



" Hi, I'm Wellhead Willy reminding you that the key to community water system protection is prevention. Prevention begins at home, in your neighborhood, in your own town, and in rural areas. You are the key to a successful community water system protection program. Take time to get involved!"

About the District...

The Lower Platte South Natural Resources District is one of 23 districts in the state of Nebraska, formed in 1972 for the purpose of managing the state's natural resources. Programs and activities include all areas of natural resource management and development: tree planting, flood protection, wildlife habitat, streambank stabilization, environmental education, land treatment, water monitoring and many others. The districts are partially funded by property taxes and are governed by a board of directors--elected representatives who serve four-year terms. The NRD system is local government working to protect local natural resources. The Lower Platte South NRD includes nearly all of Lancaster and Cass counties and parts of Seward, Saunders, Otoe and Butler counties.

The Lower Platte South Natural Resource District is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.

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Community Water System Protection Area Program



Lower Platte South
Natural Resources District

www.lpsnrd.org

What is Community Water System Protection?

We rely on groundwater for use in homes, businesses, and industries. Community Water System Protection is a means by which community water suppliers can actively and efficiently protect groundwater resources and drinking water supplies. Water users in the Lower Platte South NRD dependant on a sufficient supply of good quality water spurred the District to include "Community Water System Protection Areas" (CWSPA) in the District's Ground Water Management Plan. Unlike many other programs, it is proactive, not reactive. Community Water System Protection aims at preventing contaminants from entering the area of land around public water supply wells.

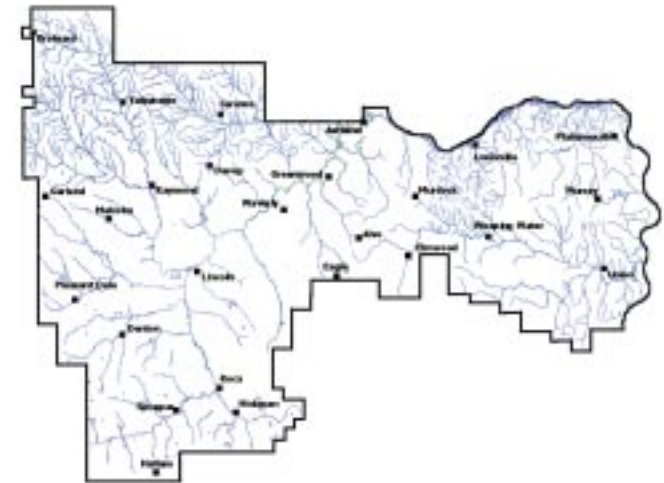
What is a Community Water System Protection Area?

Ideally, it is the entire area from which a well draws ground water. Often though, the entire area is too large to be managed efficiently, so a smaller area around a well or the wellhead capture zone is designated and marked with highly visible signage. The CWSPA is then delineated, so the highest priority contaminant sources nearest the well can be addressed.



Who is involved?

Water utility, public health, elected officials, and interested citizens are invited to begin preparation of a local community water system protection plan. Currently the District has agreements with five community water systems including; Cass County Rural Water District #2, Ceresco, Elmwood, Valparaiso and Eagle. All communities shown on the map below are eligible for the CWSPA Program.



There are four major steps in the CWSPA program:

1. Delineate the land area to be protected.
2. Identify and locate potential contaminant sources within the protection area.
3. Assess existing programs to protect ground water from identified contaminant sources.
4. Minimize the chances of future contamination through educational programs and zoning ordinances.

