

# Phosphorus Rules: An Environmental Perspective

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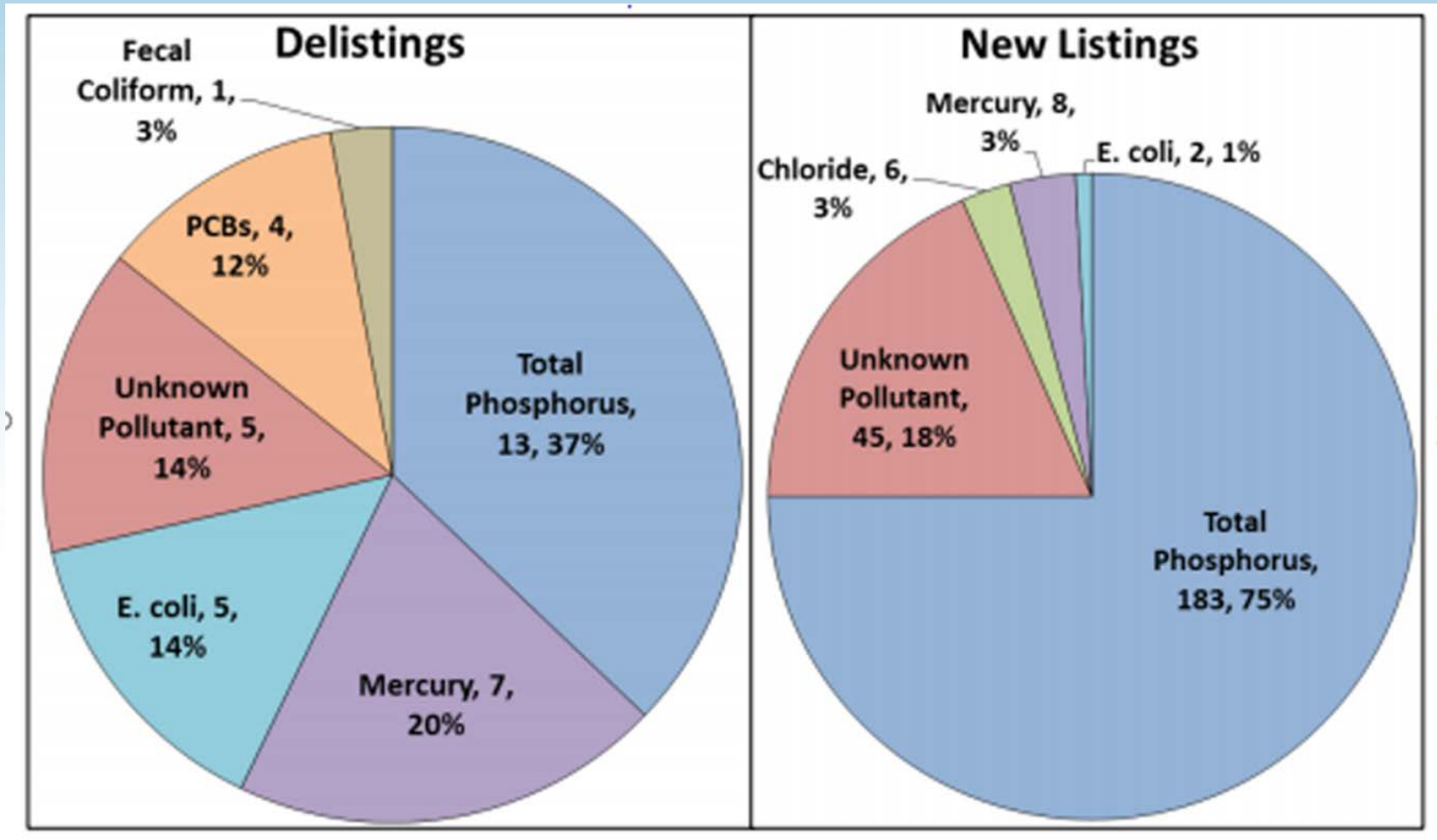
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# Why do we care about phosphorus pollution?



DNR, 2018. Delisting and listing for the 2018 impaired waters list by pollutant

# Economic Benefits of Phosphorus Rules

Increased property values	\$1.1B
Improved recreational opportunities	\$596.7M
Reduced lake clean up	\$4.8 - \$11.M

Other non-quantified benefits: Human health, Tourism, Commercial Fishing, Biodiversity, Reduction in other Pollutants

## **Lake homeowner**

“I haven’t been able to go out into my own backyard in months, it was like anaphylactic shock I would literally stop breathing.”

## **Local realtor**

“I probably lose two to three people a ...summer that would have been a sale on this lake...it’s a hard lake to market.”

## **Auto dealer**

“The smell of the lake...watching people coming off the interstate and their reactions to the smell, it’s like being in the center of a hog farm sometimes and in my opinion that’s horrible for the economy. People can’t wait to get out of town.”

# Challenges

- Adaptive Management won't work everywhere
- Compliance confusion
- Political rhetoric and delay
- Legacy phosphorus

# Dane County “Suck the Muck” project

- \$12 million over 4 years
- Dredge roughly 33 miles of streams
- Goal: Remove 875,000 pounds of phosphorus
- First of its kind project in WI



**Suck-cess! - 75,000 pounds already removed in phase 1**

# Opportunities

- Evers Year of Clean Drinking Water commitments
- Stormwater controls
- Leaf management
- Group stormwater permits
- Green infrastructure



# Year of Clean Drinking Water

- **Additional \$5 million to control polluted runoff from agricultural runoff and urban stormwater runoff**
- \$40 million to replace lead pipes
- \$75,000 in for the Southwest Wisconsin Geologic and Groundwater study (SWIGG)
- \$1.6 million for homeowners to remediate contaminated wells
- \$25 million for clean-up of five areas in the Milwaukee River and St. Louis River

# May 3<sup>rd</sup> Rain Garden Maintenance Day



- Lee Menefee's Rain Garden on 29<sup>th</sup> and Capitol Drive
- Help of Milwaukee Collegiate Academy students

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