

Wellhead Protection for Safe Water

Do your part to protect our water supply

Did you know?

Your water comes from city wells. Regular testing ensures it is safe to drink **today**.

Wellhead Protection ensures that your water will remain safe to drink.

Wellhead Protection is a cooperative program between you and us, your water utility.

We need your cooperation to keep pollution out of our wells and your drinking water.



The Solution to Pollution is you

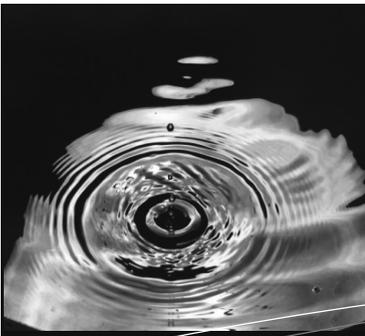
- Dispose of household hazardous waste properly
- Limit lawn and garden chemical use
- Locate and seal unused (abandoned) wells on your property
- Find and manage pollution sources on your property
- Contact your city water supplier if you have concerns about the safety and protection of your water supply

Our water supply is not infinite. Our water resources must be protected to preserve the quality of life for ourselves and future generations.

Jim Hafner
Stormwater Manager
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Wellhead Protection for Safe Water

Safe drinking water begins with you



Wellhead protection is as simple as good stewardship of our natural resources.

Most residents are already practicing good habits that prevent land and water pollution. For residents inside a wellhead protection area it's even more important.

Why wellhead protection?

Pollution has been detected in some public water wells throughout the nation and in our region. It's too late to prevent pollution after it reaches a city well.

Wellhead protection is a program to reduce the impact of pollution near public water supply wells. Property owners who are practicing pollution prevention within a wellhead protection area are not only protecting our natural resources - they are protecting our drinking water.

What is a wellhead protection area?

A wellhead protection area is a protection zone around a public water supply well to keep pollutants from rapidly reaching the community's water supply. The area is established using easily identifiable landmarks as boundaries (e.g. streets, property lines, ditches). The wellhead protection area is based on the minimum time (ten years) for a pollutant to reach the well. A wellhead protection area includes hundreds to thousands of properties. Residents and businesses within a wellhead protection area are asked to cooperate with your water supplier to effectively protect our water supply without establishing additional ordinances or regulatory programs.

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Unused wells are a special concern

It comes as a surprise to many residents and businesses that they have an old well on their property.

Minnesota law requires unused wells to be sealed by a licensed well contractor to protect groundwater from pollution.

Unused wells near a public water supply well are a special concern because the groundwater is used by the community for drinking.

Contact your city wellhead protection manager for information and assistance in locating and sealing unused wells on your property.