

# Hydrogeology of Ledgeview

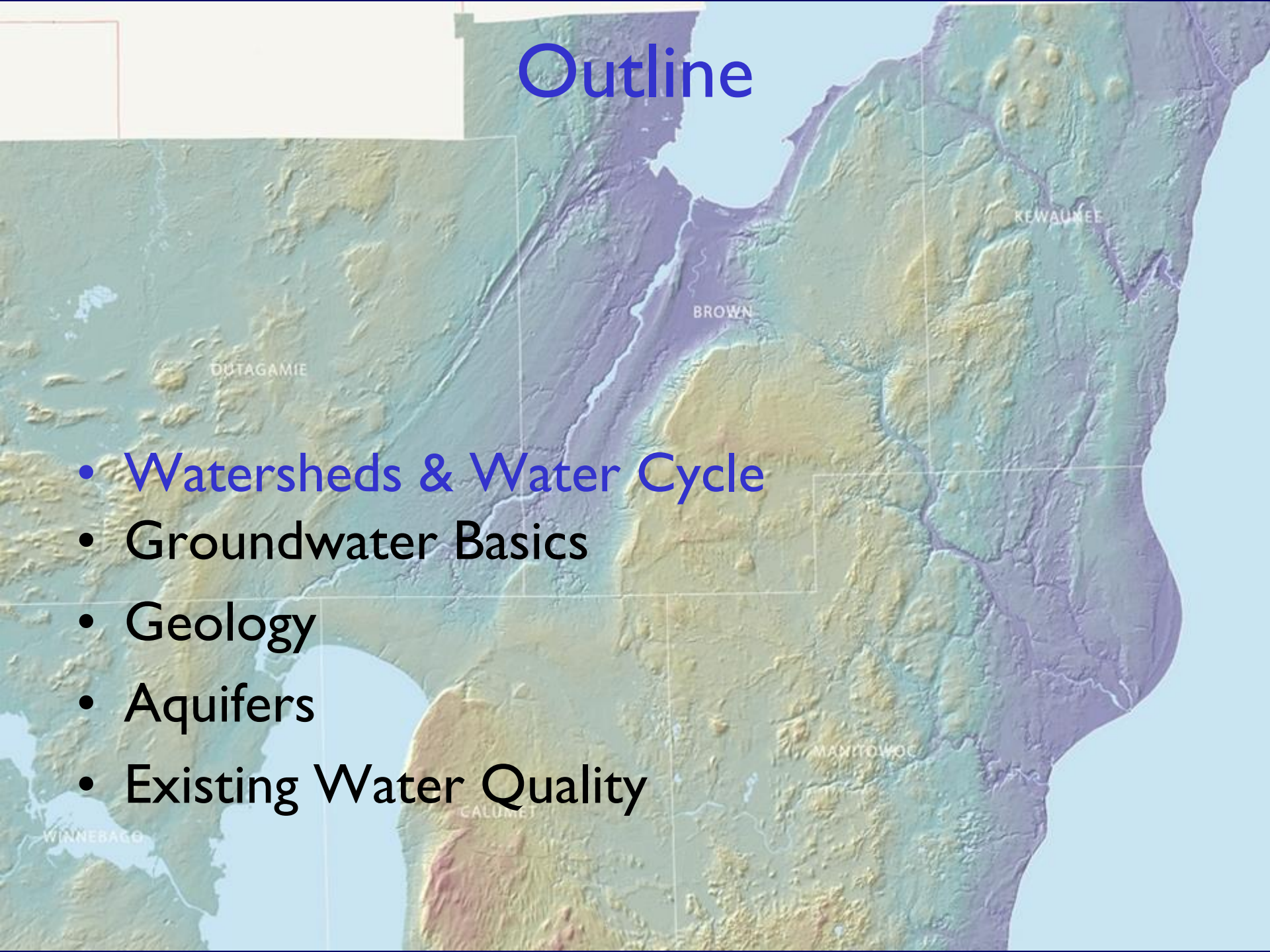
A topographic map of Wisconsin, showing county boundaries and major water bodies. A yellow star is placed in Brown County, indicating the location of Ledgeview. The map uses a color gradient to represent elevation, with greens and yellows for lower elevations and purples and blues for higher elevations. Labels for several counties are visible: DUTAGAMIE, BROWN, WAUNEE, and WINNEBAGO.

Dr. Maureen Muldoon, UWOC Geology Dept  
Ledgeview Town Board  
May 29, 2018



# Outline

- Watersheds & Water Cycle
- Groundwater Basics
- Geology
- Aquifers
- Existing Water Quality



# Water Cycle

- Processes
  - Evaporation
  - Transpiration
  - Precipitation
  - Infiltration
  - Groundwater flow
  - Overland flow
  - Stream runoff

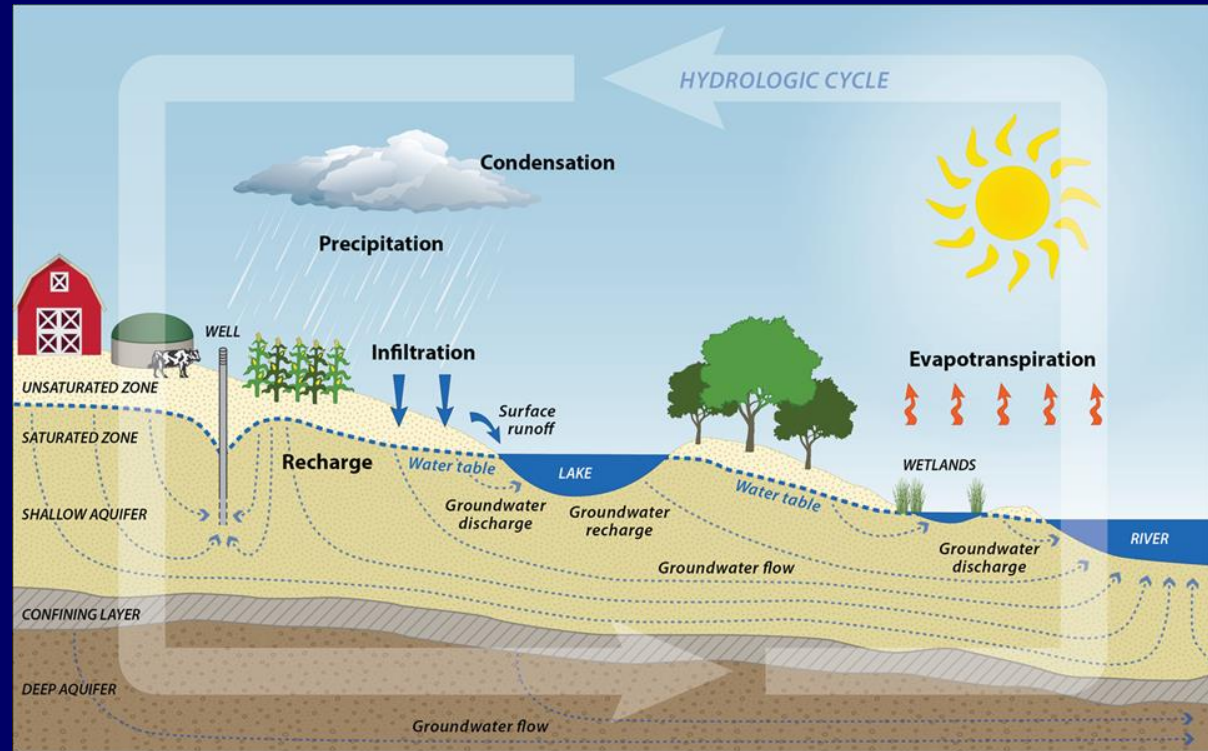
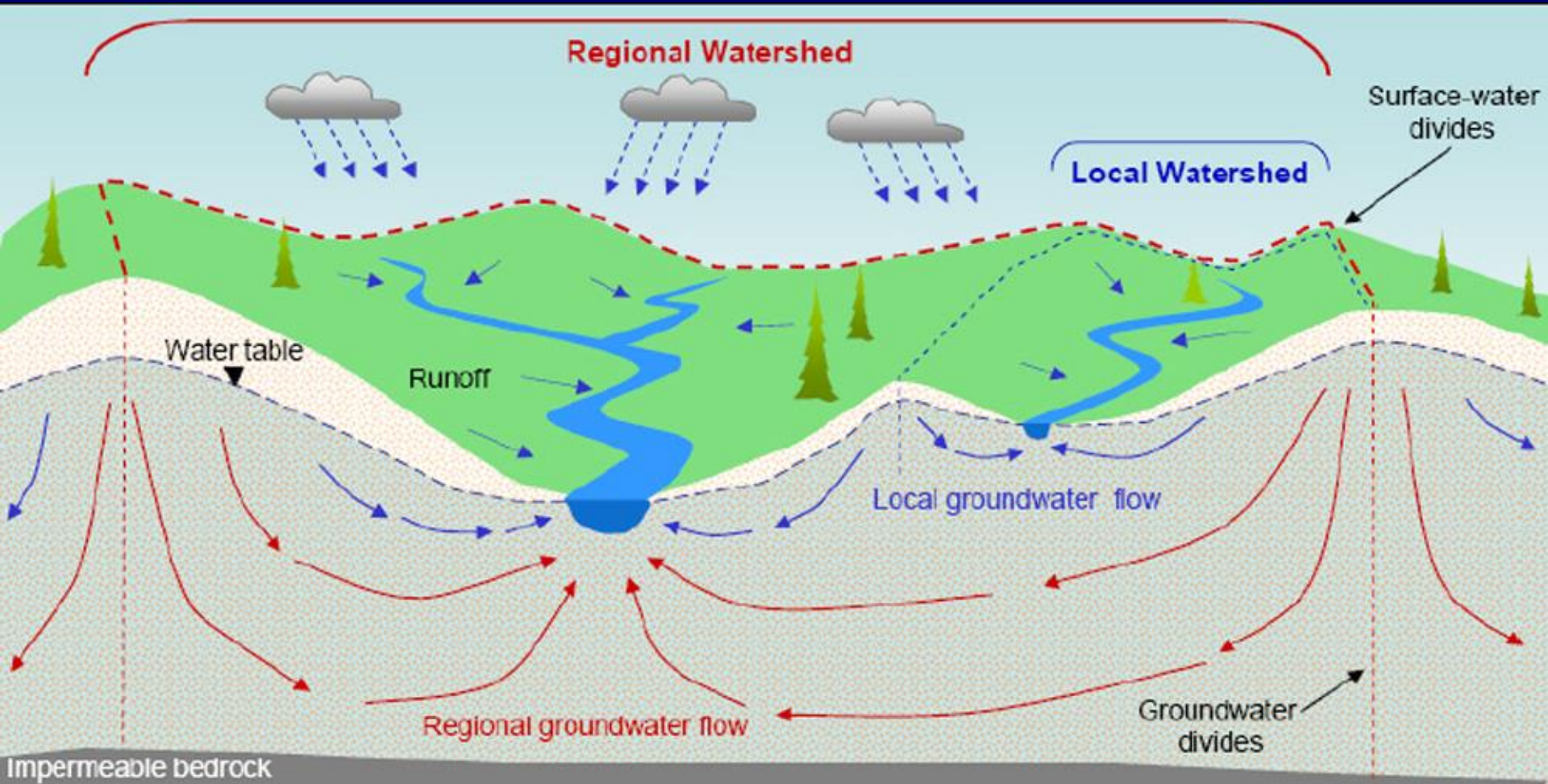


Figure from WI Geological and Natural History Survey



# Watersheds & Water Cycle



# GW & SW: A Single Resource

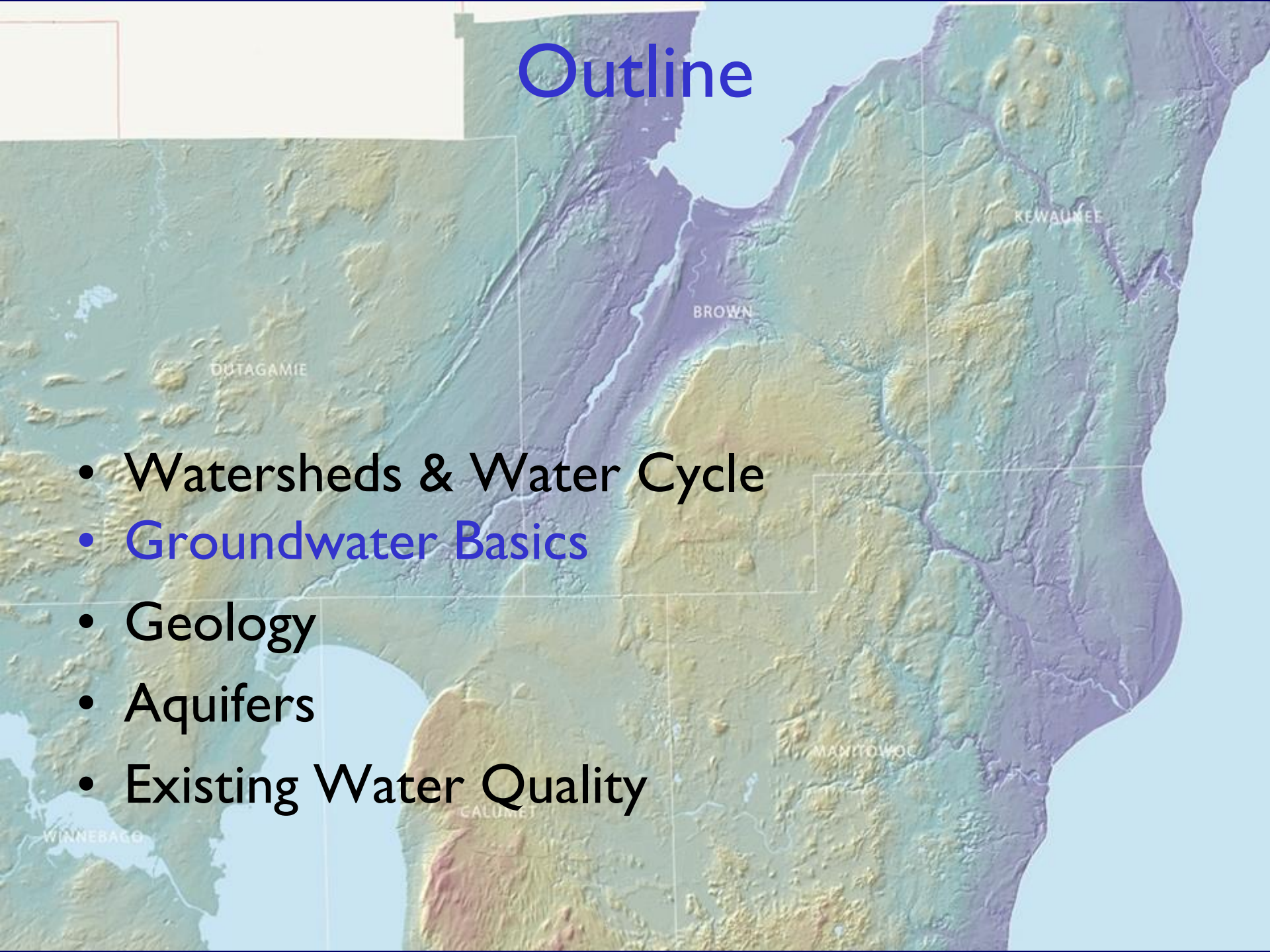
- USGS Circular 1139  
<http://pubs.usgs.gov/circ/circ1139/>
- The hydrologic cycle and interactions of ground water and surface water
- Chemical interactions of ground water and surface water
- Effects of human activities on the interaction of ground water and surface water

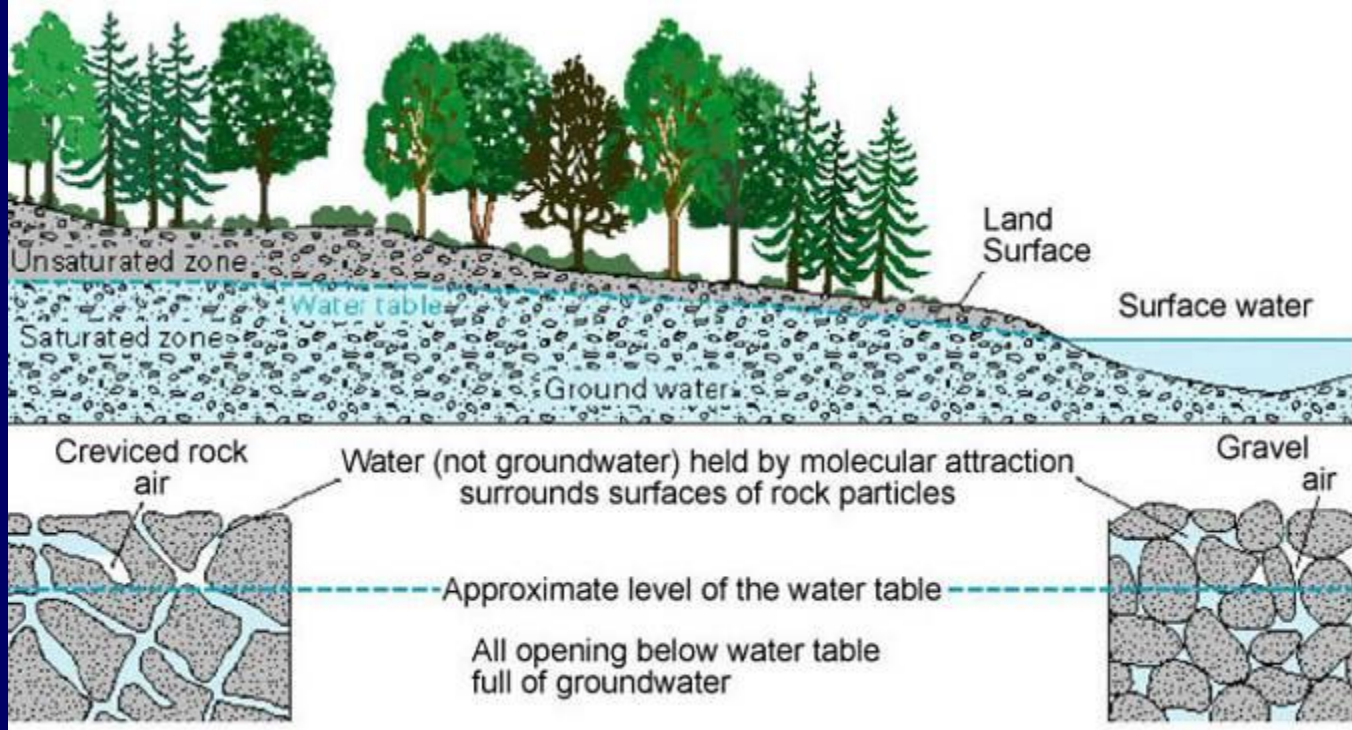




# Outline

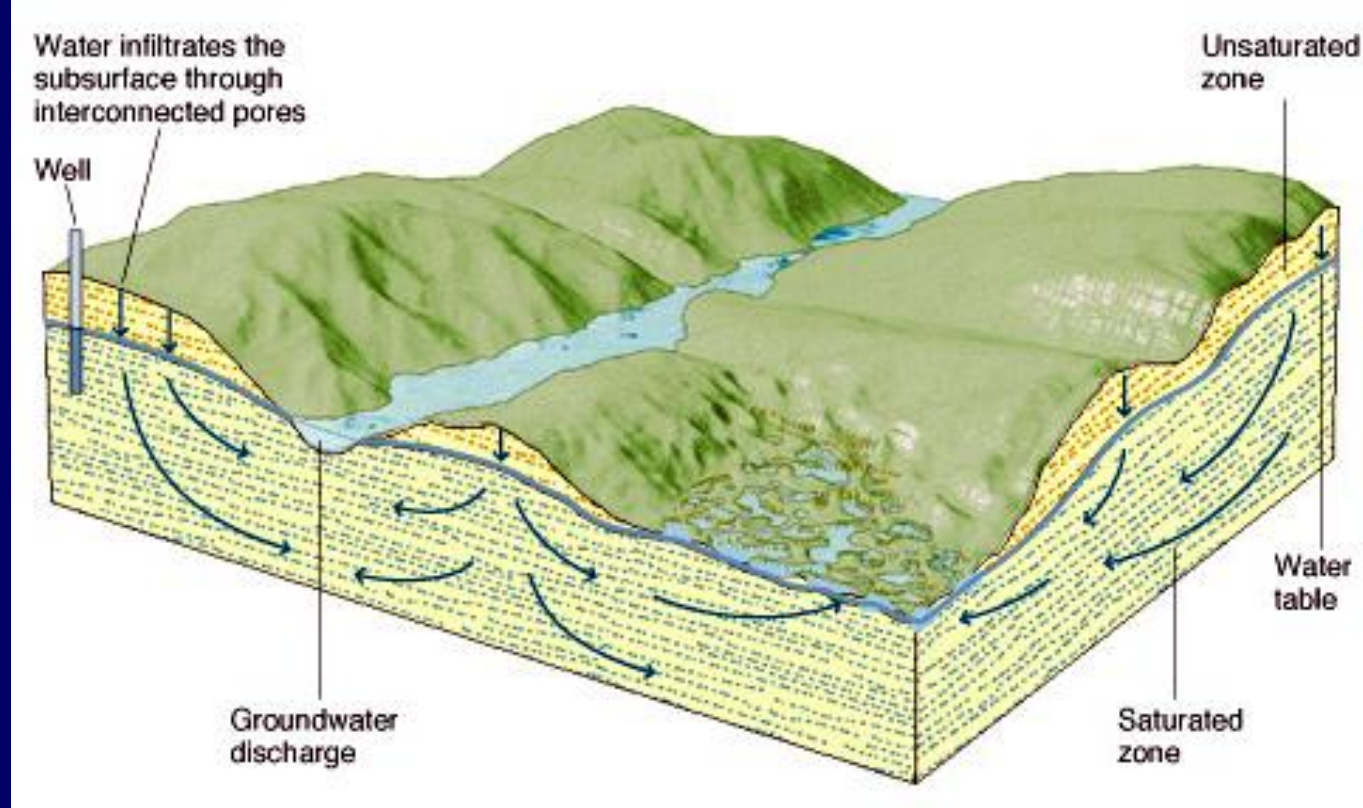
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- **Groundwater Recharge** – water that seeps past the root zone and makes it to the water table (top of the saturated zone)
- **Aquifer** – a geologic unit that can store and transmit usable quantities of water to a well
- **Water table** is boundary between unsaturated and saturated zones
  - Unsaturated zone - pores spaces contain both air and water
  - Zone of saturation - pores spaces are filled with water





- Groundwater flow is from areas of higher hydraulic head to areas of lower hydraulic head.
- **Recharge area** -- area where precipitation infiltrates and recharges the groundwater flow system. Groundwater flow is generally downward in these areas.
- **Discharge area** -- area where water exits the aquifer. In this diagram streams and lakes are the discharge areas.



# Water Elevations in the Upper Aquifer

- From *Hydrogeology and Ground-water Use and Quality, Brown County, Wisconsin*
- By J.T Krohelski
- WI Geological & Natural History Survey Information Circular 57, published 1986

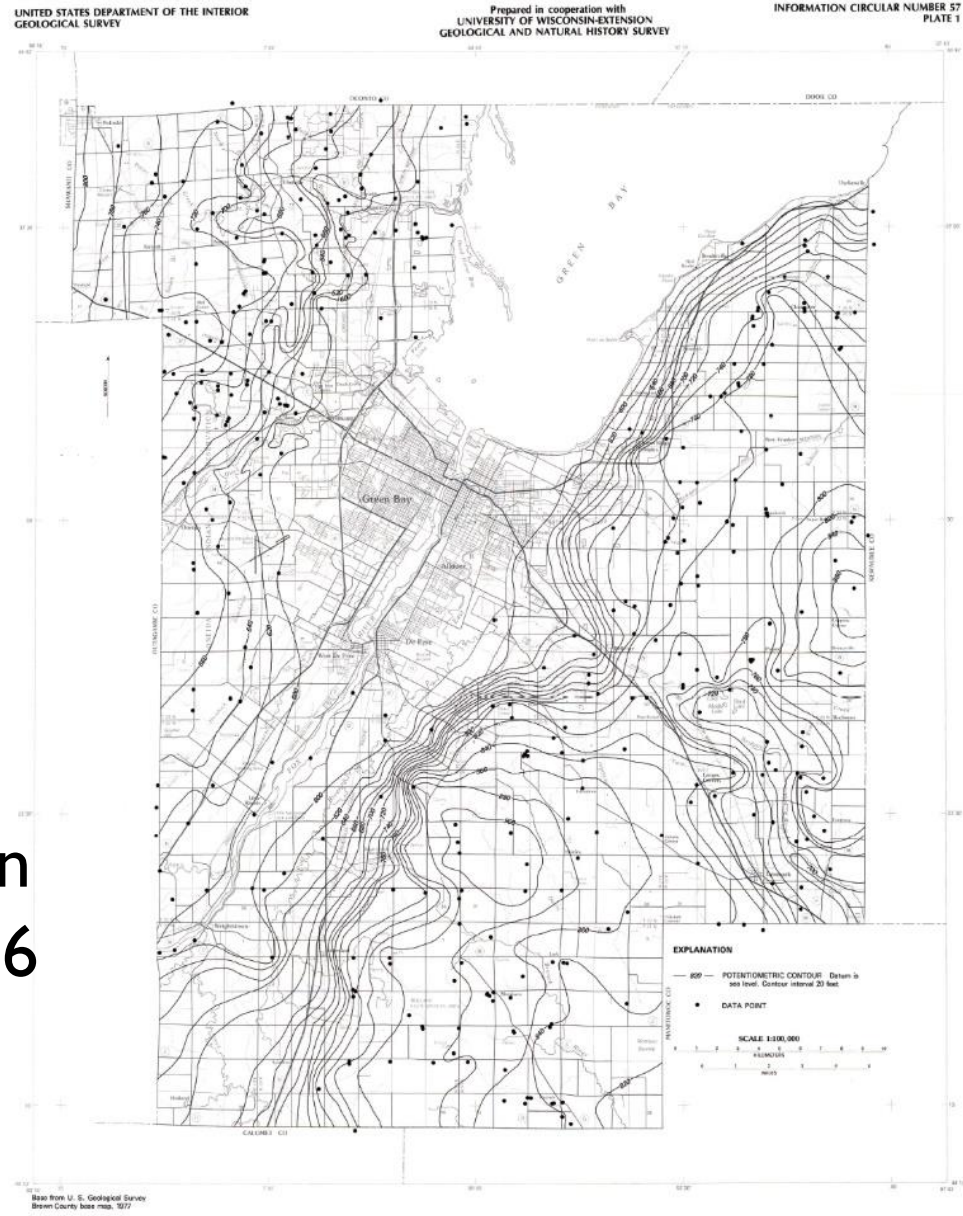
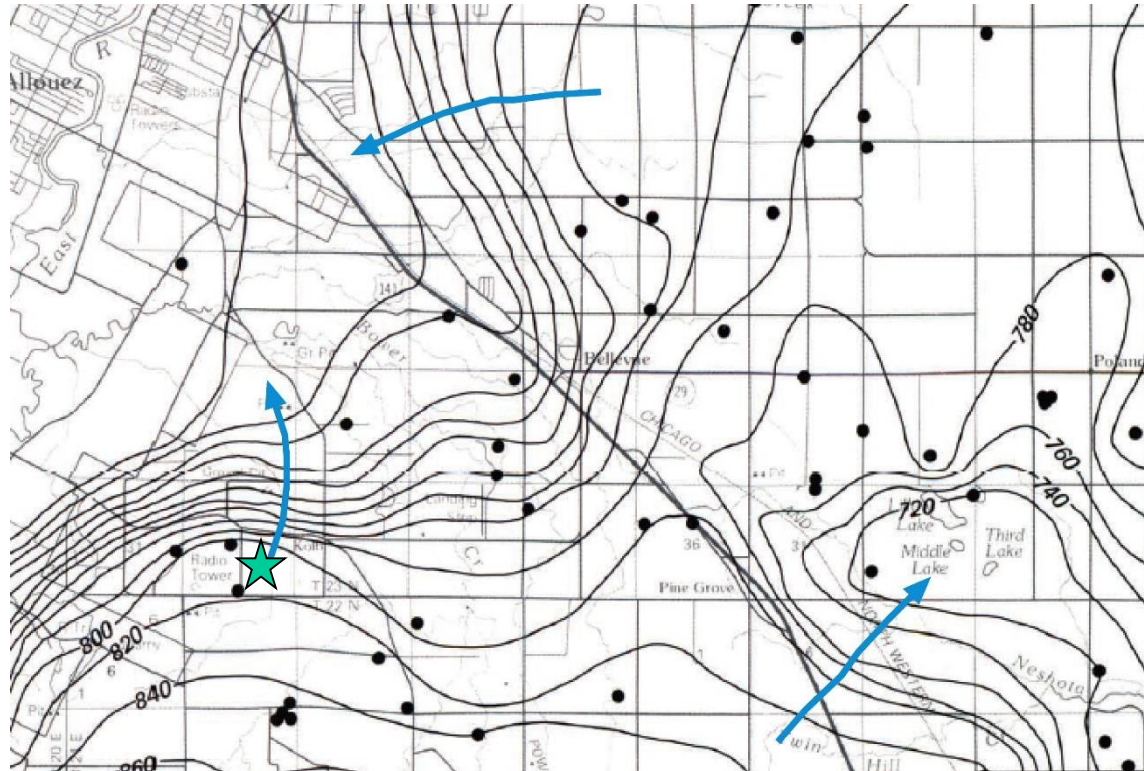


PLATE 1. POTENTIOMETRIC SURFACE OF UPPER AQUIFER, BROWN COUNTY, WISCONSIN, 1980

# Water Elevations in the Upper Aquifer

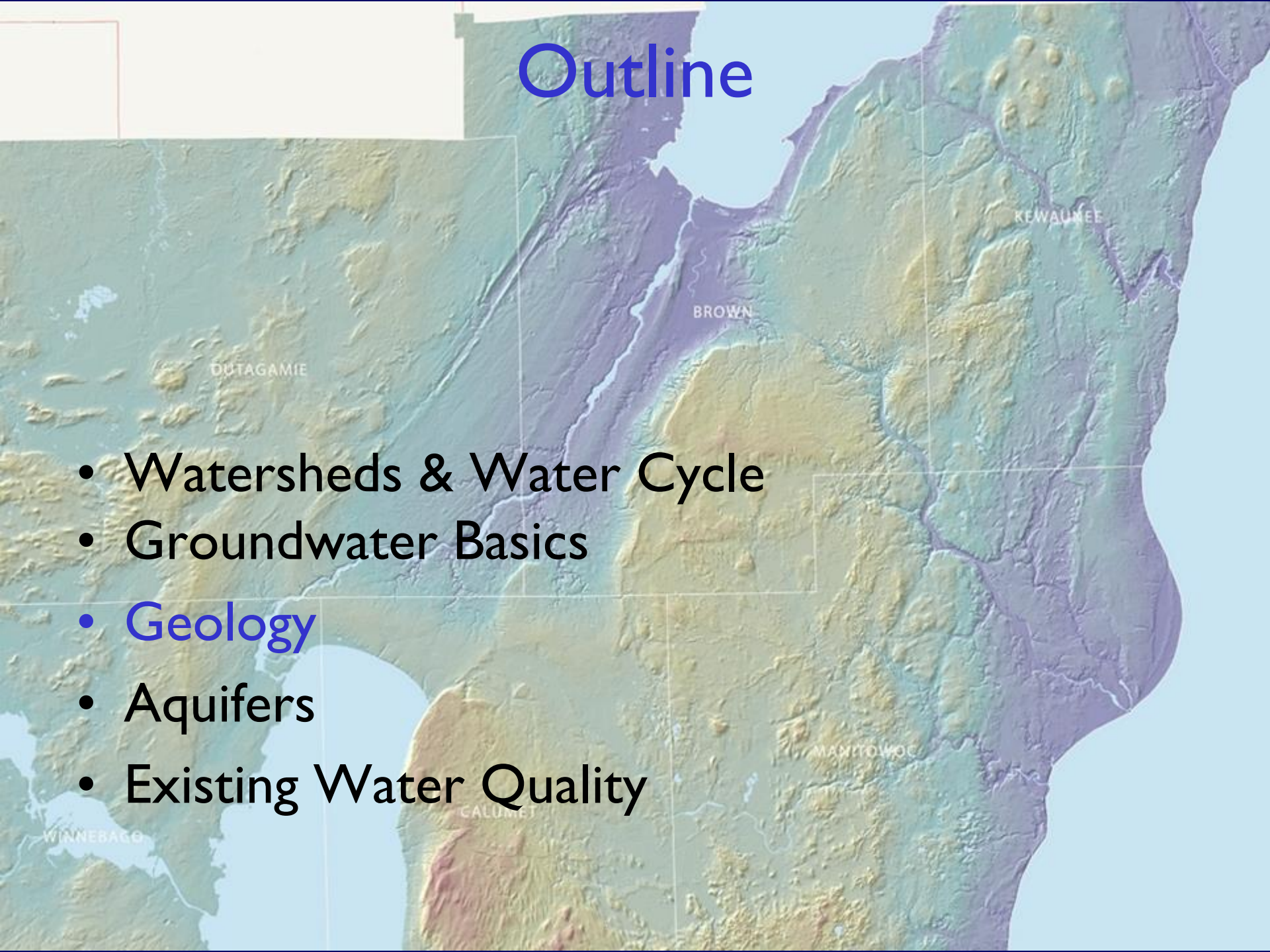


- From *Hydrogeology and Ground-water Use and Quality, Brown County, Wisconsin*. J.T Krohelski
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# BEDROCK GEOLOGY OF WISCONSIN

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN—EXTENSION  
Geological and Natural History Survey

APRIL 1981  
REVISED 2005

## EXPLANATION

### DEVONIAN

**D** dolomite and shale

### SILURIAN

**Sd** dolomite

### ORDOVICIAN

**Om** Maquoketa Formation—shale and dolomite

**Os** Sinipee Group—dolomite with some limestone and shale

**Osp** St. Peter Formation—sandstone with some limestone shale and conglomerate

**Opc** Prairie du Chien Group—dolomite with some sandstone and shale

### CAMBRIAN

**C** sandstone with some dolomite and shale

### MIDDLE PROTEROZOIC

**ss** Keweenaw rock—

ss, sandstone

**v** basaltic to rhyolitic lava flows

**t** gabbroic, anorthositic and granitic rock

**Wolf River rock—**

**g**, rapakivi granite, granite, and syenite

**a**, anorthosite and gabbro

### LOWER PROTEROZOIC

**q** quartzite

**gr** granite, diorite, and gneiss

**s**, metasedimentary rock, argillite, siltstone, quartzite, greywacke, and iron formation

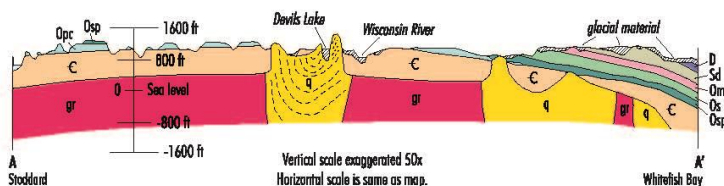
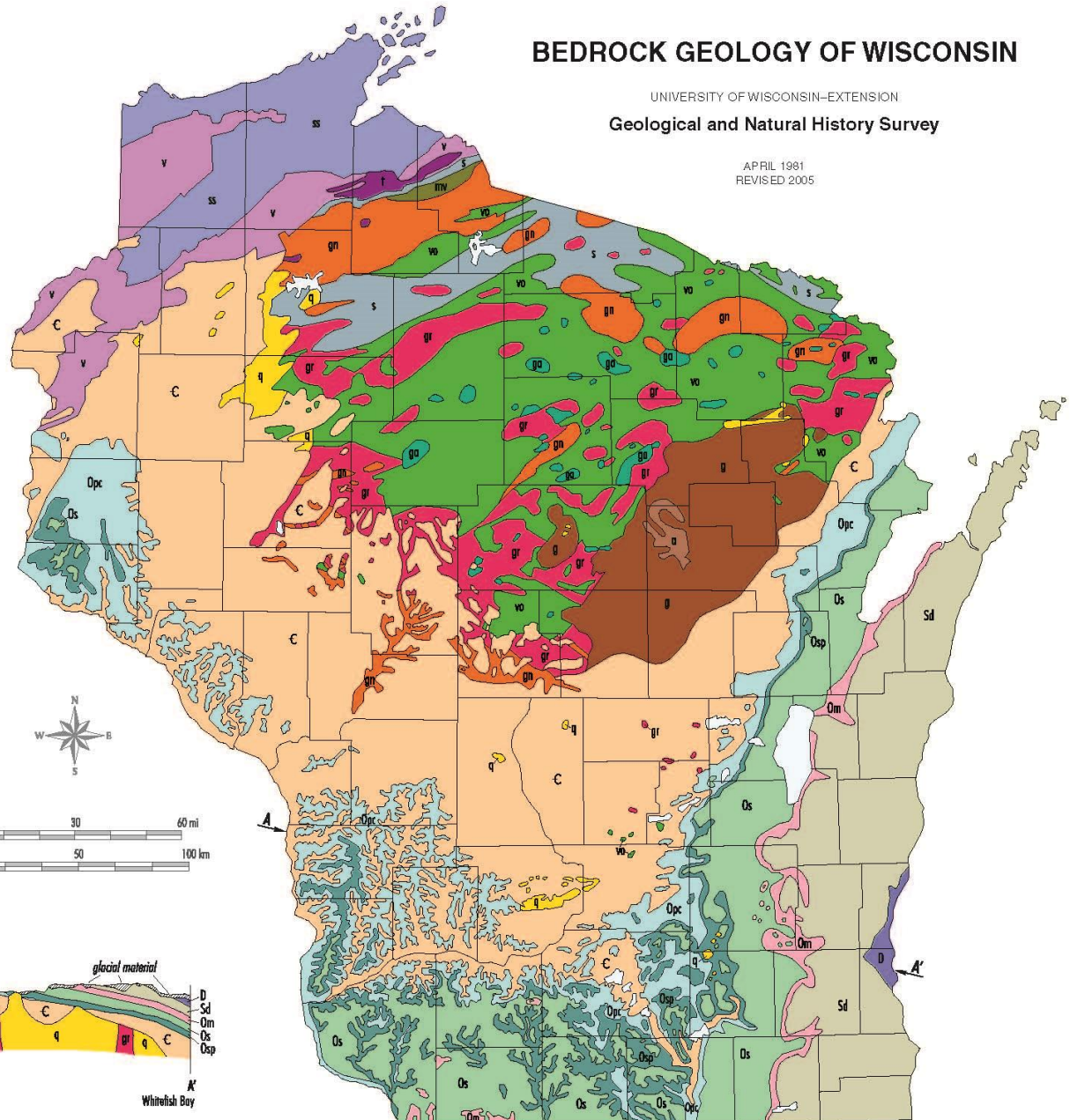
**vo**, basaltic to rhyolitic metavolcanic rock with some metasedimentary rock

**ga**, meta-gabbro and hornblende diorite

### LOWER PROTEROZOIC OR UPPER ARCHEAN

**mv**, metavolcanic rock

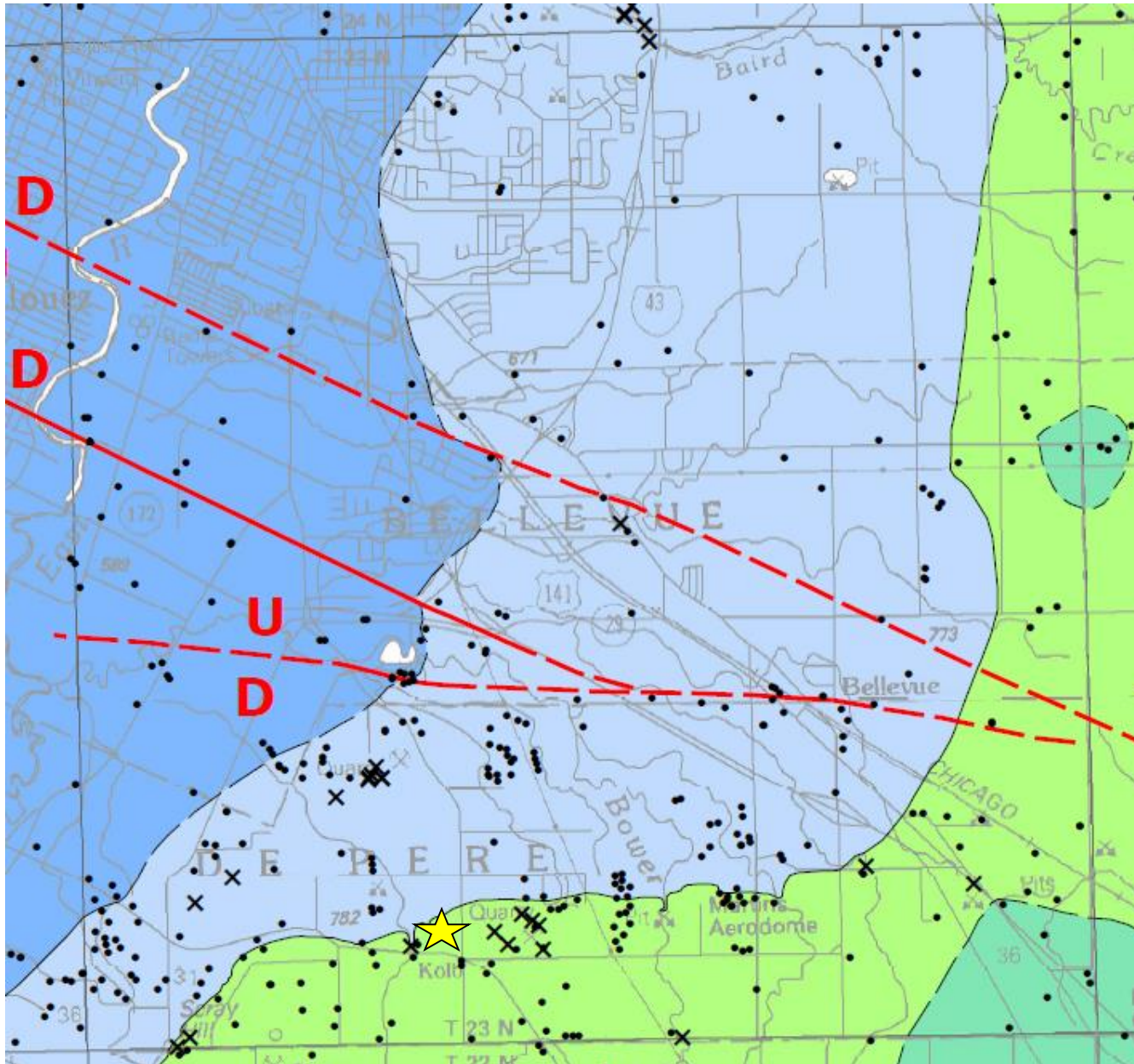
**gn**, granite, gneiss, and amphibolite



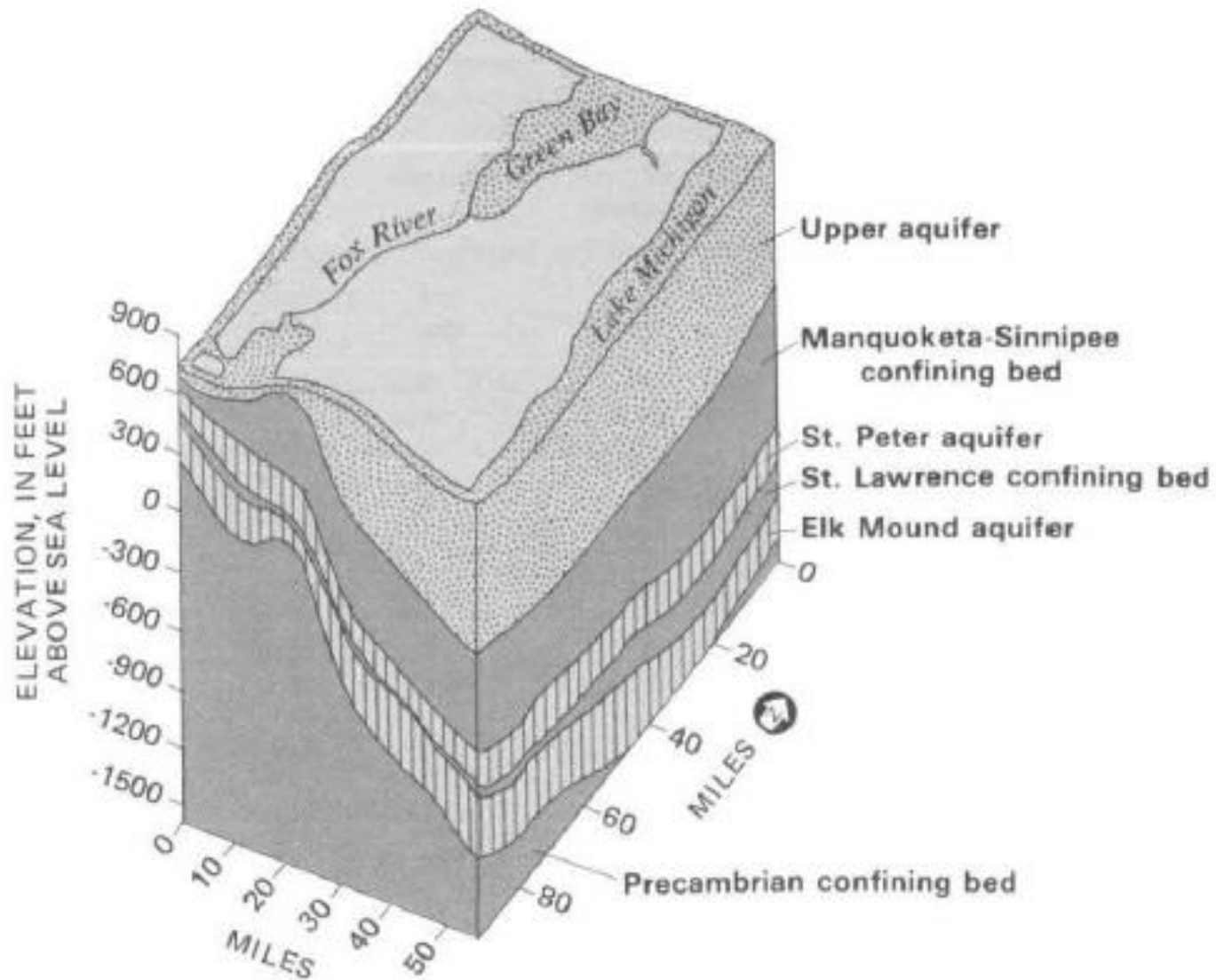




# Geology Detail

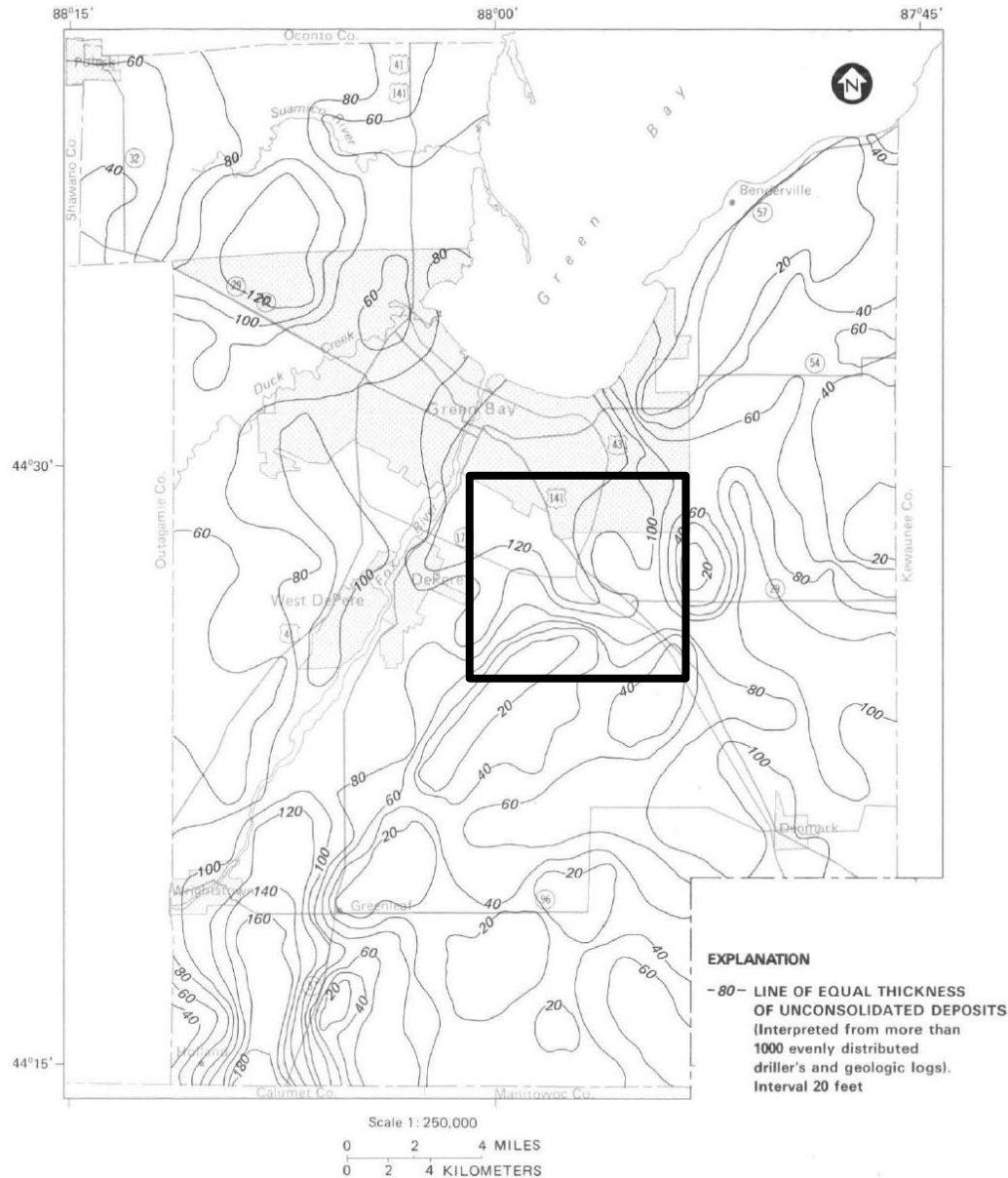






From *Hydrogeology and Ground-water Use and Quality, Brown County, Wisconsin*  
 By J.T Krohelski, WGNSH Information Circular 57, published 1986

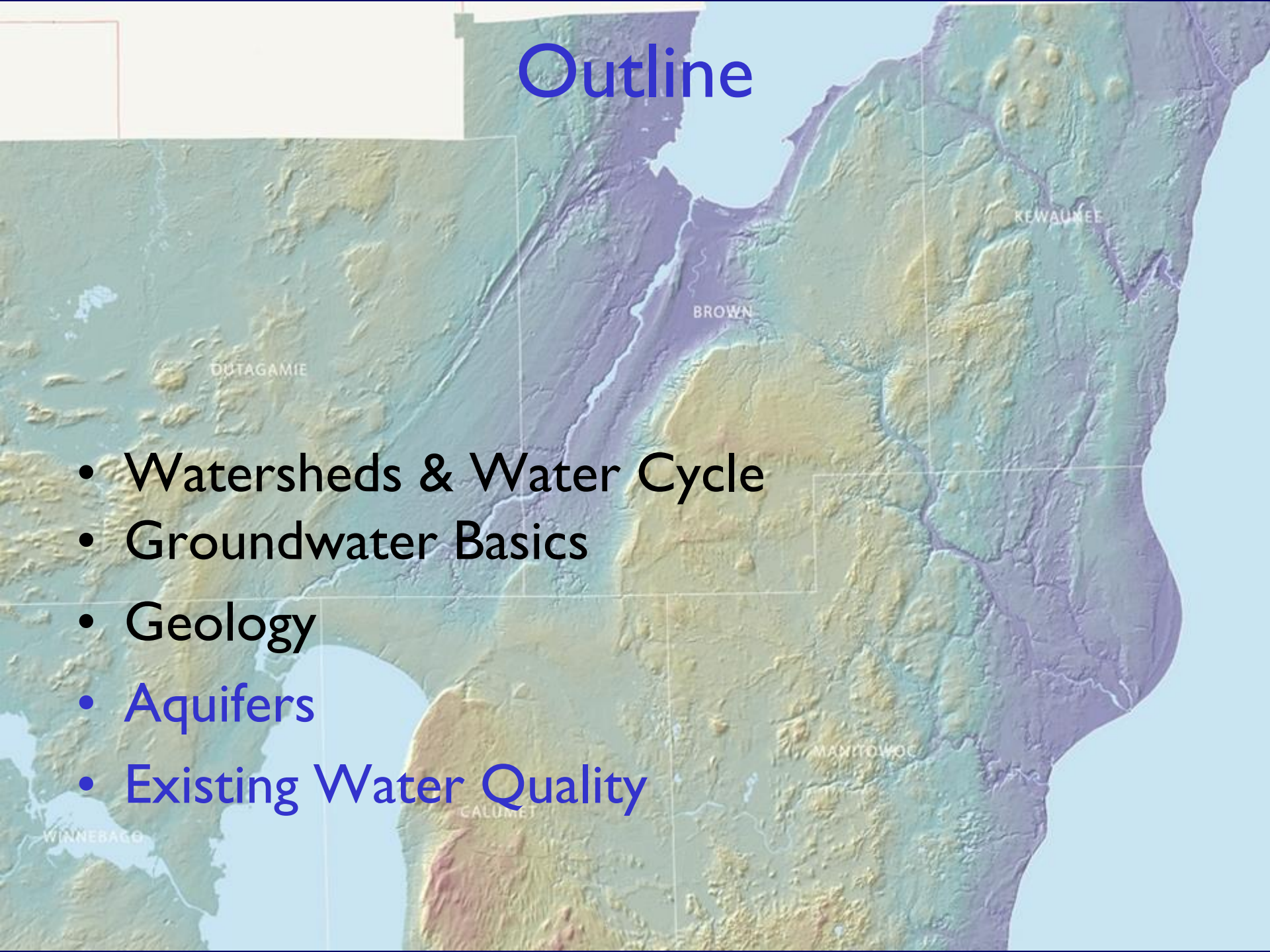
# Depth to Rock



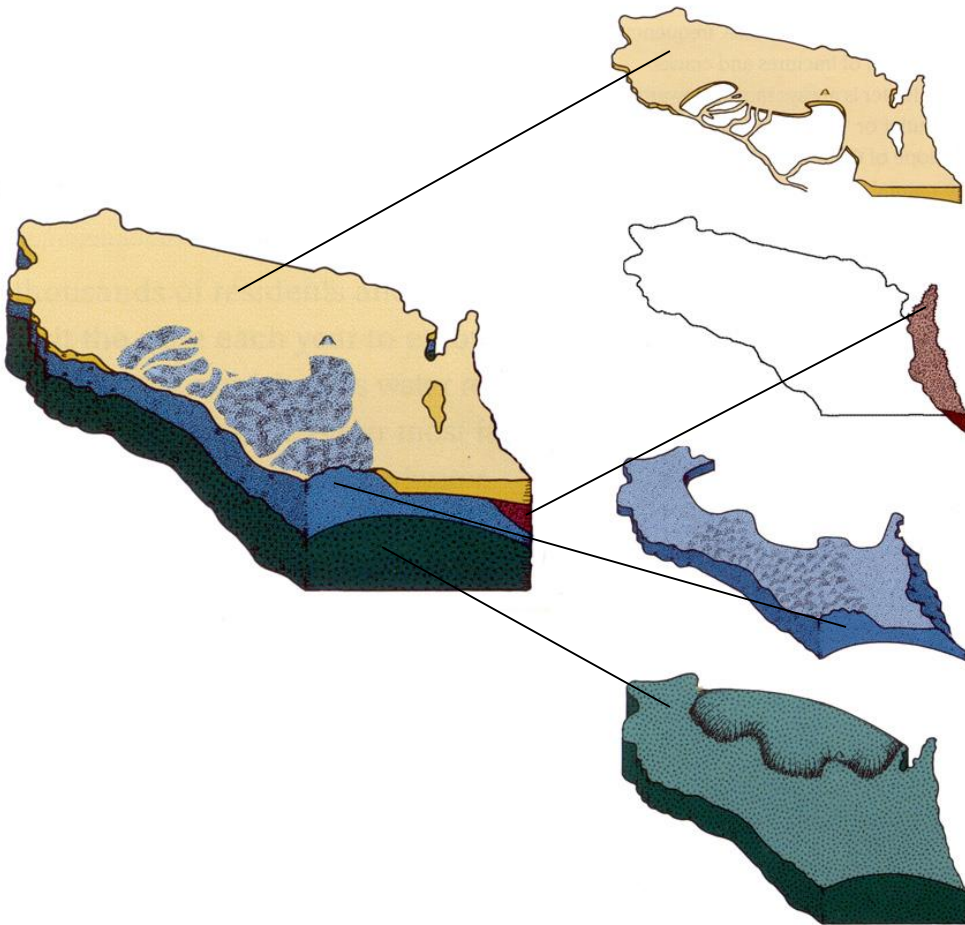


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# Wisconsin Aquifers



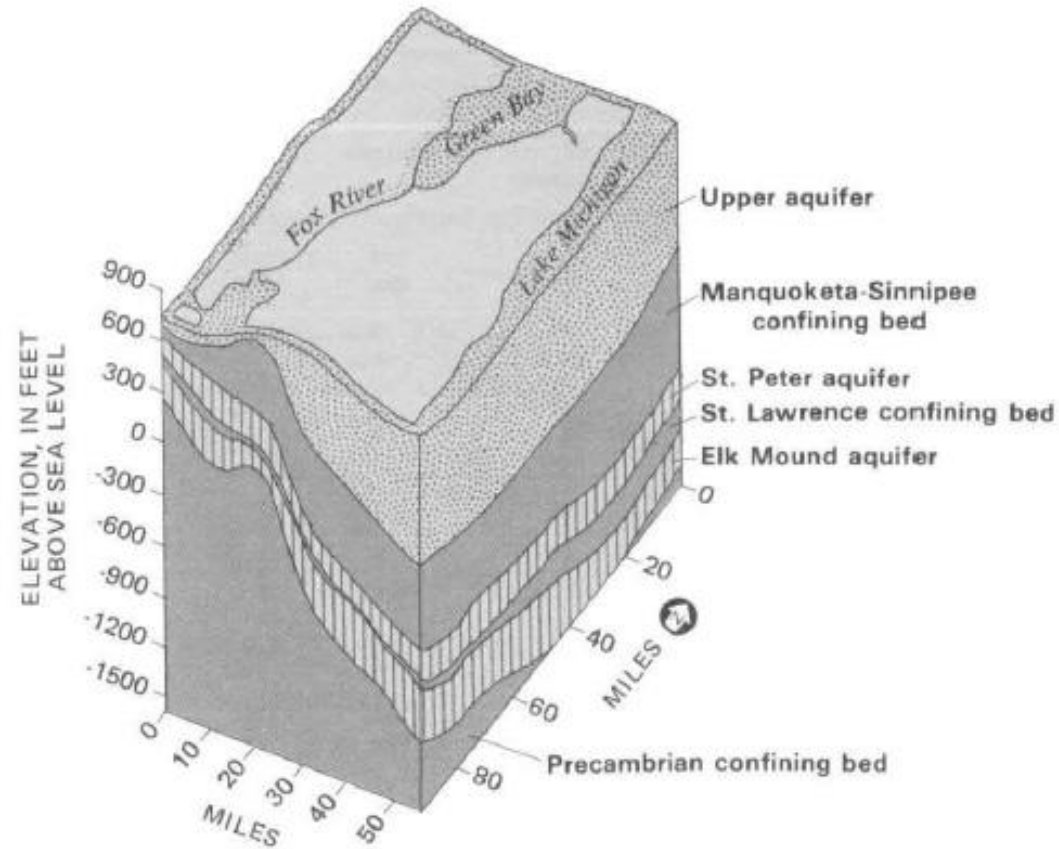
- Sand & gravel aquifer
- Silurian dolomite aquifer
- Sandstone & dolomite aquifer
- Crystalline bedrock aquifer

Image from DNR Magazine supplement: Groundwater Wisconsin's Buried Treasure

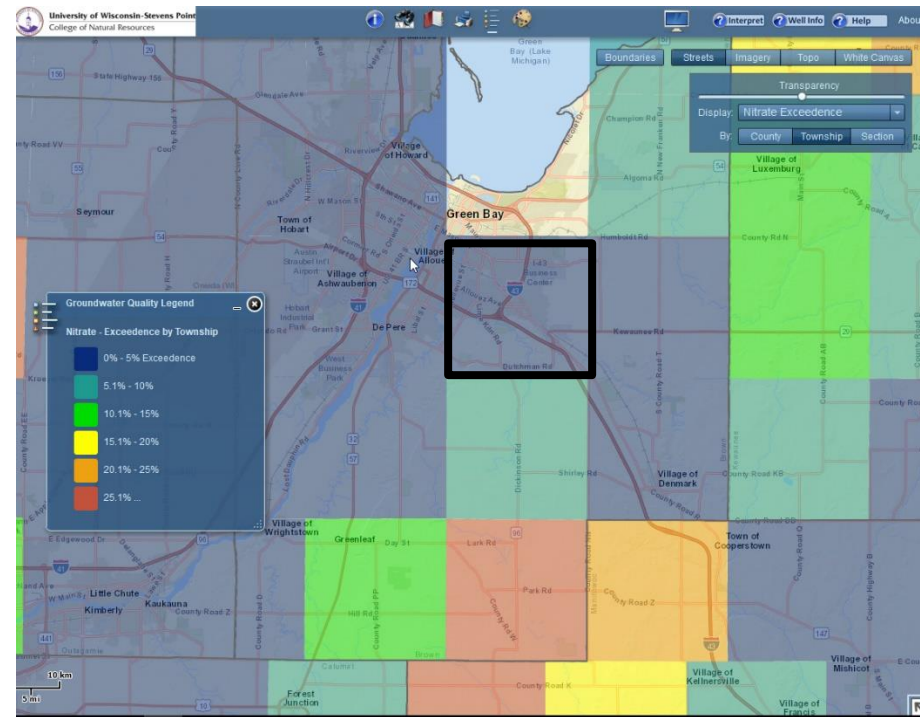


# Domestic Wells

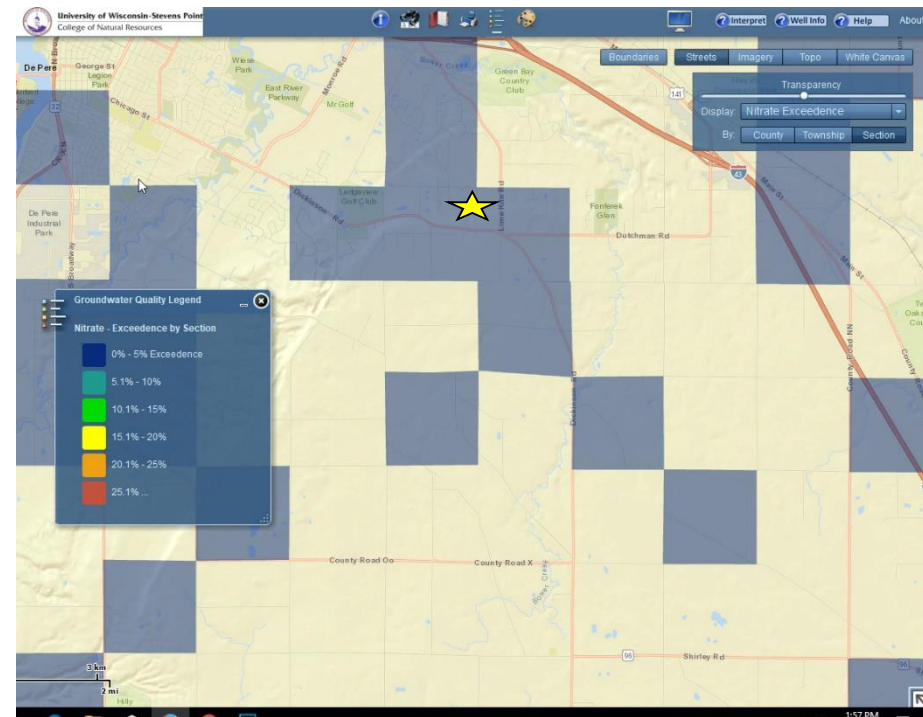
- Looked at wells in section 31, where farm is located
- Shallow wells (~60 feet or less in depth)
  - Sand and gravel
  - Silurian Dolomite
- Deep wells (>500 ft)
  - Extend below the Maquoketa shale



# Existing Water Quality Data: Nitrate-N



By Township

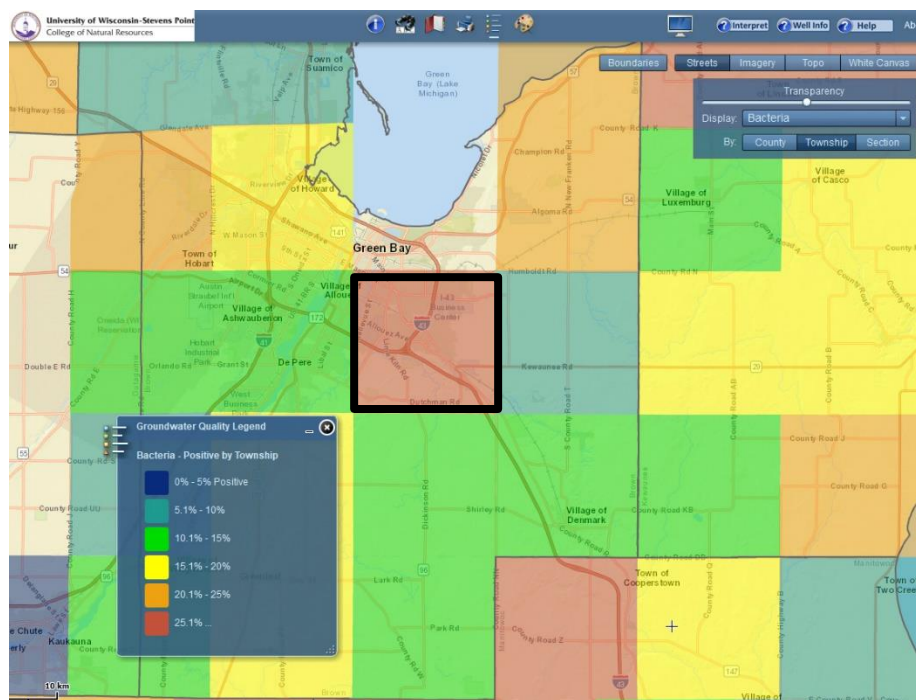


By Section

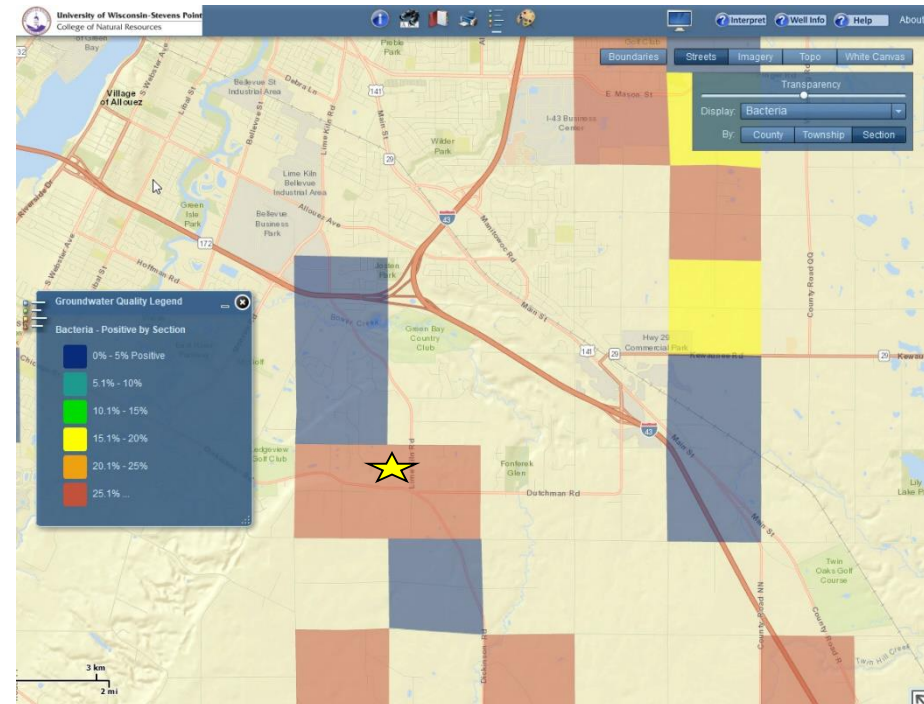
Data from the UW Stevens Point Well Water Quality Viewer  
<https://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/watershed/Pages/WellWaterViewer.aspx>



# Existing Water Quality Data: Bacteria



By Township



By Section

Data from the UW Stevens Point Well Water Quality Viewer  
<https://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/watershed/Pages/WellWaterViewer.aspx>

# Summary

- **Geology**

- Near the contact of the Silurian dolomite and the underlying Maquoketa shale
- Soils in the area of the farm site are generally <20 ft in thickness

- **Groundwater**

- Domestic wells tap both the shallow aquifer (sand & gravel or Silurian dolomite) and the deeper limestone and dolomite aquifer
- Published map suggests that groundwater flow is to the north in the area of the farm site
- Existing water-quality data do not show significant impacts from nitrate, but that bacteria detections may be elevated