

ATTACHMENT A



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Your guide to

Colorado Rural Water Association's **Source Water Protection Program**

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What is Source Water Protection?

- A **PROACTIVE** approach to preventing the pollution of lakes, rivers, streams and groundwater that serve as sources of drinking water.
- A **NON-REGULATORY** program that focuses on stakeholder involvement, education, and awareness.

Source Water Protection was founded on the concept that informed citizens, equipped with fundamental knowledge about their drinking water source(s) and the threats to it, will be the most effective advocates for protecting this valuable resource.

Colorado's Source Water Assessment & Protection (SWAP) Program

- The Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment (CDPHE) created Colorado's SWAP Program under the mandate of the 1996 Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments.
- In 2004, CDPHE created Source Water Assessment Reports for all public water systems in Colorado to help with the development and implementation of individual Source Water Protection Plans.
- CRWA receives funding from the USDA and the CDPHE to assist public water systems with the development and implementation of their Source Water Protection Plans.



Role of a CRWA Source Water Specialist

- Complete and submit Development & Implementation Grant Application.
- Assist with the assembly of a Steering Committee comprised of local stakeholders.
- Facilitate source water protection planning meetings.
- Assist with delineation and mapping of a Source Water Protection Area.
- Offer guidance and ideas for Best Management Practice implementation.
- Provide template and consultation to write the Source Water Protection Plan.
- Provide assistance with invoicing for grant reimbursement.
- Act as a liaison between public water system and CDPHE.

Who is Colorado Rural Water Association (CRWA)?

- CRWA is a nonprofit organization that provides technical assistance and training to Colorado's public water and wastewater systems.
- CRWA's Source Water Protection Team has over 30 years of combined experience assisting more than 200 public water systems with source water protection.
- For more information, or to contact a CRWA Source Water Specialist, call 719-545-6748 or visit www.crwa.net.

Funding for Source Water Protection

- CDPHE offers a \$5,000 Source Water Protection Development & Implementation grant to community water systems in Colorado.
- Grant funds can be used towards development and implementation of a Source Water Protection Plan.
- Grant is a one-to-one matching grant that can be matched with cash or in-kind time.

In-kind "credits" toward grant match:

- Non-water Professional - \$30/hour
- Water Professional - \$60/hour
- Lawyer or Engineer - \$100/hour



Most water systems meet their match by in-kind time spent at stakeholder meetings.



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Steps to Developing a Source Water Protection Plan

Development of a Source Water Protection Plan consists of six steps and takes from four to six months, with approximately one stakeholder meeting per month. Below is a outline of the steps involved in the Source Water Protection planning process. For more information, visit CRWA's website at www.crwa.net.

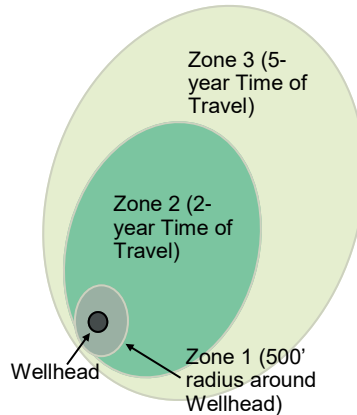
1. Involve Stakeholders and form a Steering Committee

Examples of Stakeholders

- Water System Representatives
- Community Members
- Private Landowners
- County Government
- Bureau of Land Management
- NRCS
- US Forest Service
- Industry Representatives

2. Delineate a Source Water Protection Area around each drinking water intake

Example Protection Area



Examples of PSOCs

- Septic system failure
- Improper agricultural practices
- Residential practices
- Grazing
- Abandoned wells
- Leaking fuel storage tanks
- Wildfires
- Road spills & maintenance
- Oil & gas development
- Existing/abandoned mines
- Stormwater runoff
- Future development
- Industry

3. Identify and prioritize potential sources of contamination (PSOCs) to your drinking water source(s).

Examples of Best Management Practices

4. Develop Best Management Practices (BMPs) to help prevent PSOCs from entering the source waters.

Education and Outreach

- Sharing SWPP with local decision makers
- Brochures, water bill inserts, calendars, etc.
- Distribution of Emergency Response Cards
- Source Water Protection Area road signs

Security Measures

- Installation of security systems (fencing, alarms, cameras, activated lighting)
- Installation of bollards around intakes/wells

Wildfire & Flood Mitigation

- Fuel clearing around intakes/wells
- Drainage improvements (grading & berms)

Miscellaneous

- Installation of secondary containment around above ground fuel storage tanks
- Septic system maintenance demonstration

5. Write Source Water Protection Plan

Grant funding is available to assist with Steps 5 and 6

6. Implement BMPs in Source Water Protection Plan

At least forty percent (\$2,000) of the \$5,000 grant must be used on the implementation of the Source Water Protection Plan (Step 6), and up to sixty percent (\$3,000) can be used on the development of the Source Water Protection Plan (Step 5).