

McGovern Park Senior Center

Information Session
November 11, 2025





McGovern Park Senior Center

Photo by Jeramey Jannene of Urban Milwaukee

Agenda

- Basis for the closure
- Remediation efforts to date
- Alternative locations for services
- Next steps
- Questions



Basis for Closure

Indoor air quality is poor due to mold

- Multiple flood clean ups unsuccessful at improving air quality
- Mold exist throughout the building:
 - Basement
 - Main level
 - Heating and cooling system
- Source of mold requires additional investigation and likely capital investment to ensure mold issues don't return



Health Impacts of Mold

Leading diagnoses associated w/mold exposure

1. Allergic rhinitis (hay fever allergy)
2. Asthma
3. Acute upper respiratory infection
4. Anxiety disorder

Symptoms

- fatigue or malaise
- cough
- shortness of breath
- headache
- chest pain
- fever
- nasal congestion
- rash

Children and adults with asthma, respiratory conditions, or weakened immune systems should stay away from areas with mold and should avoid mold cleanup areas

Detecting Mold Exposure

Recent discovery of a blood serum biomarker:

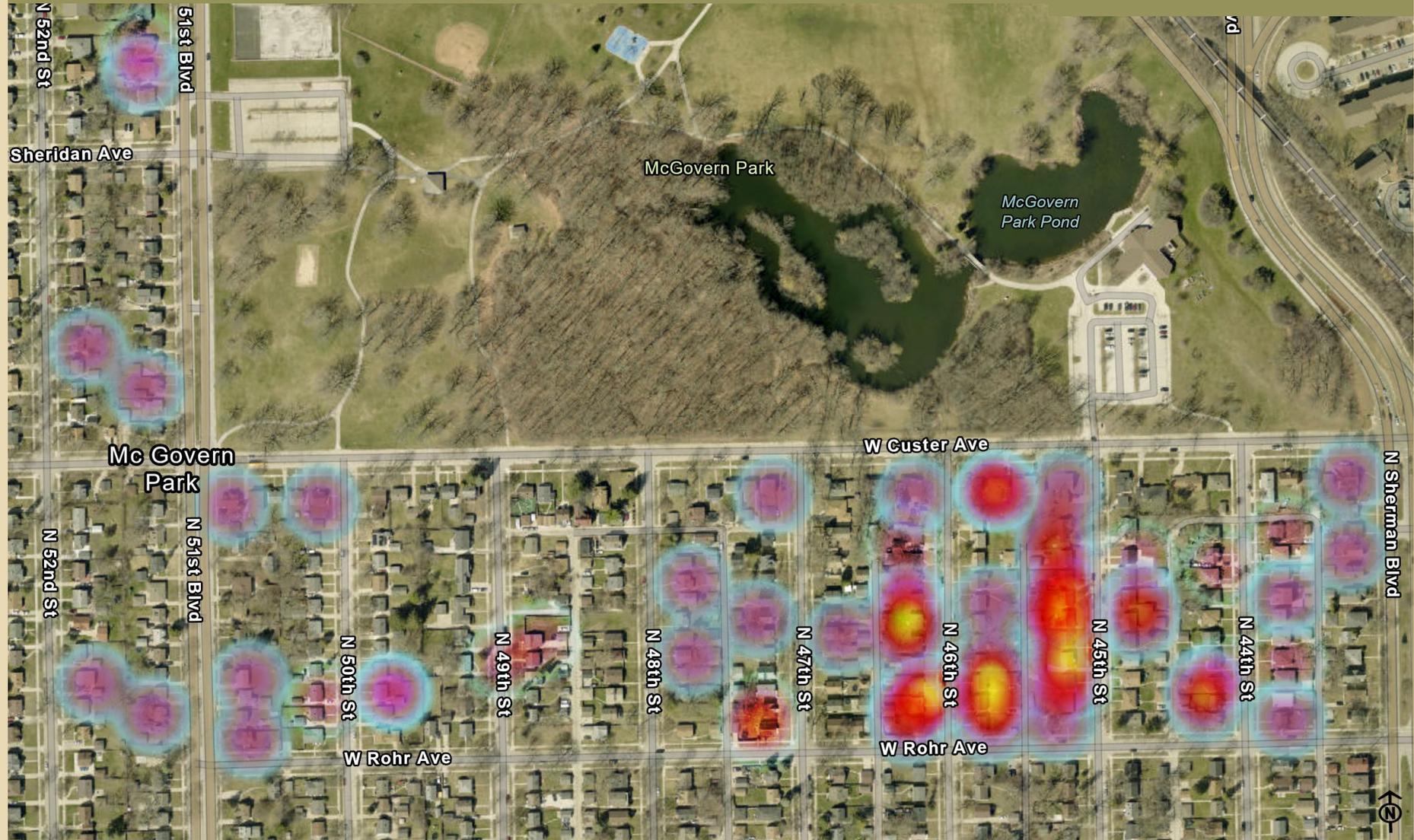
- Six mVOCs tested
 - Microbial volatile organic compound
- 2-hexanone mVOC
 - Indicator of exposure to indoor mold

Harvard & Tulane Universities
132 children
with asthma living in
government-subsidized housing

Today, there is no capability to test people for mold exposure

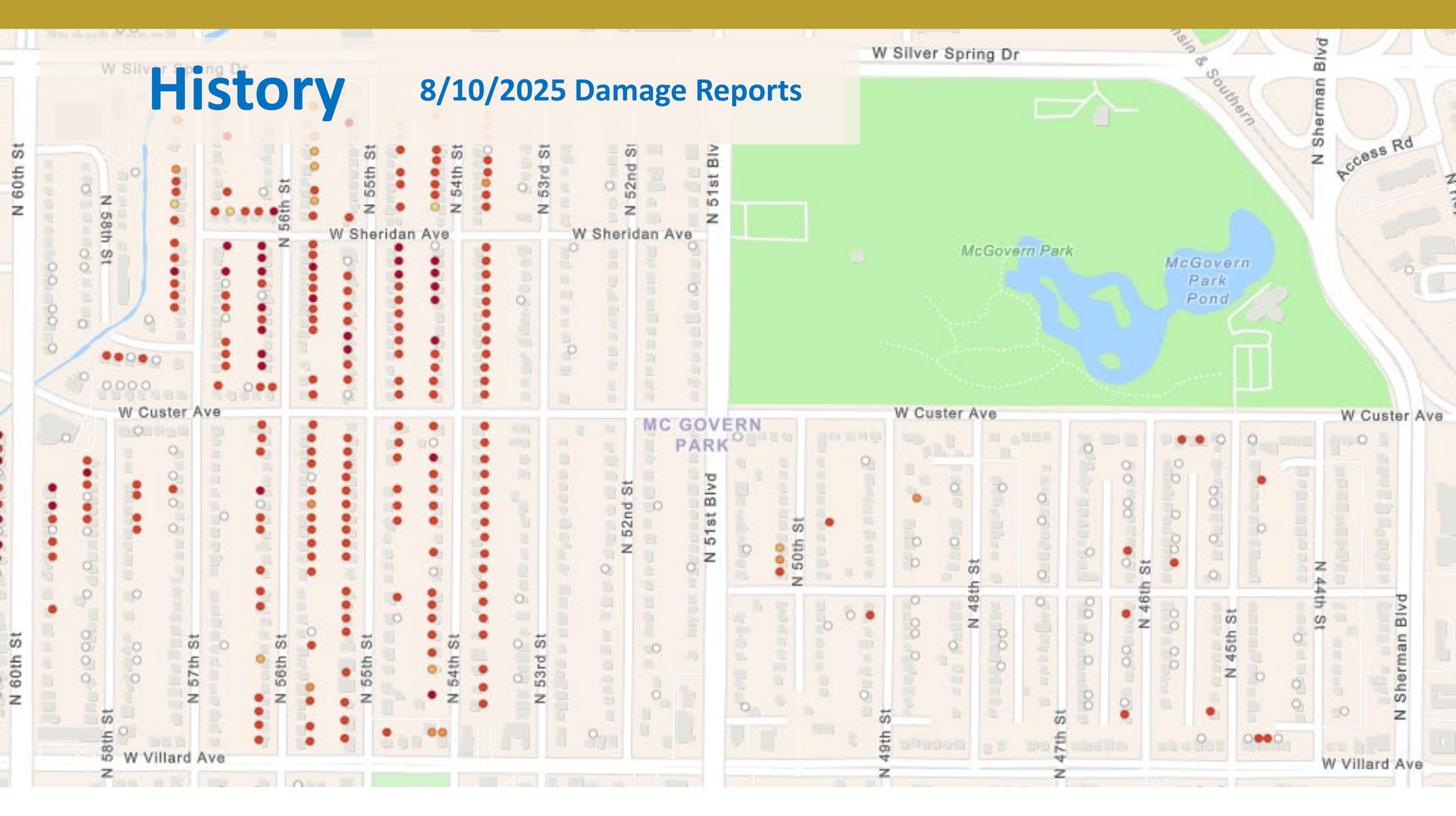
History

2008, 2010
Wet Basements
Reports



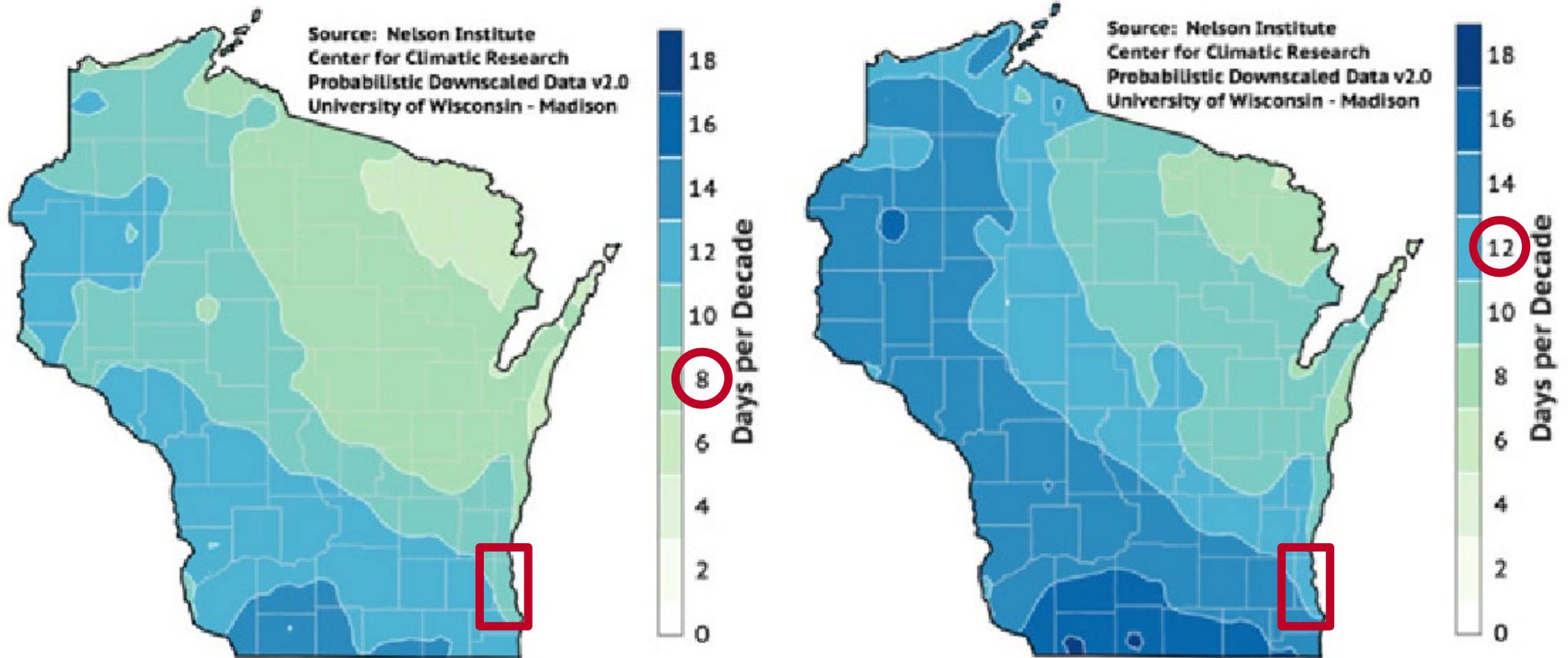
History

8/10/2025 Damage Reports



Future

Extreme precipitation will occur more frequently.
Over once a year, we'll see 2" of rain or snow within a 24-hour period.



Remediation Efforts

August 10-11: Historic flood damage throughout the region. Significant flooding at McGovern Senior Center and lost power.

August 12-15: FACILITY CLOSURE; initial flood cleanup (muck out sediment, extract water, steam clean surfaces, applied antimicrobial products, ran dehumidifiers and air purifiers)

August 19: Post cleaning air sampling performed

August 21: Air sampling results indicate high mold. Continued closure recommended.



Remediation Efforts Cont.

August 12-21: Continuous running of dehumidifiers and air purifying equipment.

August 25: Basement and main floor air sampling

August 27: New sampling confirms high mold.
Continued closure

September 6-10: Deep cleaning (mechanical room, remove flood-impacted insulation, disinfectants, HEPA machines, replacement of all air filters in HVAC, basement containment)



Remediation Efforts Cont.

September 11: 3rd round of air sampling

September 17: Results confirm high mold throughout main floor, though reduced in basement

September 18: Visual inspection of HVAC

September 25: Air quality consultant inspects facility, samples collected. Mold now visible on main floor surfaces and HVAC.



Remediation Efforts Cont.

September 28: Report confirmed presence of mold throughout HVAC system and on surfaces where it wasn't previously.

Findings: Continued mold growth, likely from increased humidity. Recommended further analysis to identify source of moisture and further remediation.

September 30: Recommend HEPA filters on air handling units

Consulted with Milwaukee Health Department on closure and remedial actions



Remediation Efforts Cont.

October: Contractors visited McGovern with County staff to prepare estimate for remediation costs.

Contractors visited McGovern with County staff to prepare estimate for assessing sources of high humidity/mold growth.

Insurance adjustors visited McGovern with County staff to consider claim. Other County properties still require visits.

Federal government denies FEMA application related to public infrastructure reimbursements.



Service Alternatives

- Clinton Rose, Washington, Dolan (Brown Deer) senior centers
- Senior Dining at Elks Lodge, Clinton Rose, Washington Park
- Hunger Task Force Stockbox Distribution by DoorDash or several nearby locations including Dolan in Brown Deer, Clinton Rose, Washington Park, and Good Hope Church
- Milwaukee Recreation, including: Gaenslen Weaving Center (1250 Burleigh), Milwaukee Marshall (4141 N 64th), OASIS.
- OATS Transportation, ERAS Senior Network



Next Steps

- Continued support use of service alternatives.
- Contracted with an engineering firm to assess sources of moisture and mold. (est. 6 weeks)
- Study results will determine next steps

If capital investment is required, consider options with the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors (6-12 weeks).



Questions?





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