

2017

June 21 \* Marshfield, Wis.

June 22 \* River Falls, Wis.

(9:00 am–3:30 pm)

# water tours

**Every drop counts.**

Let's work together to keep it safe,  
sustainable, and accessible.

Join us with other local elected officials,  
dairy producers, citizens, neighbors and  
community leaders for tours, discussions,  
questions, answers and solutions.



#WaterMatters

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University of Wisconsin - Extension  
The UW Discovery Farms Program works with  
Wisconsin farmers to develop an understanding  
of how their farming practices influence water quality.

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# Water

As consumers, we want it to be safe and affordable. As innovators, we want efficient, sustainable technologies to treat, re-use and distribute it. As farmers, we want to handle it safely, because we care about our land, animals, neighbors and families.

UW Discovery Farms and Professional Dairy Producers have teamed up to present a clear picture of the latest water-quality practices. Join us as we tour businesses, farmer-led watersheds and more. Be a part of open dialogue with a diverse group of stakeholders ... each of them committed to preserving our most precious resource.



## DAY ONE, JUNE 21 - Marshfield

9:00 am bus pick up at Wis. DOT Park & Ride 71-01, South Draxler Dr, Marshfield, WI 54449 (Exit 186)

**1. Marshfield Wastewater Treatment Plant** trades phosphorus and currently treats wastewater with the help of microbes - and no chemicals. You'll tour the plant, learn about the natural treatment system and hear how they work with area farmers to protect water quality.

**2. Eron Agronomics** Cash crop farmer John Eron leads the *Farmers of Mill Creek Watershed Council*, a producer-led group that farms a combined 8,600 acres in the watershed. Hear what they're doing to protect water quality and how they collaborate with extension, land and water conservation departments, and lake and river associations. You'll see the closed-loop irrigation system Eron has developed and learn about other soil and water conservation efforts in the Mill Creek Watershed.

**3. Mullins Cheese** is the largest family-owned and operated cheese factory in Wisconsin. In 2001 they built a whey-processing facility that produces whey protein isolate powder and converts sweet whey into a value-added product they ship worldwide. We'll tour their Wastewater Treatment Plant and a recently installed membrane system.

## Transportation, registration and tickets

A chartered bus will pick up at the locations listed above at 9:00 am and return at 3:30pm. Every attendee will ride the bus to take advantage of discussions with leaders, researchers. Wear comfortable shoes.

**Register today** by calling 800-947-7379. Or register online at [www.pdpw.org](http://www.pdpw.org). **Tickets** are \$30 per person per day. Includes bus travel, snacks, refreshments and lunch.

## DAY TWO, JUNE 22 - River Falls

9:00 am bus pick up at Wis. DOT Park & Ride 55-03, 70th Ave, Roberts, WI 54023 (just off HWY 65 N)

**1. City of River Falls** storm water ordinance follows standards above and beyond DNR requirements. A walking tour will highlight storm water best-management practices and we'll visit a rapidly developing part of the city where the benefits of the storm water ordinance are clear.

**2. Ellsworth Creamery** began making and selling butter in 1910 and currently produces about 80 tons of cheese curds a day. Its bio tower is the only one in the state that processes food wastewater. The pump transfers untreated wastewater to the top cascading over the surface covered with material on which bacteria clings and grows. The bio tower has lowered discharge amounts of phosphorus, BOD, COD and nitrogen in a very small footprint.

**3. Dry Run Watershed** farmers share their results. We'll drive around the watershed, stop at a monitoring site and hear from other producer-led watershed groups about their on-farm research and conservation strategies. We'll also hear from local conservation leaders as they share additional measures they're taking to protect water in the Dry Run watershed.



Tours brought to you as a partnership effort between UW Discovery Farms and PDPW

