

What Can You Do to Protect Your Drinking Water Source?

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. Things you can do around your house to help protect your drinking water include:

- **Maintain your septic system**—Inspect and pump your septic tank every 2-4 years. Never flush chemicals, dental floss, drugs, and personal care products down the toilet.
- **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. Participate in household hazardous waste collection events.
- **Use fertilizers, herbicides and pesticides properly**—Apply chemicals according to label instructions and avoid runoff. Do not exceed recommended application rates.
- **Properly dispose of drugs and personal care products**—Pour medications into a sealable plastic bag and add kitty litter, sawdust, or coffee grounds. Seal the bag and dispose in the trash along with unused personal care products.
- **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.

Development and Implementation Grant:

The Triview MD was awarded a \$5,000 Development and Implementation Grant from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE). This funding is available to public water systems and representative stakeholders committed to developing and implementing a source water protection plan. The Triview MD is using the funds to implement best management practices that were identified in their Plan.

For More Information:

To obtain a copy of the Source Water Protection Plan contact Triview MD at 719-488-6868 or for more information about source water protection visit the following websites:

- Colorado City Metro District Website at:
<http://www.triviewmetro.com/>
- EPA’s Source Water Protection Website at:
<http://water.epa.gov/infrastructure/drinkingwater/sourcewater/protection/index.cfm>
- CDPHE Source Water Assessment and Protection Website at:
<http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/CDPHE-WQ/CBON/1251596793639>

Triview MD: Protecting Our Drinking Water



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What is Source Water Protection?

Source water protection is a proactive approach to preventing the pollution of lakes, rivers, streams, and groundwater that serve as sources of drinking water, and to minimize treatment costs.

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.

Protection Planning Process

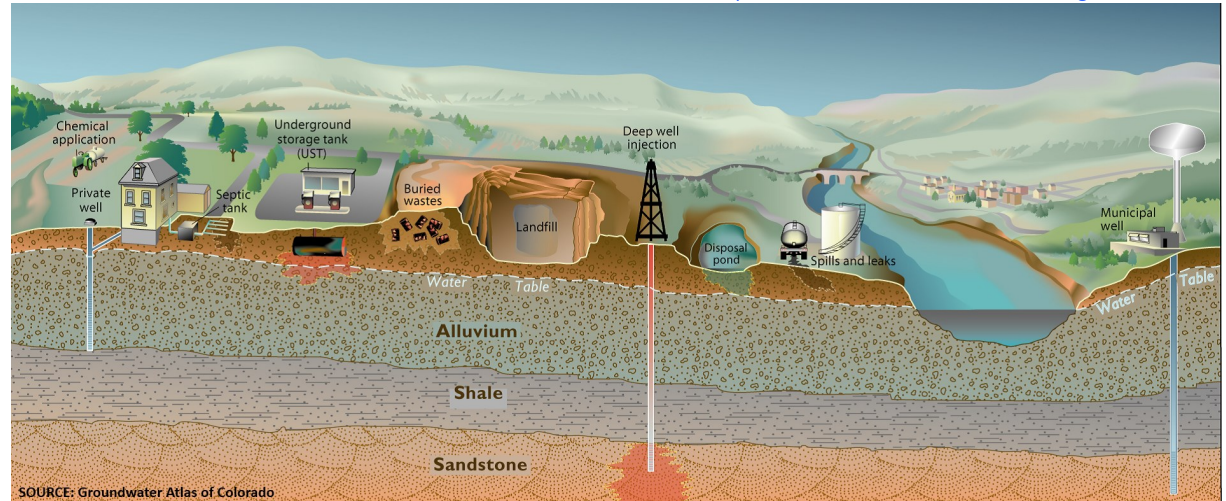
In 2014, a Steering Committee was formed within the Triview MD community who worked together to complete and implement a Source Water Protection Plan (SWPP) for Triview MD. A SWPP identifies: the area in need of protection, called a Source Water Protection Area; potential sources of contaminants; and management approaches that could help to reduce the risk of contaminants entering the source waters.



Our Source Water Protection Areas:

Triview MD obtains its drinking water from seven groundwater wells in the Denver Basin Aquifer System. The Source Water Protection Areas for these water sources lie east of Interstate 25 and are mostly within Triview MD's service boundaries. These Source Water Protection Areas are the areas that the Triview MD has chosen to focus its source water protection measures to reduce source water susceptibility to contamination.

Example of common contaminants to drinking water sources



What Sort of Measures are Being Taken to Protect our Drinking Water Source?

The Source Water Protection Plan identified the following activities that may have a potential to cause pollution: Vandalism; Residential Practices; Cattle Grazing; Accidents and Maintenance along Roadways; Septic Systems; Private Wells; and Electrical Substations. A few examples of Best Management Practices (BMPs) identified in the SWPP that are being implemented include:

- Displaying signage that states "tampering with this facility is a federal offense" at roadways leading to the SWPA, intakes and diversions, and on water storage tanks;
- Sharing a copy of the SWPP, Triview MD contact information, and maps of the SWPA w/ MVEA, El Paso County Development Services, El Paso County Public Works Department, Colorado Vegetation Management, and emergency responders ;
- Posting a copy of the SWPP of Triview MD's website;
- Installing fencing around wellheads.