

White Lake Township Wellhead Protection Program

White Lake Township is dedicated to the preservation and protection of water quality. In order to prevent groundwater pollution, White Lake Township has developed a joint wellhead protection program with neighboring communities along with County and State Agencies. This program is developed to protect drinking water in identified protection areas through cooperative management strategies and public education. Some of the Township's Wellhead Protection initiatives include:

- Educating the public through the development of materials, presentations, and other opportunities;
- Hosting a Household Hazardous Waste event each year;
- Developing a Wellhead Protection and Emergency Response Plan; and
- Enforcement of government regulations which are protective of groundwater.



What is Groundwater?

Groundwater is water below the surface that feeds wells and springs and maintains the level of rivers and lakes in dry weather. Groundwater comes from rain and snow that soaks into the ground and is filtered down under the surface. Groundwater can be brought to the surface using a pump or a well. Once pumped, the groundwater can be used for drinking or irrigating crops. If chemicals and pollutants are dumped on the ground, they can get into the groundwater and make it unsafe to drink. They could also kill the plants and animals that might use the water.

Facts

- 100% of the Township's drinking water supply comes from groundwater sources.
- About 90% of the U.S. freshwater supply is groundwater.
- 80 billion gallons of groundwater accounts for 20% of the total water usage in the U.S.
- 53% of Americans get their water from groundwater:
 - 37% of which are dependence on public water systems (more than 283,000 wells)
 - The other 16% are from more than 15.1 million private household wells

What You Can Do

- Always recycle household chemicals like gasoline, motor oil, kerosene, insecticides, poisons, and paint;

- Never flush chemicals down the toilet;
- Never dump chemicals onto the ground;

For safe disposal of household chemicals, contact:
White Lake Township Public Services Department
(248) 698-7700

For more information, contact:
White Lake Township DPS
7525 Highland Rd.
White Lake, MI
(248) 698-7700



White Lake Township Wellhead Protection Area Map – Wellhead Capture Zones

