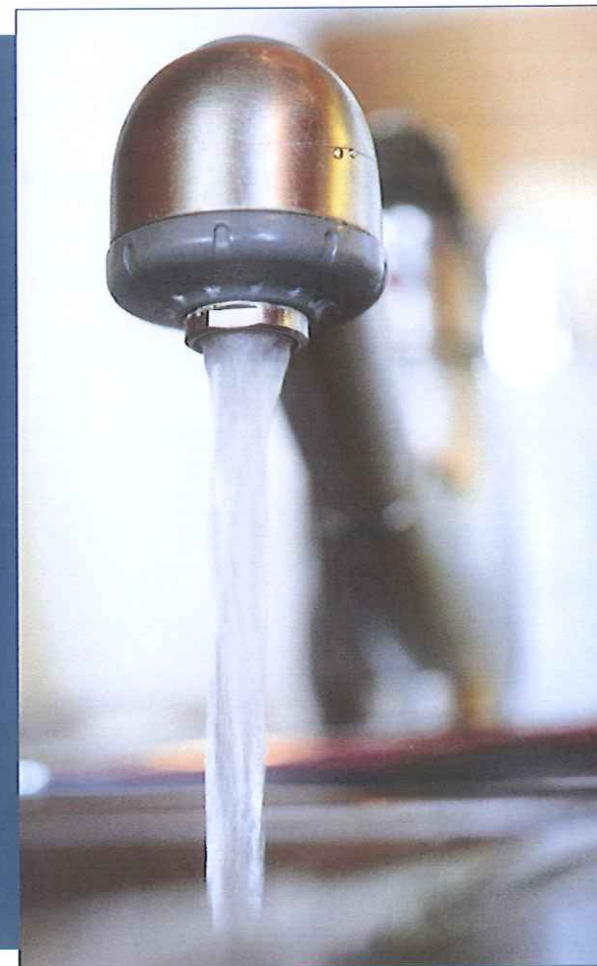


It's never too early to protect
your drinking water!



READING
1047 North Park Road | PO Box 6307
Reading PA 19610-0307
P. 610.621.2000 | F. 610.621.2001
LEHIGH VALLEY
Roma Corporate Center, Suite 509
1605 N. Cedar Crest Boulevard
Allentown, PA 18104
P. 610.849.9700 | F. 610.849.9701
CENTRAL PA
1950 Market Street
Camp Hill, PA 17011
P. 717.230.1487 | F. 610.621.2001

Gettysburg Municipal Authority SOURCE WATER PROTECTION PLAN



Education Handbook



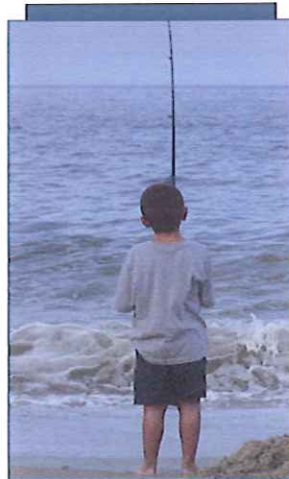
Development of this plan was funded by the
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection



Congratulations!

You have joined a group of other dedicated people interested in protecting your drinking water. As an interested stakeholder, your input will be an important part of your water system's *Source Water Protection Plan*.

As your partner in developing future protection activities, Gettysburg Municipal Authority will work closely with you to identify the areas that supply water to your water sources, identify the potential sources of contamination in the areas, develop protective management strategies, plan for emergencies, and identify new water supply options. Throughout the process your input is critical!



Protecting the source for future generations.

How Can I Help?

- Advise water supplier with ideas on source water protection in your town
- Review PSOCs
- Assist with implementing protection strategies
- Educate others about source water protection
- Help the water supplier plan for the future
- Stay involved!



aquifer

a natural underground layer of sand, gravel, or rock that contains water

community water system

a water system that supplies drinking water to 25+ people year-round in their residences

delineate

to mark the outline of a groundwater or surface water study area

emergency plan

a preparedness plan developed by a municipality to form consistent procedures in an emergency situation

geology

the study of the Earth, and the Earth's materials and processes

groundwater

underground water that supplies wells and springs

point source pollution

pollutants that come from a single exit point, like a pipe

management strategies

approaches taken by the water supplier and the Steering Committee to protect the sources of drinking water

non-point source pollution

pollutants that are contained in water runoff from construction, roads, agriculture, or residential areas

PSOCs - potential sources of contamination

areas or activities that may potentially have a negative impact on the drinking water source

public water system

a water system that supplies water to 25+ people at least 60 days per year

study area

the land regions that may impact the drinking water source

surface water

water sources that are open to the air, such as rivers, lakes, streams, and reservoirs

topography

graphic display of the Earth's surface including the elevation, and position of natural and man-made features

watershed

the land area from which water eventually drains to a lake, river, or reservoir

zone A

the area within 0.25 miles on either side of the intake, from a point 0.25 miles below the intake to upstream locations that are a 5-hour time-of-travel to the intake

zone B

the area that encompasses the watershed extending upstream of Zone A to a 25-hour time-of-travel along the tributaries

zone C

the remainder of the watershed; water flowing is estimated to reach the intake in more than 25 hours

zone I

Zone I is a circle around the groundwater well or spring with a radius between 100 and 400 feet

zone II

Zone II is the surface representation of the amount of groundwater contributing to a well or spring in 10 years or less.

zone III

Zone III, or the zone of contribution, contributes water to the capture zone, usually measured in acres or miles.

glossary

You may hear many new words as you are involved with Source Water Protection.

The following definitions will help with understanding of the science of Source Water Protection!

water terms

Why is source water protection important?



public health protection

Source water protection helps minimize threats to public health by keeping harmful contaminants out of the water supply.



reduced treatment costs

Clean water is less expensive to treat, and reduces system operation and maintenance costs.



economic benefits

Clean and plentiful water enhances your community's potential to attract employers, maintain a healthy economy, and possibly enjoy the benefits of tourism.



environmental stewardship

Protecting water resources will sustain native ecosystems and improve the quality of life for future generations.

your source water protection plan

A 5-Step Process was Used to Develop the Plan:

1. Delineate protection areas.
2. Form a Steering Committee and interested helpers.
3. Identify & prioritize potential contaminant sources.
4. Choose management and protection strategies.
5. Plan for the future.
 - What if? Where are new water sources?

Implement the Plan!

educating others on source water protection

Your knowledge of source water protection can be important in educating others about the need for safe drinking water. The water system's final plan will contain some sample brochures that can be changed for your specific group.

After approval of the plan, an education manual was given to the water system, filled with information that can be handed out to schools and students over time.

Consider offering Source Water Protection education in these areas:

- Schools
- Newspaper articles
- Chamber of Commerce
- Newsletters
- Charitable organizations
- Local radio or television stations

