Protecting Your Groundwater: What to do:

- Recognize and manage possible sources of contamination on your property
- Use hazardous products as directed and dispose of them properly
- Conserve water
- Use biodegradable soap when washing your car
- Select plants in your yard that requires low fertilizer application.
- If you have a septic system, make sure you keep it properly maintained.
- If you have a heating oil tank, have it checked regularly for leaks.

What NOT to do to:

- Do not dispose of used motor oil and other hazardous chemicals by pouring them in the ground or down the drain.
- Do not over-fertilize your lawn.
- Do not indiscriminately spray pesticide where a pest problem has not been identified.
- Do not divert storm drains into septic systems.
- Do not dump any trash or waste near a sinkhole.

Ways to Get Involved:

- Participate in clean-up activities in your Neighborhood
- Help Identify Potential Sources of Contamination in your Source Water Protection Area
- Help Educate your Neighbors and Others about Source Water Protection

Source Water Protection is a Community Effort

What is The Service Authority Doing to Protect Your Water?

The SA has formed a committee that has developed a wellhead protection plan that focuses on prevention of contamination and public education. Everyone must be involved for the wellhead protection plan to be effective!

A Quick Summary Review of Wellhead Protection:

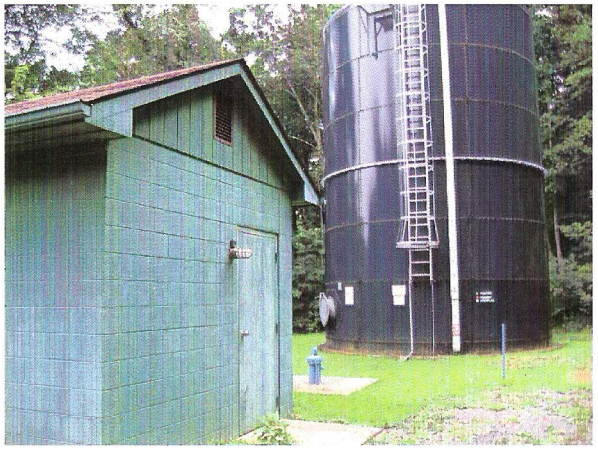
- Your Community is privileged to have extremely high quality drinking water. **Conservation of this water is essential.**
- Your Community is taking a proactive approach to ensure that your drinking water stays safe and pure.
- You are living on top of your drinking water and your actions can affect the drinking water for the entire community.

More Information is Available:

On Source Water Protection:
www.epa.gov/safewater/protect.html
On Septic Systems at:
http://www.epa.gov/safewater/protect/pdfs/septic.pdf
On Water Conservation at:
www.mwcog.org/environment/water/watersupply/wisewater.asp
On Sinkholes at:
http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/dnh/loksinkhole.htm
On Underground Storage Tanks:
http://www.neiwpcc.org/PDF_Docs/fact_ust.pdf

Questions?
Contact: Gene Phillips,
Bath County Service Authority
(540) 839-7251

Keeping Your Drinking Water Safe



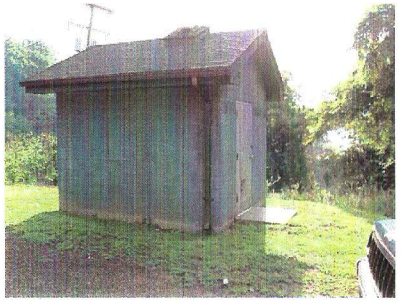
Bath County Service Authority

Presents

Your Wellhead Protection Plan

Bath County Service Authority Proudly Serves:

Bath County Regional Water , Ashwood Clifton Forge Mountain, Millboro, and Cedar Creek



Prepared in cooperation with:

OLVER INCORPORATED

VDH VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Protecting You and Your Environment

Where does my drinking water come from?

The Bath County Service Authority's drinking water comes from wells and springs in Bath County . The water at each source is high quality and the BCSA continually meets the state and national drinking water standards and has not had contamination problems.

What is Source Water

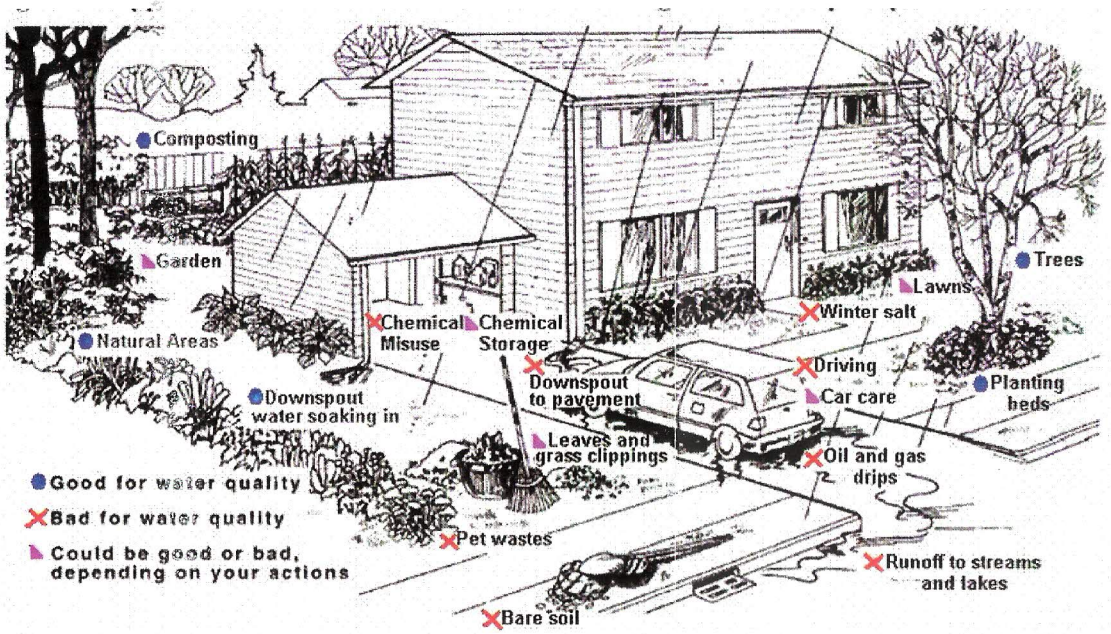
Source water protection is a method of preventing contamination of a public water supply well by effectively managing potential contaminant sources in the area which contributes water to the well.

Source water protection helps safeguard community water supplies; while your community has developed a wellhead protection plan, everyone needs to get involved for the plan to be successful!

Why Does Source Water Protection Matter to Me?

- The quality of drinking water affects public health and the economic well-being of our communities
- Once water is contaminated:
  - Clean-up is costly and may not be feasible
  - Required treatment adds to operating costs, causing a rate increase
  - Developing new sources is expensive

What are the Threats to My Drinking Water?



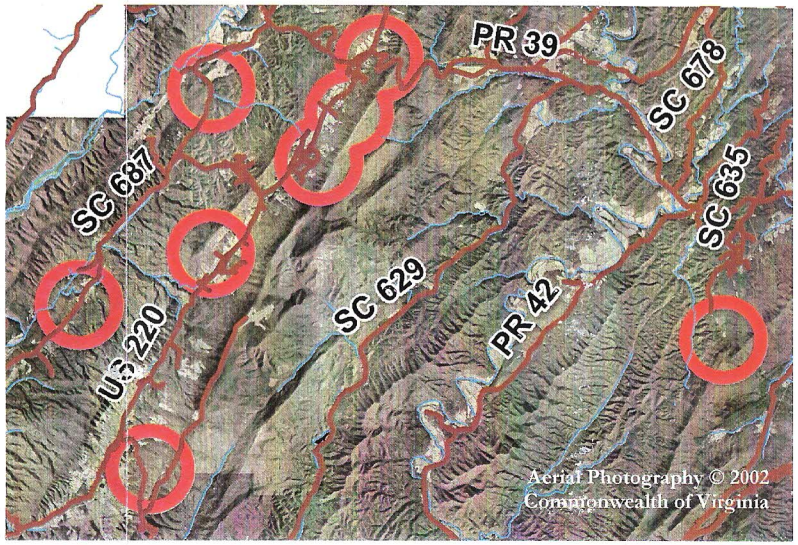
Examples of Situations and Activities Around Your House that Can Affect Your Water Quality

Contaminants introduced at the land surface may infiltrate to the water table and flow toward points of discharge such as drinking water wells and streams. Potential threats in your wellhead protection area include underground storage tanks, sinkholes, septic systems, residential activities, chemical storage and transport, and overuse of fertilizers and pesticides.

In one community, just one leaky floor drain at a dry cleaner contaminated the town's well and cost over $1.7 million in clean up costs and over $30,000 every year in treatment costs.

Where is my Source Water Protection Area?

Wellhead protection areas includes the land surface surrounding the well where land use activities and chemical spills could likely affect the water quality in the well. The figure to the right shows the Wellhead Protection area around each well or spring in red.



Did You Know? Just 1 gallon of gasoline can contaminate 1,000,000 gallons of water!