



**There are FIVE beach advisories for the week
of 8/23**

5 Beaches with E.Coli-Related Advisory:

McIntosh Woods Beach (*Clear Lake, Ventura, Cerro Gordo County, IA*)

Nine Eagles Beach (*Davis City, Decatur County, IA*)

Prairie Rose Beach (*Harlan, Shelby County, IA*)

Rock Creek Beach (*Kellogg, Jasper County, IA*)

Union Grove Beach (*Gladbrook, Tama County, IA*)

**Beaches exceeding the EPA recommendation for microcystin (8 micrograms/L)
but not issued an advisory:**

Green Valley Beach (*Creston, Union County, IA*) - 10.6 µg/L

**UI researchers say valuable Iowa Grants to Counties
Program underused**

A new report by the University of Iowa Center for Health Effects of Contamination (CHEEC) finds that Iowa's program to protect the drinking water of private well users,

while valuable, has not been fully utilized and that there are opportunities to improve and strengthen the program.

The report, done in partnership with the UI Public Policy Center (PPC), examined the state's Grants to Counties (GtC). The program provides funding to counties for water quality testing for private wells, in addition to providing assistance for the drilling of new wells and the plugging of wells that are no longer suitable for use.

Nearly 300,000 Iowans rely on private wells for their primary drinking water supply. Because private water wells fall outside the jurisdiction of the Safe Drinking Water Act, there are no federal regulations for the quality and routine testing of private well water. Instead, the EPA states that it is the homeowner's responsibility to ensure the safety of their water.

GtC was created to fill this federal regulatory void and is important for the health of a vulnerable portion of Iowa's population. However, the [new report by CHEEC and UI PPC](#) shows that while the program is valuable and necessary for protecting the public health of Iowans reliant on drinking water from private wells, it is currently underutilized and has yet to achieve the lofty expectations of the Groundwater Protection Act of 1987, which created the program.

[Read the full story.](#)



A beautiful summer sunset over the Mississippi at Marquette. Share your photos with us @iowawaterwatch!



What's New in Iowa's Water News

[3 key points for comments on the future of the Upper Mississippi River](#) (*1 Mississippi*)

[Meskwaki Tribe is the first in four-state area to gain status for own water quality standards](#) (*Toledo Chronicle, Tama News-Herald*)

[A valuable flow of groundwater information for Iowa](#) (*IOWAnow*)

[Iowa DNR starts testing for manganese in public water systems](#) (*Iowa Public Radio*)



Upcoming Water Events

[Managing Farmland Drainage Workshop](#) -

Boone - August 30

[IEC's End of Summer Beach Party](#) - Des

Moines - September 10 *Save the date!*

[Eastern Iowa Green Infrastructure](#)

[Conference](#) - Iowa City - Sept. 19

[DMWW Citizen Water Academy](#) - Des

Moines - Application due September 20

[Iowa Outdoor Expo](#) - Des Moines - Sept. 28 &

29

[American Water Works Association Iowa](#)

[Section Annual Conference](#) - Ames - October

22-24

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