

Where does your water come from?

90% of drinking water in
Florida comes from ground
water.

Groundwater is just what
is says, water that flows
under the ground.

Drinking water also comes
from lakes, rivers, &
streams.



Our Water is in Your Hands



For More
Information
Contact Your Local
Water Utility



Source
Water
Protection

*Protect Our
Drinking Water
"It is what you make it"*

What is a Source Water Protection Program?

Source water is the untreated water from lakes, groundwater,



Remember
"Now and Forever"

springs, rivers, or streams that supplies private wells and public drinking water systems.

Source water protection is simply protecting these drinking water

supplies in terms of both quality and quantity.

Source water protection planning involves investigating what the potential drinking water problems are throughout your community's watershed, and developing practical, "doable" steps to protect both the quality and quantity of the existing and potential sources of drinking water.

Why is Source Water Protection Important?

There is probably no other environmental area where the saying "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure" has as much meaning as it does in water protection.

Protection from contamination is key to maintaining good quality water. One way to protect water supplies is to protect the area surrounding a well or surface water intake.

There is profound financial impact on communities when their water supply becomes contaminated.

Installing treatment facilities, locating new water sources, or premeditating contaminated sources are costly alternatives.

The only way of ensuring a safe water supply, now and for the future, is to protect the source.

Water can be contaminated from many sources on the land surface, water surface or underground. Potential sources of contamination include croplands and lawns treated with fertilizers and pesticides, landfills, failing septic systems, under-

ground storage tanks, abandoned wells, animal feedlots, industrial impoundments, and accidental spills.

Growing interest in year around recreational activities finds large num-



Working together to protect drinking water.
"The Program The Plan:

bers of people in areas where recharge and source waters originate, and greatly increases the potential for water contamination.

Simple steps you can take to get involved.

- [Learn About Ground Water](#) in your area. Find out where your ground water surfaces and where your aquifer refills
- [Identify Possible Hazards](#) to your ground water supplies
- [Develop Plans](#) to protect sensitive lands, such as recharge areas. Get involved with community programs for safe disposal of hazardous waste.
- [Meet Local Partners](#) in ground water protection. (water utility, well contractor, federal government, state governments, local governments.

Join the effort to ensure a reliable water supply for years to come!

