

Recent Headlines from Nearby Counties

- Alpine Sand, operating near Arcadia, in Trempealeau County, was fined \$80,000 for violating storm water regulations. Their facility was originally cited by the DNR in October 2012 for mismanaging storm water. Sand and sediment washed into a tributary of Newcomb Valley Creek on multiple occasions in 2013 (La Crosse Tribune, October 2014)
- The Wisconsin Attorney General's Office announced that Arcadia Sand and Mississippi Sand will pay \$60,000 in forfeitures, court costs, attorney fees and surcharges for violating a storm water pollution discharge permit in Trempealeau County. (La Crosse Tribune, September 2014)
- Whitehall Municipal Water Utility is seeking state approval to construct a new well to keep up with the thirst of its newest and largest water customer, sand plant operator Hi-Crush, LLC. Hi-Crush's daily water demand is expected to reach 600,000 gallons by 2015 and 1.2 million gallons in 2018, according to a report by engineering firm SEH Inc. filed with the Wisconsin Public Service Commission. (La Crosse Tribune, October, 2014)
- Professor Diane Hite, an economist with Auburn University is a foremost scholar on stigmatization (The concept of property value being adversely impacted by proximity to an unpleasant business or industry). Statistics have shown:
 - A house within 1/3 mile of a mine declines in value by 30%
 - A house within 1/2 mile of a mine declines in value by 20%
 - A house within 1 mile of a mine declines in value by 15%
 - A house within 2 miles of a mine declines in value by 9%
 - A house within 5 miles of a mine declines in value by 5%(This information was provided at Wisconsin Towns Assoc. meetings, Dec. 1, 2011 and Jan. 11, 2012)
- More than half the frac sand companies operating in Wisconsin have violated DNR regulations, manipulated local governments or engaged in "influence peddling and conflicts of interest," a study by an advocacy group has found. Of the 47 frac sand operations studied, 43 percent violated DNR regulations, requiring "substantial regulatory action" to bring them into compliance. (La Crosse Tribune, November 2014)
- Most silica sand used in fracking operations comes from Minnesota and Wisconsin. But production could expand to 12 other states. International Business Times (Sep. 25, 2014) Map cited shows favored sites are located in Richland County.
- UW-Eau Claire professor, Crispin Pierce and students collected data showing that some mines exceeded the daily EPA standard for particle size 2.5 micrometers (PM 2.5) of 35 micrograms per cubic meter. Readings at one plant in Wisconsin, for example, were 41.3 micrograms per cubic meter, exceeding the federal standard by nearly 20 percent. Inside Climate News (November 2013)