

About the Plan

Your community can take a proactive approach to protect its drinking water sources. Source Water Protection Plans are meant to prevent contamination of your drinking water source in order to avoid putting the health of your family in serious jeopardy.

Drinking water source protection not only protects the health of residents, it saves your city money. The Source Water Protection Plan includes maintenance and upkeep measures for your municipal water system. The creation of a Source Water Protection Plan is based on the concept that *prevention* always costs less than *treatment*.

You Can Help

Get actively involved in your community's drinking water protection.

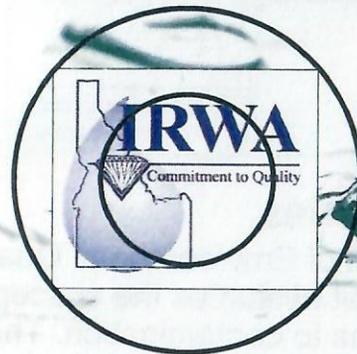
- **Don't dump** old lawn chemicals, gas, or oil on the ground.
- **Don't over-fertilize** your lawn and if you water it in, don't water too much.
- **Be a watch dog and report** and report any suspicious activity harming your water..
- **Teach your children** where your family's water comes from, and how they can protect it also.

Contact

- **Your City Hall**
- **Your Public Works Department**
- **Your County Commissioner**
- **Idaho Department of Environmental Quality**
 - John Jose, Source Water Protection Specialist (208) 769-1422

For more information on your community's plan, kids' activities, and community resources, contact:

Idaho Rural Water Association
(208) 343-7001
www.idahoruralwater.com



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Your Community

Your Source Water Protection Plan

What is Source Water?

Source water is untreated water from surface and ground sources. Groundwater is water from rain or snow that seeps below the ground and pools in cracks and spaces beneath the earth's surface. It is a valuable resource as it makes up for over 95% of Idaho's drinking water. Groundwater supplies are not endless and can be depleted. Human activities can pollute groundwater so severely that the damage may be very difficult and costly to clean up.



This map is taken from DEQ's online source water assessment for Bayview Water and Sewer District. Visit the online source water assessment database to view susceptibility and time-of-travel information for your system.

<http://www.deq.idaho.gov/water/swaOnline>

Time-of-Travel Zones

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality has an online database that evaluates the susceptibility of public water systems to contamination. This database includes maps that show how your drinking water moves to your municipal distribution. Water movement is divided into "time of travel zones". The zones of water movement serve as the basis for your protection area.

What is

Source Water Protection?

Source Water Protection is simply protecting the sources of water from contamination or over-use. To ensure water quality and quantity is maintained, managing various influences should be made a priority. Most source water protection efforts can be done at little or no cost. The investment generates economic vitality and growth. Communities with safe and adequate water sources attract settlement, development and business.

What will

Protection Do?

- Ensure that enough safe, clean drinking water is available for our communities.
- Protect current and future sources of Municipal drinking water.
- Safeguard our health and the health of our families.
- Prevent costly remediation efforts to your utility system and increases in utility bills.