



As part of WPUI's 2018 Energy Utility Basics course, on Friday October 12, 2018, there will be an optional tour of the UW-Madison's College of Engineering nuclear reactor facility, UWNR.

Tour sign-up information will be available soon!

Board bus at Pyle at 12:45, tour from 1:00-2:00, return to Pyle at 2:15

Long pants and closed-toe shoes required!

<https://reactor.engr.wisc.edu/>

UW-Madison Nuclear Reactor

The University of Wisconsin-Madison's thermal nuclear reactor (UWNR) was built in 1960, and after almost 60 years in operation, is still operating now at 1 MW. The UWNR provides research opportunities and education for those involved in the university's nuclear engineering program. It is one of about two dozen small university-based reactors used for education and research across the country. Because UWNR is on the UW-Madison campus and is dedicated to research and education, it is about 1/3,000 the size of a commercial reactor.

Despite the smaller size, the UWNR provides excellent learning opportunities for not only students of nuclear engineering but students outside of the field. For many years, UWNR staff have utilized this wonderful facility to introduce the population, such as other professors and middle and high school students, to nuclear science. Each year, about 1,000 middle school, high school, and college students tour the facility with reactor staff. Of these 1,000 visitors, about 400 are boy and girl scouts earning their "atomic energy" badge.

The research done through the UWNR has led to further understandings in medical isotopes, environmental assessments, advanced reactor design and much, much more. To have a nuclear reactor in operation on a college campus helps introduce the idea of nuclear energy to society while also preparing students in the nuclear field for their future careers.