

One of the many ways the cities of La Crosse and Charleston, West Virginia are not alike: water supply. People all around Charleston have been impacted for days by having their water supply shut off due to contamination after a chemical spill into the Elk River. La Crosse's water comes from the ground; a giant sand aquifer. A chemical wouldn't really have the same negative impact, says water utility manager, Mark Johnson

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But, Johnson says, because the city has multiple wells, it would have to take contamination at a bunch of them or some outright devastation to keep his utility from supplying at least some water.