Wood County Meets State and Federal Standards for Ambient Air Quality

Total Air Emissions from Wood County Facilities

Pollutants	Tons/Year				
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Particulate Matter	1,409	1,388	1,242	1,268	1,315
Sulfur Oxide	14,018	13,824	14,248	13,7354	14,122
Nitrogen Oxide	8,138	7,387	7,873	7,483	7,063
Reactive Organic Compounds	3,093	2,822	2,821	2,815	2,205
Hazardous Air Pollutants	3,419	2,677	2,711	2,582	3,286

Key Facts

- Particulate matter decreased slightly between 2000 and 2004.
- Sulfur Dioxide decreased 2% from 2000 to 2003, but increased almost 3 % from 2003 to 2004.
- Nitrogen oxides decreased over 13% between 2000 and 2004.
- Reactive organic compounds decreased more than 28% between 2000 and 2004.
- Hazardous Air Pollutants decreased 24% overall between 2002 and 2003, but then rose 27% between 2003 and 2004.

Why is this Information Important?

Clean air is essential to our health and well being, and it can affect other components of our natural world. The air we breathe impacts our quality of life.

Air Quality

Air quality standards are determined by the federal Environmental Protection Agency and can impact human health.

Three air contaminants of concern in Wood County are particulate matter less than 10 microns (PM_{10}), sulfur dioxide (SO_2) and oxides of nitrogen (Nox). These contaminates can cause respiratory problems. However, Wood County meets all ambient air quality standards according to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

To assure continued compliance, new and modified sources of air pollution are modeled to predict resulting impacts on air quality. Sources for which predicted impacts would violate standards would not be issued an air pollution permit to construct.

Source: Wisconsin DNR