

Presented below are water quality standards that are in effect for Clean Water Act purposes.

EPA is posting these standards as a convenience to users and has made a reasonable effort to assure their accuracy.

Additionally, EPA has made a reasonable effort to identify parts of the standards that are not approved, disapproved, or are otherwise not in effect for Clean Water Act purposes.

Wisconsin Variances from WQS as of November 17, 2025

This list is a catalog of all variances that have been approved since March 2020. In cases where the same facility has adopted multiple variances for a pollutant, please reference the most recently approved variance limit.

Note: Chloride variances are covered in a rule located in subchapter VII of ch. NR 106 of Wisconsin's Administrative Code.

Variance Facility	Pollutants Affected	Variance Limit	Affected Water	Approval Date
Cedar Grove Wastewater Treatment Facility	Chloride	530 mg/L, weekly average	Barr Creek in Sheboygan County	3/3/2020
Mellen Wastewater Treatment Facility	Mercury	6.5 ng/L, daily maximum	Bad River in Ashland County	3/26/2020
Argyle Wastewater Treatment Facility	Phosphorus	4.7 mg/L, monthly average	East Branch of Pecatonica River in Lafayette County	4/8/2020
Union Grove WWTF	Mercury	5.7 ng/L, daily maximum	West Branch Root River Canal in Racine County	5/11/2020
Union Grove WWTF	Chloride	560 mg/L, weekly average	West Branch Root River Canal in Racine County	5/11/2020
St Joseph Sanitary District	Phosphorus	3.7 mg/L, monthly average	Unnamed tributary to Mormon Coulee Creek in La Crosse County	5/27/2020
Saxon Sanitary District #1	Phosphorus	5.9 mg/L, monthly average	Vaughn Creek in Iron County	6/12/2020
Browntown Wastewater Treatment Plant	Phosphorus	Until July 1, 2022: 6.4 mg/L, monthly average After July 1, 2022: 2.0 mg/L, monthly average	Skinner Creek in Green County	3/3/2020
Soldiers Grove Wastewater Treatment Facility	Phosphorus	5.2 mg/L, monthly average	Kickapoo River in Vernon County	7/23/2020

Variance Facility	Pollutants Affected	Variance Limit	Affected Water	Approval Date
Stetsonville Wastewater Treatment Plant	Phosphorus	5.6 mg/L, monthly average	Ditch tributary to the West Branch of the Big Eau Pleine River in Vernon County	7/23/2020
Ripon Wastewater Treatment Facility	Chloride	663 mg/L, weekly average	Silver Creek in Fond du Lac County	8/10/2020
Chippewa Falls Wastewater Treatment Facility	Mercury	4.9 ng/L, daily maximum	Chippewa River in Chippewa County	9/8/2020
Oconomowoc Wastewater Treatment Plant	Chloride	510 mg/L (May - October) and 525 mg/L (November - April), weekly averages	Oconomowoc River in Waukesha County	9/21/2020
Watertown Wastewater Treatment Facility	Mercury	3.7 ng/L, daily maximum	Rock River in Jefferson County	9/21/2020
Slinger Wastewater Treatment Facility	Chloride	555 mg/L (May - October) and 605 mg/L (November - April), weekly averages	Unnamed tributary to the Rubicon River in Washington County	9/25/2020
Cuba City Wastewater Treatment Facility	Chloride	450 mg/L, weekly average	Tributary to Coon Branch in Lafayette County	9/25/2020
Brownsville Wastewater Treatment Facility	Chloride	530 mg/L, weekly average	Kummel Creek in Dodge County	9/25/2020
Chelsea Sanitary District Wastewater Treatment Plant	Phosphorus	6.4 mg/L, monthly average	Black River in Taylor County	11/3/2020
Dodgeville Wastewater Treatment Facility	Chloride	450 mg/L, weekly average	Headwaters Dodge Branch in Iowa County	11/27/2020
Valero Renewable Fuels Company, LLC	Mercury	71.0 ng/L, daily maximum	Rock River in Jefferson County	12/9/2020

Variance Facility	Pollutants Affected	Variance Limit	Affected Water	Approval Date
Wisconsin Power and Light – Edgewater Generating Station	Arsenic	4.7 ng/L, daily maximum	Lake Michigan in Sheboygan County, Outfall 004	12/11/2020
Wisconsin Power and Light – Edgewater Generating Station	Arsenic	2.4 µg/L, daily maximum	Lake Michigan in Sheboygan County, Outfall 009	12/11/2020
Deerfield Wastewater Treatment Facility	Chloride	460 mg/L, weekly average	Tributary of Mud Creek in Dane County	12/17/2020
Tyco Fire Products LP	Arsenic	Until January 1, 2023: 680 µg/L, daily maximum After January 1, 2023: 194 µg/L, daily maximum	Menominee River in Marinette County	12/22/2020
Tyco Fire Products LP	Mercury	Until January 1, 2023: 24.0 ng/L, daily maximum After January 1, 2023: 18 ng/L, daily maximum	Menominee River in Marinette County	12/22/2020
Gays Mills Wastewater Treatment Facility	Phosphorus	3.6 mg/L, monthly average	Kickapoo River in Crawford County	12/22/2020
Blue Mounds Wastewater Treatment Facility	Chloride	470 mg/L, weekly average	Williams- Barneveld Creek and the headwaters of Williams-Barneveld Creek in Dane County	12/30/2020
Cashton Wastewater Treatment Facility	Phosphorus	6.1 mg/L, monthly average	Little La Crosse River in Monroe County	2/26/2021
Maple Grove Estates Sanitary District	Chloride	576 mg/L, weekly average	Wetland Tributary to Pleasant Valley Creek in La Crosse County	3/9/2021

Variance Facility	Pollutants Affected	Variance Limit	Affected Water	Approval Date
Lime Ridge Wastewater Treatment Facility	Phosphorus	5.5 mg/L, monthly average	Narrows Creek in Sauk County	3/17/2021
Baraboo Wastewater Treatment Facility	Mercury	3.1 ng/L, daily maximum	Baraboo River in Sauk County	4/2/2021
Arlington Wastewater Treatment Facility	Chloride	580 mg/L, weekly average	Wetland complex north of Goose Lake in Columbia County	5/13/2021
Wilton Wastewater Treatment Facility	Phosphorus	8.8 mg/L, monthly average	Kickapoo River in Monroe County	10/4/2021
City of West Bend Wastewater Treatment Plant	Chloride	610 mg/L, weekly average	Milwaukee River in Washington County	11/17/2021
Merrillan Wastewater Treatment Facility	Phosphorus	3.9 mg/L, monthly average	Halls Creek in Jackson County	12/14/2021
City of Antigo's Spring Brook Pollution Abatement Facility	Mercury	7.8 ng/L, daily maximum	Spring Brook Creek in Langlade County	12/17/2021
Village of Glen Flora Wastewater Treatment Facility	Phosphorus	6.5 mg/L, monthly average	Deer Tail Creek in Rusk County	12/17/2021
Milladore Wastewater Treatment Plant	Phosphorus	Until July 31, 2024: 3.7 mg/L, monthly average After July 31, 2024: 1.0 mg/L, monthly average	Tributary to Mill Creek in Wood County	12/17/2021
East Troy Village Wastewater Treatment Plant	Chloride	482 mg/L, weekly average	Perennial Stream B in Walworth County	1/13/2022
Green Bay Metropolitan Sewerage District Combined	Mercury	5.5 ng/L, daily maximum	Fox River in Brown County	3/1/2022
Village of Siren Wastewater Treatment Plant	Phosphorus	1.0 mg/L, monthly average	St. Croix River Basin in Burnett County	3/30/2022

Variance Facility	Pollutants Affected	Variance Limit	Affected Water	Approval Date
Oakdale Wastewater Treatment Facility	Phosphorus	9.2 mg/L, expressed as a monthly average	Tributary of Allen Creek in Monroe County	4/21/2022
Oakdale Wastewater Treatment Facility	Copper	59 µg/L, daily maximum 41 µg/L, weekly average	Tributary of Allen Creek in Monroe County	4/21/2022
Hudson Wastewater Treatment Facility	Mercury	6.8 ng/L, daily maximum	St. Croix River in Saint Croix County	8/9/2022
Three Lakes Sanitary District #1	Copper	24 µg/L, weekly average	Unnamed Wetland in Oneida County	8/11/2022
Gibbsville Wastewater Treatment Plant	Phosphorus	4.5 mg/L, monthly average	Onion River in Sheboygan County	12/12/2022
Whitewater Generating Station (formerly known as LSP Whitewater Limited Partnership)	Mercury	3.93 ng/L, daily maximum	Whitewater Creek in Jefferson County	12/20/2022
ERCO Worldwide (USA) Inc. - Port Edwards	Mercury	42 ng/L, daily maximum	Wisconsin River in Wood County	3/29/2023
Dickeyville Wastewater Treatment Facility	Chloride	458 mg/L, weekly average	Unnamed Tributary to Indian Creek in Grant County	5/15/2023
Georgia-Pacific Consumer Operations, LLC	Mercury	3.3 ng/L, daily maximum	Lower Fox River in Brown County	6/28/2023
Cascades Tissue Group Wisconsin, Inc.	Mercury	12 ng/L, daily maximum	Chippewa River in Eau Claire County	7/6/2023
Wisconsin Rapids Wastewater Treatment Facility	Mercury	2.8 ng/L, daily maximum	Wisconsin River in Wood County	10/30/2023

Variance Facility	Pollutants Affected	Variance Limit	Affected Water	Approval Date
City of Reedsburg Wastewater Treatment Facility	Mercury	5.5 ng/L, daily maximum	Baraboo River in Sauk County	12/4/2023
Clyman Wastewater Treatment Facility	Phosphorus	6.0 mg/L, monthly average	Unnamed tributary to Dead Creek in Dodge County	2/28/2024
Clyman Wastewater Treatment Facility	Chloride	480 mg/L, weekly average	Unnamed tributary to Dead Creek in Dodge County	2/29/2024
Hartford Water Pollution Control Facility	Chloride	570 mg/L, weekly average	Rubicon River in Washington County	4/9/2024
Village of Highland Wastewater Treatment Facility	Phosphorus	6.2 mg/L, monthly average	Big Spring Branch in the Blue River Watershed in Iowa County	5/7/2024
Wisconsin Public Service Corporation – Weston Power Plant	Mercury	11.0 ng/L, daily maximum	Wisconsin River in Marathon County	5/23/2024
Hewitt Sanitary District Wastewater Treatment Plant	Chloride	493 mg/L, weekly average	Mill Creek in the Mill Creek Watershed of the Upper Wisconsin River Central Sub-Basin in Wood County	6/12/2024
City of Brookfield Fox River Water Pollution Control Center	Chloride	May through November 590 mg/L, weekly average December through April 620 mg/L, weekly average	Fox River in Waukesha County	7/11/2024
Orfordville Wastewater Treatment Facility	Phosphorus	0.61 mg/L, monthly average	Unnamed effluent channel to Swan Creek in Rock County	8/5/2024

Variance Facility	Pollutants Affected	Variance Limit	Affected Water	Approval Date
Oconto Wastewater Treatment Facility	Mercury	3.3 ng/L, daily maximum	Oconto River in Oconto County	8/5/2024
Dale Sanitary District No. 1 Wastewater Treatment Facility	Chloride	490 mg/L, weekly average	Unnamed tributary to the Rat River in Outagamie County	8/6/2024
Cadott Wastewater Treatment Facility	Phosphorus	0.40 mg/L, monthly average	Yellow River in Chippewa County	9/4/2024
Holland SD1 Wastewater Treatment Facility	Chloride	940 mg/L, daily maximum 690 mg/L, weekly average	Unnamed tributary (WID-125500) to Plum Creek in Brown County	9/4/2024
Fontana Walworth Water Pollution Control Commission	Chloride	560 mg/L, weekly average	Piscasaw Creek in Walworth County	10/31/2024
Dairyland Power Cooperative Alma J.P. Madgett Facility	Mercury	4.6 ng/L, daily maximum	Mississippi River in Buffalo County	11/6/2024
Rosendale Wastewater Treatment Facility	Chloride	613 mg/L, weekly average	Unnamed tributary to the West Branch of the Fond du Lac River in Fond du Lac County	11/13/2024
New Holstein Wastewater Treatment Facility	Chloride	420 mg/L, weekly average	Jordan Creek in Calumet County	12/30/2024
Dodge Sanitary District No 1	Phosphorus	5.5 mg/L, monthly average	Trempealeau River in Trempealeau County	2/25/2025
Ontario Wastewater Treatment Facility	Phosphorus	Through December 31, 2026: 7.5 mg/L, monthly average After December 31, 2026: 2.5 mg/L, monthly average	Brush Creek in Vernon County	2/25/2025

Variance Facility	Pollutants Affected	Variance Limit	Affected Water	Approval Date
Paddock Lake Wastewater Treatment Facility	Chloride	450 mg/L, weekly average	Brighton Creek in Kenosha County	2/25/2025
Potter Wastewater Treatment Facility	Chloride	450 mg/L, weekly average	Unnamed tributary to the Manitowoc River in Calumet County	2/26/2025
Chilton Wastewater Treatment Facility	Chloride	560 mg/L, weekly average	South Branch of the Manitowac River in Calumet County	2/28/2025
Merrill Wastewater Treatment Facility	Mercury	8.5 ng/L, daily maximum	Wisconsin River in Lincoln County	3/24/2025
Oostburg Wastewater Treatment Plant	Chloride	470 mg/L, weekly average	Black River in Sheboygan County	4/2/2025
Cleaveland Wastewater Treatment Facility	Arsenic	3.0 µg/L, daily maximum	Lake Michigan in Manitowoc County	5/27/2025
Brillion Wastewater Treatment Facility	Chloride	780 mg/L, weekly average	Unnamed tributary, the north branch to Spring Creek in Calumet County	6/2/2025
Rib Mountain Metro Sewerage District Wastewater Treatment Facility	Mercury	7.0 ng/L, daily maximum	Wisconsin River in Marathon County	6/18/2025
Sussex Wastewater Treatment Facility	Chloride	December through April 511 mg/L, weekly average May through November 500 mg/L, weekly average	Spring Creek in Waukesha County	6/25/2025
McKinley Paper	Mercury	14 ng/L, daily maximum	Lower Fox River in Outagamie County	7/30/2025

Variance Facility	Pollutants Affected	Variance Limit	Affected Water	Approval Date
Yorkville Sewer Utility District No. 1	Chloride	December through April: 710 mg/L, weekly average 960 mg/L, daily maximum May through November: 450 mg/L, weekly average 780 mg/L, daily maximum	Ives Grove Ditch in Racine County	8/18/2025
Denmark Wastewater Treatment Facility	Chloride	980 mg/L, weekly average	Denmark Creek in Brown County	9/12/2025
Roxbury Sanitary District #1 Wastewater Treatment Facility	Phosphorus	4.8 mg/l, monthly average	Roxbury Creek in Dane County	9/30/2025
Roxbury Sanitary District #1 Wastewater Treatment Facility	Chloride	510 mg/L, weekly average	Roxbury Creek in Dane County	9/30/2025