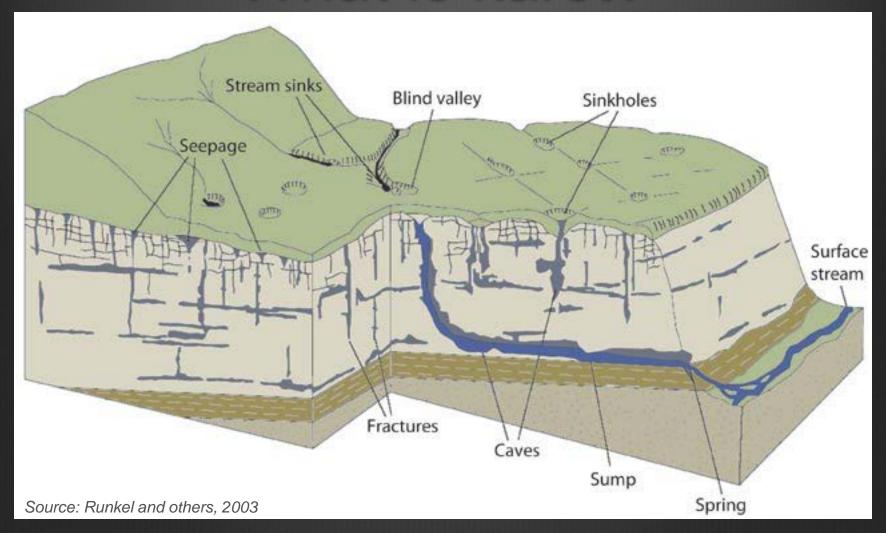
## Lafayette County

Karst and other groundwater considerations



## What is karst?

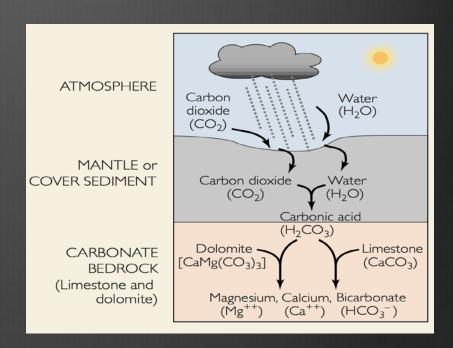


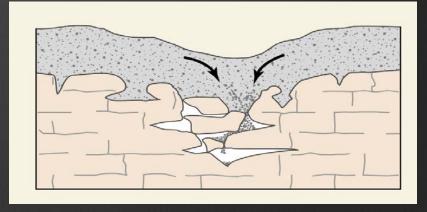
- "Karst" is a landscape created when water dissolves rocks.
- In Wisconsin, dolomite and some limestone are typical soluble rocks.

### Sinkholes and caves indicate karst

◆Karst develops by dissolution in carbonate bedrock.

Water washes
overlying material into
the underlying
conduits and fractures





Tihansky, 1999

# Overlying material affects sinkhole type

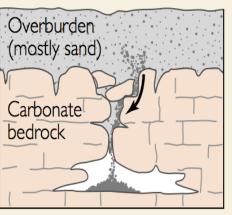
Tihansky, 1999

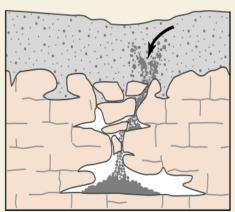
Granular sediments spall into secondary openings in the underlying carbonate rocks.

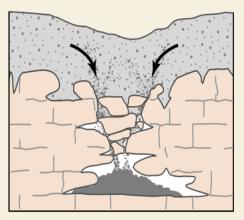
A column of overlying sediments settles into the vacated spaces (a process termed "piping").

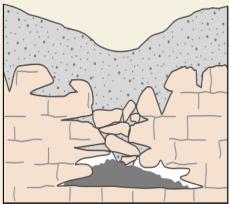
Dissolution and infilling continue, forming a noticable depression in the land surface.

The slow downward erosion eventually forms small surface depressions I inch to several feet in depth and diameter.









Cover-subsidence - Less cohesive overlying sediment (sand and gravel)

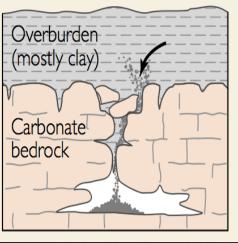
# Overlying material affects sinkhole type

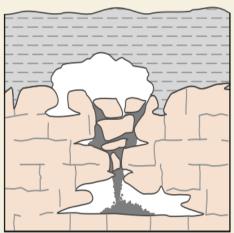
Tihansky, 1999

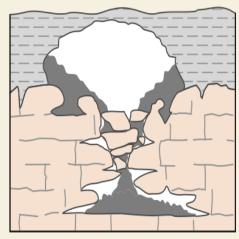
Sediments spall into a cavity. As spalling continues, the

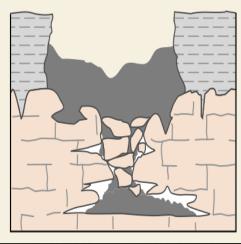
As spalling continues, the cohesive covering sediments form a structural arch.

The cavity migrates upward by progressive roof collapse. The cavity eventually breaches the ground surface, creating sudden and dramatic sinkholes.









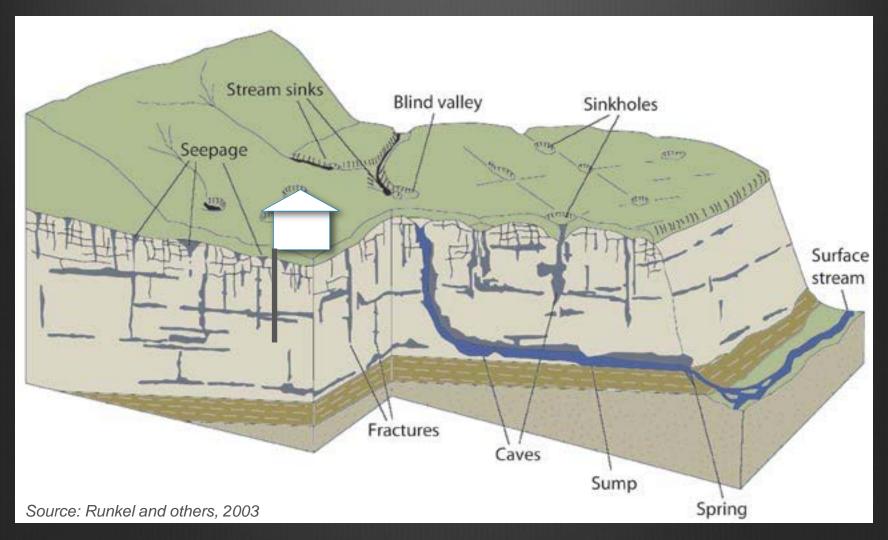
Cover-collapse - Overlying sediments are cohesive (clays, silts, and concrete)

## Fractures and swallets indicate karst



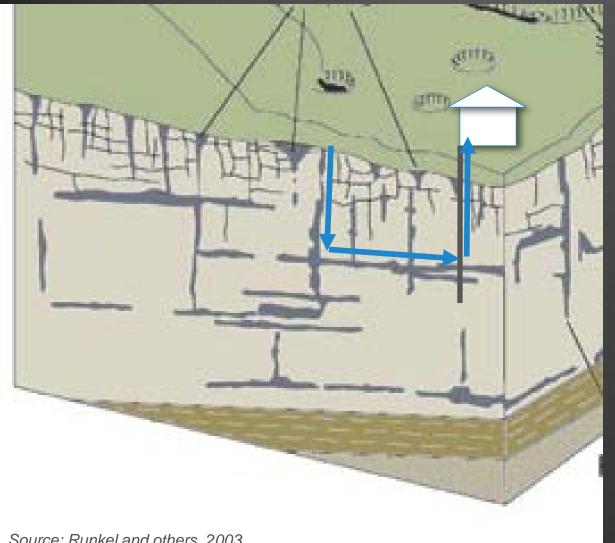
Photos - Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey

## Groundwater flow in karst



Karst — well connected conduits and fractures in the rock.

### Groundwater flow in karst



Surface contaminants are quickly transported through the conduits and fractures

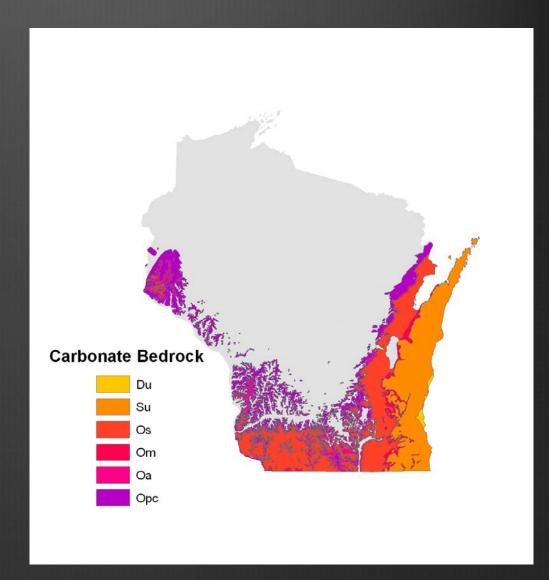
Little filtering or removal of contaminants during transport through the carbonate rocks.

Source: Runkel and others, 2003

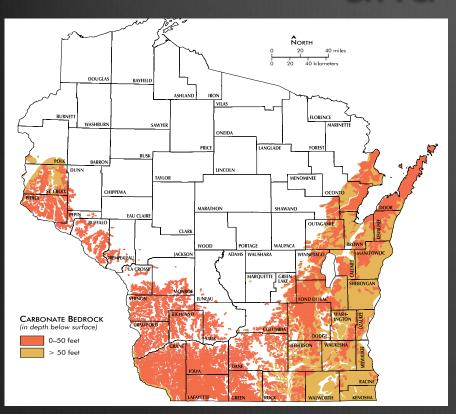


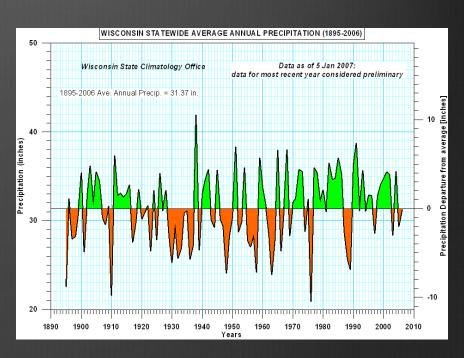
## Karst and Wisconsin Bedrock

- ◆Bedrock Units associated with karst
  - ◆ Devonian and Silurian Dolomites
  - ◆ Sinnipee Group (Galena-Platteville)
  - ♦ Prairie du Chien



# Just need carbonate rock and water





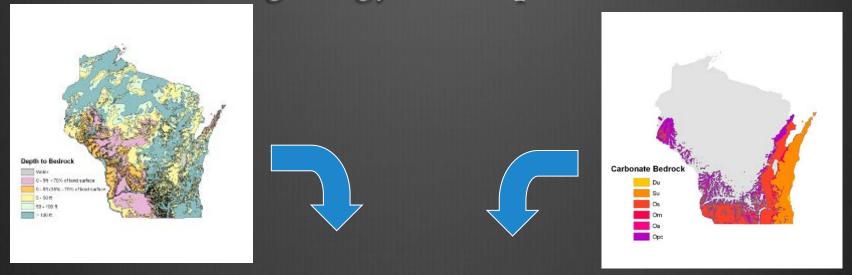
Average precipitation 31 inch/year

Depth and presence of carbonate rock in Wisconsin

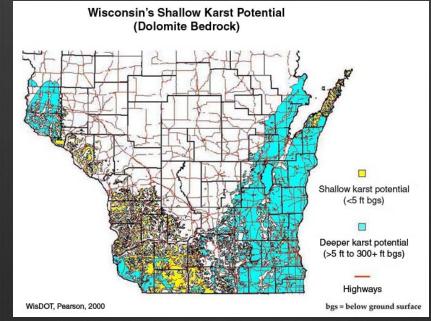
Wisconsin has both

## Karst Potential Map

combines geology and depth to bedrock



Depth to bedrock



Carbonate Bedrock

## Lafayette County

Has high karst potential

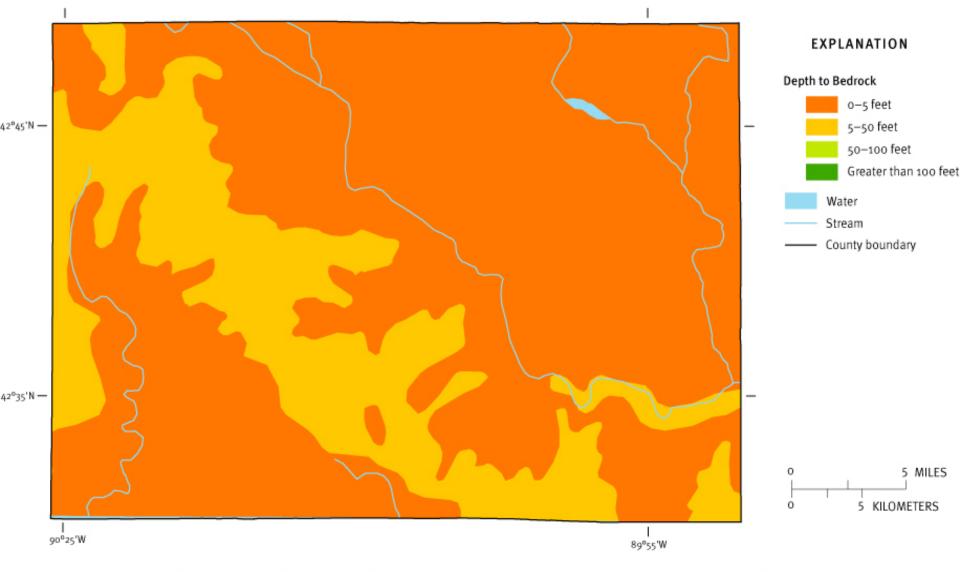
- Shallow depth to bedrock
- Much of the county has carbonate bedrock as the uppermost unit
- Combine to also have relatively high susceptibility to groundwater contamination.

## Lafayette Topography

Part of Driftless Area – Many ridges and valleys



#### Lafayette County - Depth to Bedrock

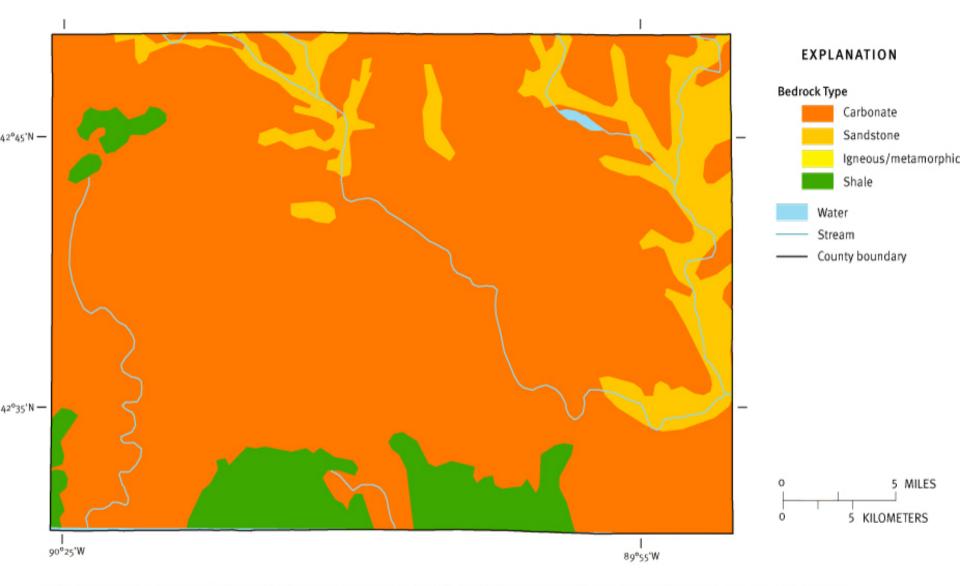


This resource characteristic map was derived from generalized statewide information at small scales, and cannot be used for any site-specific purposes.

Map source: Schmidt, R.R., 1987, Groundwater contamination susceptibility map and evaluation: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Wisconsin's Groundwater Management Plan Report 5, PUBL-WR-177-87, 27 p.

Figure created for the "Protecting Wisconsin's Groundwater Through Comprehensive Planning" web site, 2007, http://wi.water.usgs.gov/gwcomp/

#### Lafayette County – Bedrock Type

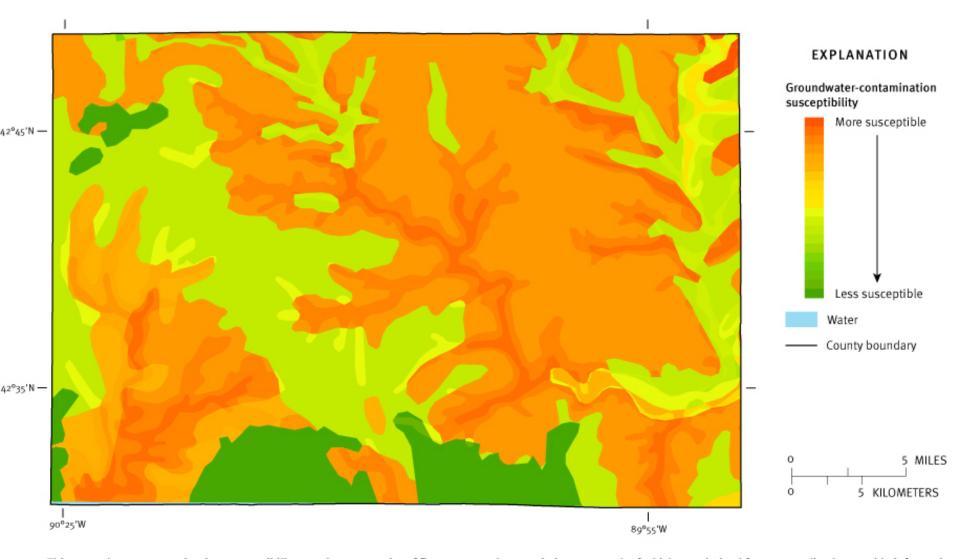


This resource characteristic map was derived from generalized statewide information at small scales, and cannot be used for any site-specific purposes.

Map source: Schmidt, R.R., 1987, Groundwater contamination susceptibility map and evaluation: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Wisconsin's Groundwater Management Plan Report 5, PUBL-WR-177-87, 27 p.

Figure created for the "Protecting Wisconsin's Groundwater Through Comprehensive Planning" web site, 2007, http://wi.water.usgs.gov/gwcomp/

#### Lafayette County – Groundwater-Contamination Susceptibility Analysis



This groundwater-contamination susceptibility map is a composite of five resource characteristic maps, each of which was derived from generalized statewide information at small scales, and cannot be used for any site-specific purposes.

Map source: Schmidt, R.R., 1987, Groundwater contamination susceptibility map and evaluation: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Wisconsin's Groundwater Management Plan Report 5, PUBL-WR-177-87, 27 p.

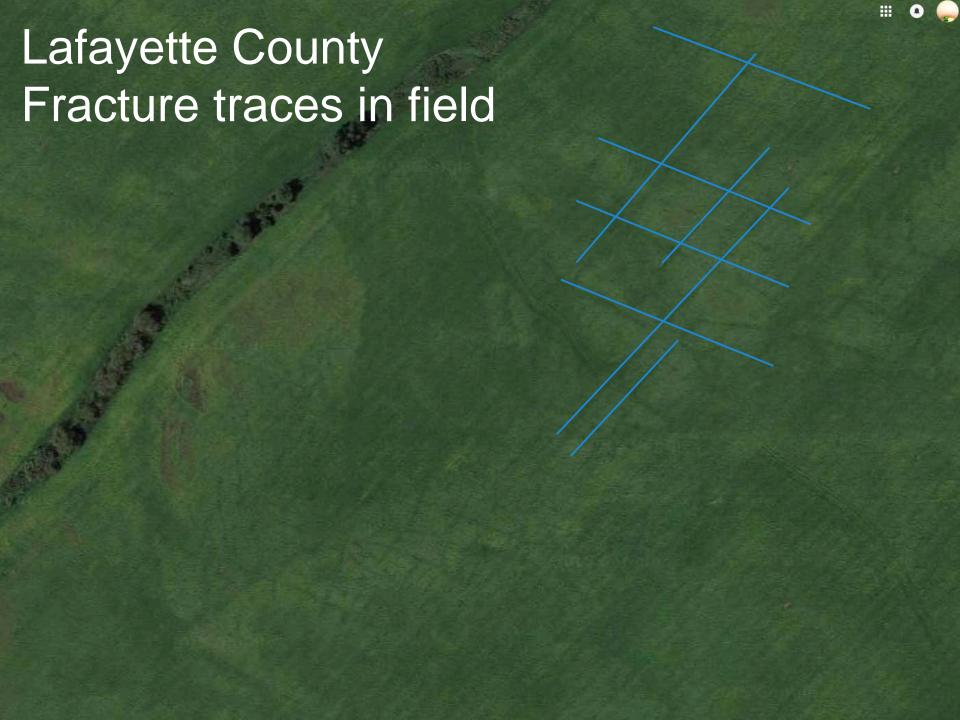
Figure created for the "Protecting Wisconsin's Groundwater Through Comprehensive Planning" web site, 2007, http://wi.water.usgs.gov/gwcomp/

## Example of fractures in Lafayette County Platteville Dolomite on Highway 151



## Example of fractures in Lafayette County Platteville Dolomite on Highway 151





#### Cave in Lafayette County

#### Madison Youths in Grant Jail

#### 4 Teen Cave Dwellers Held for Armed Thefts

like teen-aged cave dwellers, ar-said, they allegedly entered the rested Sunday as suspects in home of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd two armed robberies in Grant (Pat) Temperly, Hazel Green, County are still being held by threatened them with a knife, Grant County authorities await-bound them, and then took food;

niles, had set up housekeeping officers from Grant and Lafay mile from the cave. ette counties, plus volunteers. The posse first surrounded the

with two counts of armed rob-the cave.

16 year-old youth, a 16-year-old shot was fired. girl and a 15-year-old girl all of

ney said the county is holding cluding a rug, chest of drawers, the girls for Dane County juve-food, cuckoo clock, and bed nile authorities, and authorities clothing. will seek a waiver so they can Value of stolen items was esti-

86, Hazel Green, after entering of the four since the thefts oc-

LANCASTER - Four hippie- On Friday night, authorities ng further court action. clothing, dishes, and other The four, three of them juve-household items valued at \$400.

in a Lafayette County cave near They also reportedly took the Hazel Green. They were taken car which they abandoned near into custody by a posse of law a vacant farmhouse about a half

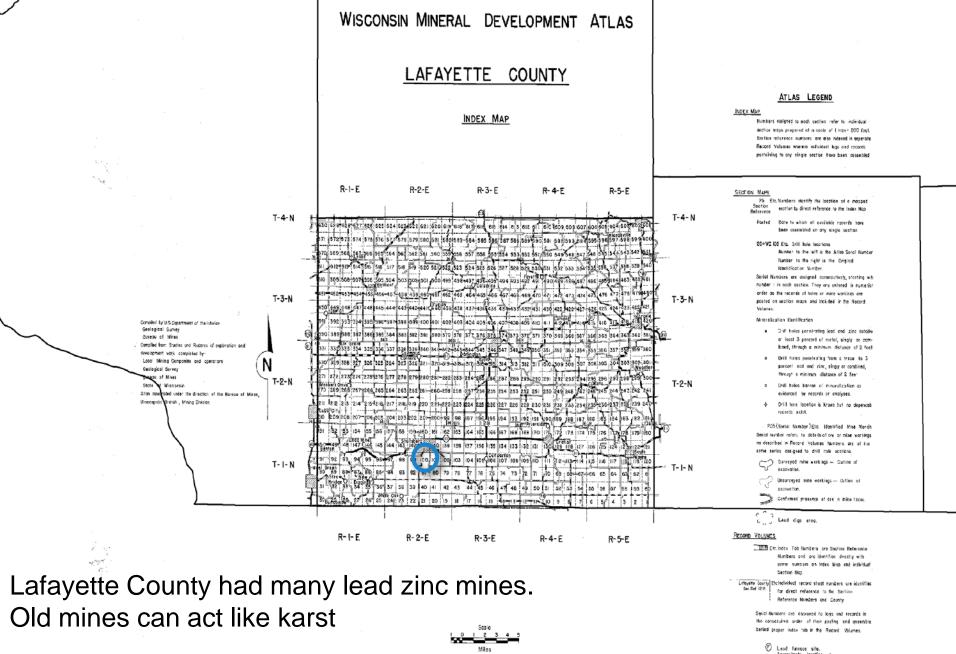
from the area, farmhouse, but found it vacant. Being held in Grant County They combed the area, and on jail under a \$50,000 bond is Rich-ladvice of three Hazel Green ard Hammill, 19, a native of the teen agers who saw the suspects Paich Grove area recently re-washing clothes in an area siding in Madison. He is charged creek, surrounded the mouth of

bery and one count of theft. The four refused to come out. . Still in detention here are a but filed from the cave after one

Madison. Nearly two pick-up truck loads of housekeeping items Grant County Sheriff Roy Gra- were taken from the cave in-

try the youth in County Court in-mated at between \$400 and \$500, stead of juvenile court. exclusive of the car.

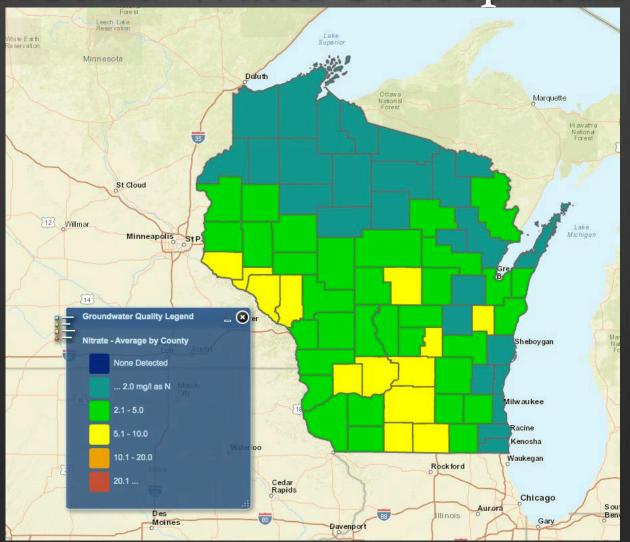
The four allegedly threatened Sheriff Graney said Grant and robbed Sylvester Rogers, County authorities took custody his home last Wednesday night, curred there, although the cave taking \$26 and clothing. was in Lafayette County.



Compilation Started September 4,1947



Indicators and Concerns Ground Water Susceptibility

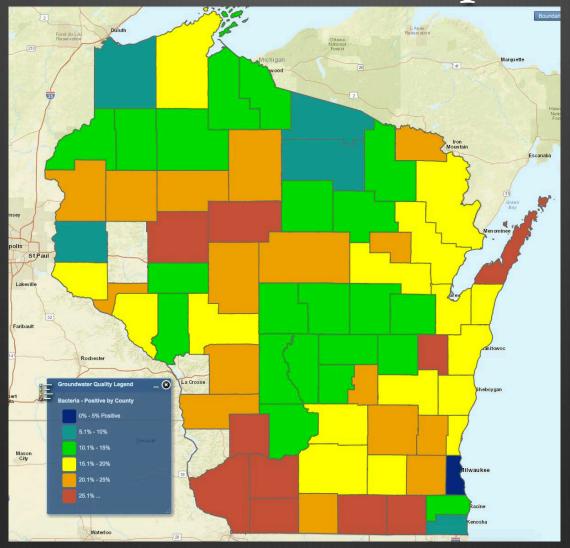


http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/watershed/Pages/WellWaterViewer.aspx

## Indicators and Concerns Ground Water Susceptibility

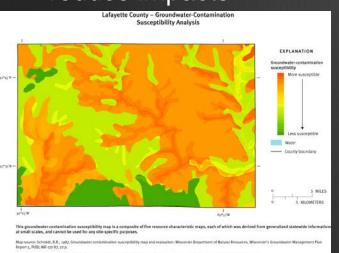


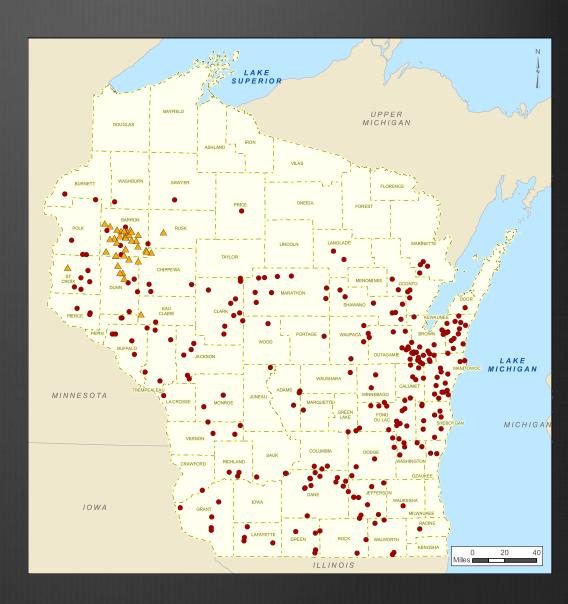
## Indicators and Concerns Ground Water Susceptibility



## Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO)

- Similar number and density as neighboring counties.
- Fewer than northeast
  - 6 in Lafayette Co
  - 16 in Kewaunee Co
- Siting of facility and land spreading important to reduce impacts



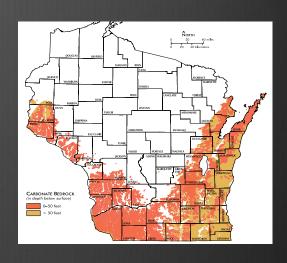


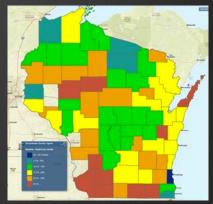
mitted jointly under a single WPDES permi I other CAFOs are permitted individually

## Conclusions

Like much of Wisconsin,

- Lafayette County has carbonate rocks that have some karst features.
- Lafayette County has some groundwater contamination issues.





## Some Resources

- Final Report of the Northeast Wisconsin Karst Task Force
  - http://learningstore.uwex.edu/Final-Report-of-the-Northeast-Wisconsin-Karst-Task-Force-P1394.aspx
- Recommendations of the Technical Workgroup Liquid Manure Storage in the Karst Region
  - https://www.pca.state.mn.us/sites/default/files/karst.pdf
- Well Water Quality Viewer: Private Well Data for Wisconsin
  - http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/watershed/Pages/WellWaterViewer.aspx
- Wisconsin Manure Management Advisory System
  - http://www.manureadvisorysystem.wi.gov
- Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Agribusiness
  - http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/AgBusiness/CAFO/
- Wisconsin Karst and Sinkholes
  - http://wgnhs.uwex.edu/water-environment/karst-sinkholes/
- Neighboring counties
  - Iowa and Green County Karst workshop (UW Extension) August 25th.