

What Can You Do to Protect Your Drinking Water Source?

- **PROPERLY DISPOSE OF CHEMICALS** - Never pour on the ground, down the drain, or toilet: cleaning supplies, paints, solvents, lawn and garden chemicals, gasoline, motor oil, antifreeze, or other waste chemicals. Dispose of chemicals, petroleum, oil and other lubricant products/waste, medications, etc. properly.
- **PURCHASE SAFER ALTERNATIVE PRODUCTS** - Instead of hazardous household products and pesticides, choose natural alternatives or Green Products. Read product labels carefully before purchasing to determine what substances they contain.
- **USE FERTILIZERS, HERBICIDES AND PESTICIDES PROPERLY** - Apply chemicals according to label instructions and avoid runoff. Do not exceed recommended application rates.
- **PROPERLY MAINTAIN SEPTIC SYSTEMS** - Septic systems are the second most frequently cited source of groundwater contamination in our country. If managed improperly, septic systems can contribute excessive nutrients, bacteria and pathogenic organisms to the groundwater. If the storage tank overflows or the leach fields become saturated, runoff to surface waters can also result.
- **DISPOSE OF PET WASTE PROPERLY** - Clean up and dispose of pet waste by flushing down the toilet, seal it in a plastic bag and put into the garbage, or bury under 8 inches of soil. Pick up your pet waste when walking your dog.
- **PETROLEUM STORAGE** - Above ground storage tanks should be made of high quality steel and located on a concrete pad that has secondary containment to guard against leaks and spills.
- **PRIVATE WATER WELLS** - Properly plug abandoned wells to prevent a direct route for contaminants to enter the ground water.
- **REPORT SPILLS ON ROADWAYS** - Report spills from vehicles on the roadways in the protection area by calling “911” so that local emergency response teams effectively contain and remediate the spill to prevent it from entering the waterways.
- **USING WATER WISELY—USE IT SPARINGLY.** Check for plumbing leaks. Use water-saving showerheads, toilets, faucets, and high efficiency appliances such as dishwashers and washing machines. Water only when necessary and preferably in the mornings or evenings to avoid evaporation losses from hot and windy weather conditions. Utilize mulch to reduce evaporation from the soil surface.

Sage Water Users Association Source Water Protection



Protecting Our Community
Drinking Water Supply !!!

Our Water Sources

SWUA does not own or operate any water wells or water storage capabilities. We purchase water from Mid-Colorado Investments who own and operate two (2) deep wells, a 30,000 gallon storage reservoir, and a booster pump station.

SWUA does not treat or alter the water delivered to your residence. Mid-Colorado Investments chlorinates the water and together we are responsible for performing water quality and safety tests mandated by Federal and State laws. The quality of our water is “as delivered” by Mid-Colorado Investments.

Source Water Protection

There is a growing effort in the country to protect drinking water sources before they become contaminated.

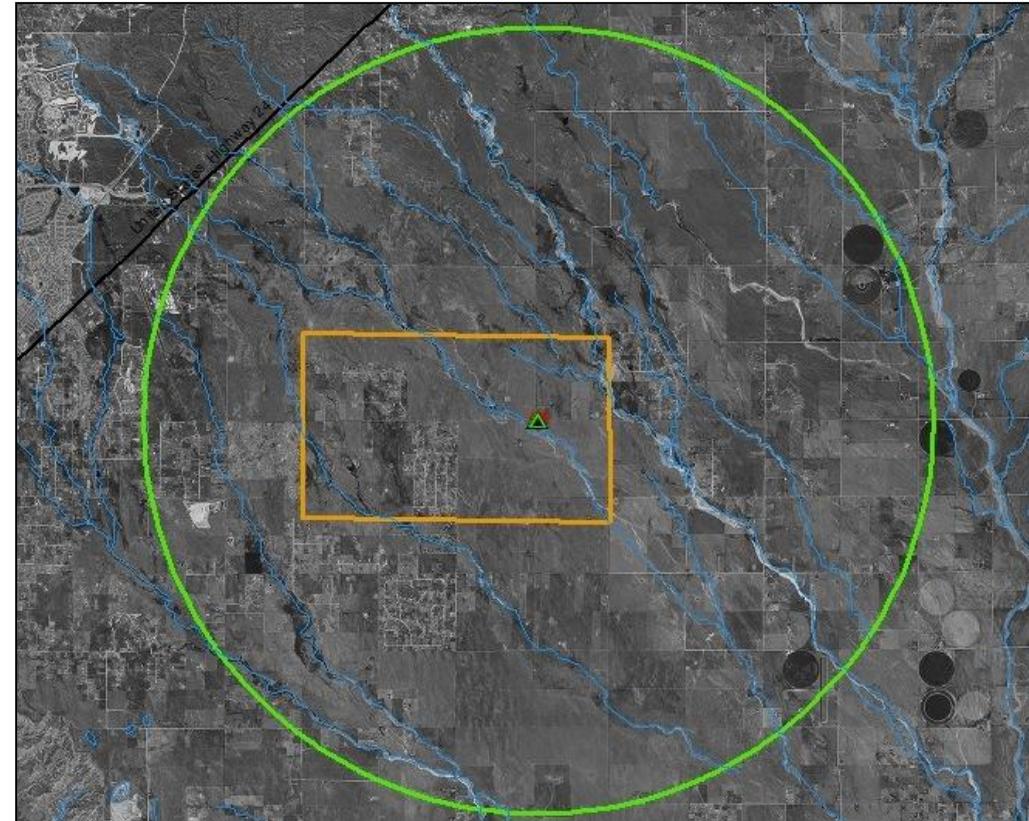
Why should Sage Water Users Association protect its sources of drinking water?

- It is good for public health when drinking water supplies are protected.
- The costs of preventing contamination are very small compared to the costs of cleaning up after a contamination incident.
- Safe drinking water is essential to the community’s quality of life and to aid in continued economic prosperity.

For generations, water quality was taken for granted and still today many people assume that our water is naturally protected. But, anything we do on top of the ground has the potential to affect someone’s drinking water. As water moves through and over the ground, contaminants in and on the ground can be picked up and carried to a stream, river, reservoir or well that supplies drinking water to a home or a community.

Source water protection involves minimizing the negative water quality impacts on both land and water.

Our Source Water Protection Areas



Protection Planning Process

In January 2016, Sage Water Users Association completed their Source Water Protection Plan. The Plan identifies: the area in need of protection, the potential sources of contaminants, and management approaches that could help to reduce the risk of contaminants entering the source waters. Activities that have a potential to cause pollution include: private wells, roads, security, and, septic systems.

It is the people living and working in communities who have the most to gain or lose from the quality of their drinking water. Become an environmentally aware citizen and help avoid drinking water contamination. To obtain a copy of the Source Water Protection Plan contact Sage Water Users Association at (719) 660-3076 or Colorado Rural Water Association at (719) 545-6748.