

From: Witkowski, Terry
Sent: Thursday, May 24, 2012 5:08 PM
To: Black, Tobie
Subject: FW: WDA on fluoridation
[Please send a hearing notice](#)

From: Evan Zeppos [mailto:ezeppos@zeppos.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 24, 2012 9:23 AM
To: Hines Jr., Willie; Bauman, Robert; Hamilton, Ashanti; Zielinski, Tony; jdavis@milwaukke.gov; Witkowski, Terry
Subject: WDA on fluoridation

The following is from my client, the Wisconsin Dental Association.

Of particular interest is the scientific info.

Please let me know if you have any questions, need more info or would like to discuss this issues with credentialed and credible experts.

Some of you know local health care professional Dr. Ernestine Willis, a strong supporter of continued fluoridation. I encourage you to engage her in a discussion on this issue.

ez
For WDA



Community Water Fluoridation Facts

Overview

For 65 years, community water fluoridation has been a safe, cost-effective and healthy way to significantly prevent tooth decay in children and adults.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has proclaimed community water fluoridation as one of the 10 great public health achievements of the 20th century, along with greater use of vaccinations and recognition of tobacco use as a health hazard.

According to 2012 figures from the CDC, 73.9 percent of the U.S. population on public water systems – 204 million people – had access to optimally fluoridated water. Approximately 90 percent of the population in Wisconsin that is connected to public water supplies receives the benefit of appropriate levels of fluoride.

Dental decay

- Tooth decay is the disease process that causes the destruction of tooth structure.
- Tooth decay is five times as common as asthma and seventimes as common as hay fever in 5 to 17 year-olds.

Fluoridation works

- Studies prove water fluoridation continues to be effective in reducing dental decay by 30-50 percent for children and adolescents, even in an era with widespread availability of fluoride from other sources, such as fluoride toothpaste. Decay is reduced by 27 percent for adults.
- Fluoridation benefits people of all ages and incomes, but it is especially important for those without access to regular dental care. An estimated 51 million school hours and 164 million work hours are lost per year in the United States due to dental-related illness.

Fluoridation is safe

- Fluoride is naturally-occurring in most water sources and is minimally adjusted to maximize proven oral health benefits.

- In January 2011, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services proposed changing the recommended optimal level of fluoride in public water systems to 0.7 milligrams per liter of water. The proposed recommendation is based on extensive research and shows federal health officials are using the best science to update their recommendations on fluoridated water.

Fluoridation is cost-effective

- Studies show that every \$1 invested in community water fluoridation results in \$38 saved in dental treatment costs.
- The average cost for a community to fluoridate its water is estimated to range from approximately \$3.00 a year per person in small communities to just \$0.50 a year per person in large communities.

The following organizations support appropriate fluoridation in Wisconsin's public water systems:

Children's Health Alliance of Wisconsin

Children's Hospital of Wisconsin

Marquette University School of Dentistry

Wisconsin Department of Health Services

Wisconsin Dental Association

Wisconsin Oral Health Coalition

American Dental Association

National Dental Association (forum for minority dentists)

May 24 2012