WELLHEAD PROTECTION PLAN

Do-it-Yourself Wellhead Protection Plan

for Community and Non-Transient, Non-Community public water systems serving less than 250 people

A Publication of the Maine Drinking Water Program

MAINE RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION

Written by the Maine Rural Water Association with funding from the Maine Drinking Water Program

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Introduction

Keeping groundwater sources of drinking water clean and fit for human consumption is an important task for public water systems. The aquifer that feeds your public supply well could stretch for miles in any direction, and far beyond your control. Once contaminated, groundwater is very difficult to clean and replacing your well can be expensive. Protecting your well and the immediate area surrounding your well is the best way to avoid costly groundwater contamination. Having a wellhead protection plan that provides guidance for you and your neighbors will help to protect precious groundwater resources.

In addition to protecting your well and preventing contamination, in some cases, having a plan can also enable your water system to qualify for reduced water quality sampling.

Under the Revised Total Coliform Rule, effective April 1, 2016, water systems will need to meet certain criteria in order to be eligible for reduced Total Coliform monitoring. One criterion is that a system has an active wellhead protection plan. An active plan is one that lists and tracks actions or activities supporting the goal of wellhead protection. Similarly, having an active wellhead protection plan is one criterion necessary for Synthetic Organics (SOC) testing waiver eligibility. Your Drinking Water Program field inspector will be assessing wellhead protection status during sanitary surveys.

Using this Document

This document was developed to help small community water systems serving less than 250 people (CWS), and non-transient, non-community water systems (NTNCs), develop and maintain their own plan to protect the source of their drinking water. To do this, water systems can complete the Wellhead Protection Plan Template, beginning on Page 5. Step by Step instructions for completing your plan can be found in the Instruction Book.

Getting help

Wellhead protection may seem like a daunting task, especially if potential contamination sources are beyond a water system's direct control. There are many State rules and regulations in place to protect public water systems. Town officials, code enforcement officers, and licensed plumbing inspectors should be aware of these, but reaching out to them may be a good idea. They may not even be aware that you are a public water system in their town.
Sometimes, asking for help may be the best approach. The technical service providers in the following table may be available to help water systems prepare and/or manage their wellhead protection plans.

Name	How they can help	Contact
Maine Drinking Water Program	The DWP has grant funding that may assist in wellhead protection activities.	www.medwp.com
Maine Rural Water Association	Maine Rural Water Association has staff who are well versed in geology and hydrology.	www.mainerwa.org
RCAP Solutions	RCAP has staff who can assist in developing a wellhead protection plan.	www.rcapsolutions.org
County Soil & Water Conservation Districts	Each county has a Soil & Water Conservation District associated with their local Natural Resource Conservation Service branch. The Districts can assist with watershed management and stormwater issues, as well as agricultural issues.	www.maine.gov/dacf/about/commissioners/soil_water/index.shtml
Natural Resource Conservation Service	As a branch of the US Department of Agriculture, the Natural Resources Conservation Service has access to grant funding, which may assist wellhead protection activities. Traditionally more aligned with agricultural activities, the NRCS can also assist with environmental concerns.	www.nrcs.usda.gov

Part 1: Well Information

Attention! Please refer to **Page 3** of the Instruction Booklet for assistance in filling out this form!

System Name		PWSID:
Created by:		Date Created:
Well #:_____	Location Description:	
	Coordinates:	
	Depth (ft.):	Yield (GPM):
	Casing Size (in.):	Date Installed:
Well #:_____	Location Description:	
	Coordinates:	
	Depth (ft.):	Yield (GPM):
	Casing Size (in.):	Date Installed:
Well #:_____	Location Description:	
	Coordinates:	
	Depth (ft.):	Yield (GPM):
	Casing Size (in.):	Date Installed:
Well #:_____	Location Description:	
	Coordinates:	
	Depth (ft.):	Yield (GPM):
	Casing Size (in.):	Date Installed:

Part 2: Potential Sources of Contamination (PSC)

PWS Name:	PWSID#:	Date:
	DWP Field Inspector Name:	

PSC	# of Occurrences	Distance to Well (in feet)
Herbicide / Pesticide Use		
Agricultural chemical spreading or spraying (pesticides, herbicides, or fertilizers)		
Pesticide, herbicide, or fertilizer storage		
Golf course		
Nursery or garden shop		
High voltage transmission lines		
Petroleum / Hydrocarbon Use (VOCs or Semi-VOCs)		
Aboveground oil storage tank (including home heating oil tanks)		
Underground oil storage tank		
Airport		
Auto or small engine repair or body shop		
Concrete, asphalt, tar, coal company		
Gas station, service station		
Parking lot		
Sand and gravel mining, other mining		
Snow dump (large commercial or municipal)		
Truck terminal		
Bacteria and Inorganics , such as Nitrates / Nitrites		
Animal burial (large scale site)		
Animal grazing or barnyard		
Manure pile or spreading		
Septic system, septic waste disposal		
Sewer line		
Sludge disposal or spreading		
Wastewater treatment plants or discharge		
Industrial Solvents and Other Chemicals		
Dry Cleaner		
Furniture stripper		
Boat builder, refinisher, maintenance		
Industrial manufacturer		
Metal plating		
Military facility		
Landfill, dump, transfer station		
Wood preserver		
Other		
Railroad yard or line		
Residential home		
Salt pile or sand & salt pile		
Abandoned well		
Graveyard & cemetery		
Incinerator		
Other:		

Attention! Please refer to **Page 4** of the Instruction Booklet for assistance in filling out this form!

Part 3: The Map

Attention! Please refer to **Pages 6-7** of the Instruction Booklet for assistance in filling out this form!

Part 3: Action Plan

Attention! Please refer to **Page 8** of the Instruction Booklet for assistance in filling out this form!

PSC	Management Actions	Date Started	Time Frame