



CITY OF BAYPORT
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Wellhead Protection Plan Overview

Wellhead protection planning was implemented in 1986 through the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) to prevent contaminants from reaching drinking water sources, and managing the land surface areas where activities might affect the quality of drinking water sources. The plan consists of developing a wellhead protection area and then creating a contingency plan to ensure safe and affordable drinking water within this area. The wellhead protection area is calculated through geologic and hydraulic surveys of the area and takes into account aquifer characteristics and groundwater flow. In plan development, a local team works to identify and minimize existing and potential sources of contamination within this calculated area.

This plan is considered Part II of the Wellhead Protection Plan. Part I is included as a subset within this plan and was developed by the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) to identify the wellhead protection area as described above and a number of other parameters that are subsequently used in the Part II portion of the plan.

The first iteration of the Bayport Wellhead Protection Plan was completed in 2010. The SDWA requires plans to be updated every 10 years. The current plan consists of the following priorities:

- Data elements – City staff review data elements such as soils, geology, and water resources to determine the impact that contamination could have based on these elements. The review also included the impact that changes to water use, regulations, and resources could potentially have on the quality of water.
- Inventory of potential contaminants – City staff reviewed past and present contaminant site data, local knowledge, and visual perspectives to compile a list of potential contaminant sources within the wellhead protection area.
- Issues, problems, and opportunities – City staff identified water and land use issues, problems, and opportunities related to 1) the aquifer used by the city wells; 2) the quality of well water and surface water; or 3) land or water use within the drinking water supply management area.
- Goals, objectives, and action strategies – City staff developed goals, objectives, and action strategies based on all the data that was gathered within the plan to address issues and concerns within the drinking water supply management area.
- Evaluation – An evaluation procedure was developed to report the status of plan implementation to the City Council and MDH.
- Alternative water supply/contingency plan – City staff has an approved Water Supply Plan from the DNR that fulfills this requirement.

Part II of the Wellhead Protection Plan will be implemented over a 10 year period. The plan plays a significant role in grant funding acquisition, land use, city/residential activities, and CIP planning. If you have an questions or concerns regarding the plan please contact Public Works Director Matt Kline at 651-275-4404 or publicworks@ci.bayport.mn.us.