

Cherie Hales

Our state agencies have known for 40 years that our ground and surface waters here in the Driftless are contaminated with nitrates and ag chemicals. Obviously, continuous cover crops would help. More small grains and alternative crops would be a benefit. More animals on pasture rather than confined should be a goal as well.

Voluntary, self-reported BMPs have not been successful in improving water quality. There needs to be a more regulated, monitored system with penalties.

Everyone deserves clean, safe drinking water.