Groundwater Protection

Project development and data sources

Assess Risk

- **Pollution Sensitivity of Near Surface Materials**
- **Geologic Sensitivity at Wells**
- **Drinking Water Supply Management Area (DWSMA) Vulnerability**
- **Primary Aquifers by Section**
- **Drinking Water Wells per Section**
- **Township Testing Program (TTP)**
- **Groundwater Protection Rule, level 1 & 2**
- **DWSMA SW Priority Areas A & B (St. Cloud, Minneapolis, St. Paul only)**
- MN Well Index (https://mnwellindex.web.health.state.mn.us/)

Evaluate Land Use (non-point source)

- Row crops
- Irrigation
- Feedlots
- Stormwater Runoff (MS4)
- Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems (SSTS)
- Flood Zones
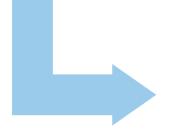- Protection areas (forested land, CRP, perennial establishment)

Evaluate Data

- **County Well Index Max Nitrate (mg/L)**
- **County Well Index Max Arsenic (ug/L)**
- **Township Testing Program Initial Nitrate Results**
- **Township Testing Program Final Nitrate Results**
- Minnesota Department of Agriculture Ambient Groundwater Quality Monitoring Program (www.mda.state.mn.us/pesticide-fertilizer/agricultural-chemical-monitoring-assessment)
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Ambient Groundwater Monitoring Program (https://www.pca.state.mn.us/water/groundwater-data)
- Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Permitting and Reporting System (MPARS) (https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/mpars/index.html)

To view data sources highlighted in **green** in map form go to the Watershed Health Assessment Framework (WHAF) at https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/whaf/index.html.
- For WHAF data specific to the Board of Water and Soil Resources Drinking Water Sub-Grant, use the term 'GRAPS' (Groundwater Restoration and Protection Strategies) as a search filter.

Implementation

- To benefit groundwater, implementation needs to target areas of high pollution sensitivity/ vulnerability, with the exception of well sealing. Well sealing is a priority regardless of groundwater sensitivity/vulnerability, especially in low vulnerability settings where an unused well is the main pathway for contamination.

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