# Temporal Factors

Mid-summer when septic systems are fully charged

Peak season for short-term rentals

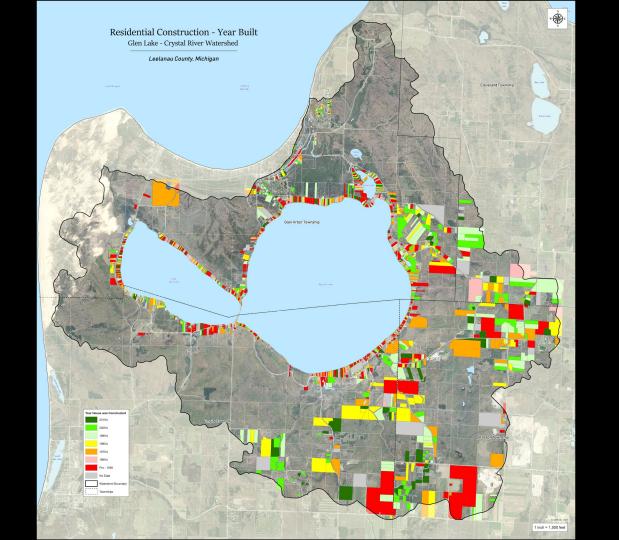
Before and after rain events (rainfall above
1.5 inches in a short window of time)

Establish a baseline for entire shoreline



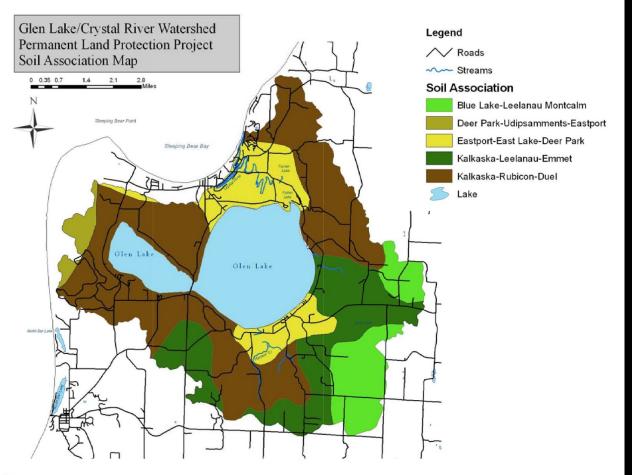
# **Spacial Factors**

- Age of septic system mapped out by parcel
- Topography steep slopes vs. flat
- Density of housing
- Storm water discharge

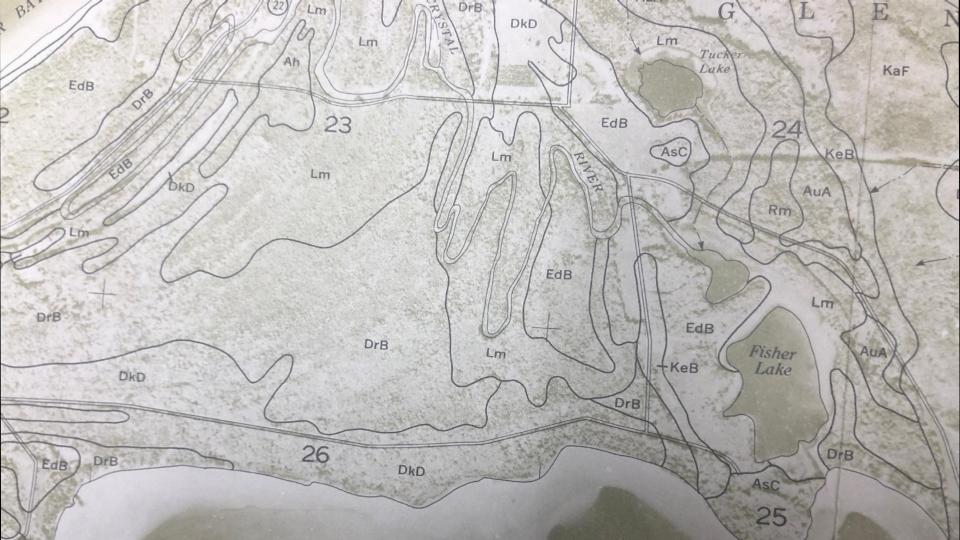


# **Spacial Factors**

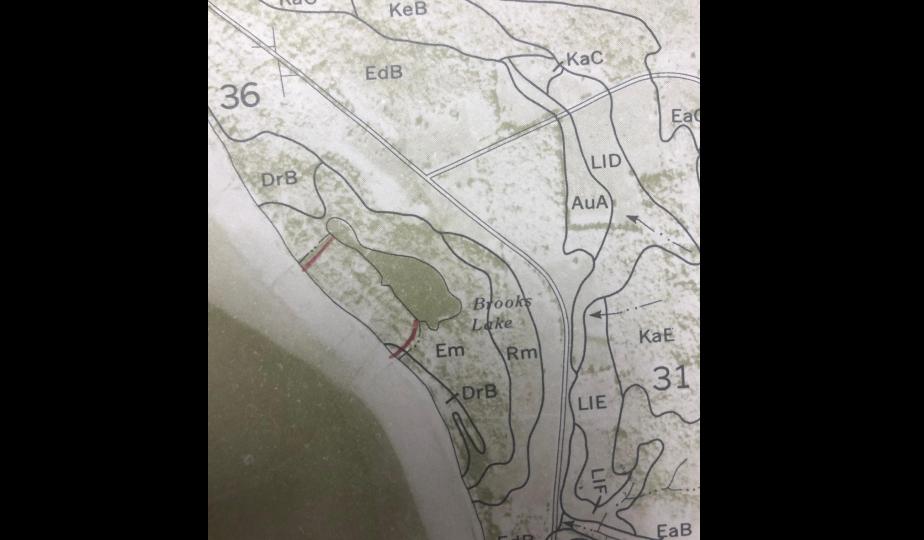
- Cladophora colonies
- Community septic systems
- Inlets
- Groundwater flow direction and volume



Source: Watershed boundary provided by MDEQ (1:24,000 scale) Hydrology provided by MDNR (MIRIS 1:24,000 scale) Transportation data provided by LIAA















# **Financial Factors**

Endowment Fund

Watershed Protection Fund

Operating Budget

Stewardship via Discovery Boat







#### **LUNCH – with Two Presentations**

**Enteric Bacteria, Source Tracking & Emerging Techniques** 

Rob Karner, Watershed Biologist, Glen Lakes Association

<u>Kawkawlin River Watershed Septic System Mapping &</u>
<u>Outreach Program</u>

Joel Kwiatkowski, Env. Health Mng., Bay County Health
Department



#### <u>Panel – Public Policy Options</u>

Eric Johnston, Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department

Sean McBrearty, Clean Water Action

Leslie Sickterman, Planning Director, Long Lake Township

George Bailey, Chair, Gratiot County Commission

Rick Stein, Re/Max Bayshore Real Estate



#### <u>Panel – Where Do We Go from Here</u>

Jon Beard, Senior Consultant, Public Sector Consultants

Tom Zimnicki, Michigan Environmental Council

Christine Crissman, Executive Director, Watershed Center
Grand Traverse Bay

Daniel R. Thorell, Environmental Health Director, Grand
Traverse County Health Department

Liz Kirkwood, Executive Director, FLOW



#### **Closing Remarks**

Dave Dempsey, Senior Advisor, FLOW



# "We forget that the water cycle and the life cycle are one."

- Jacques Cousteau



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