

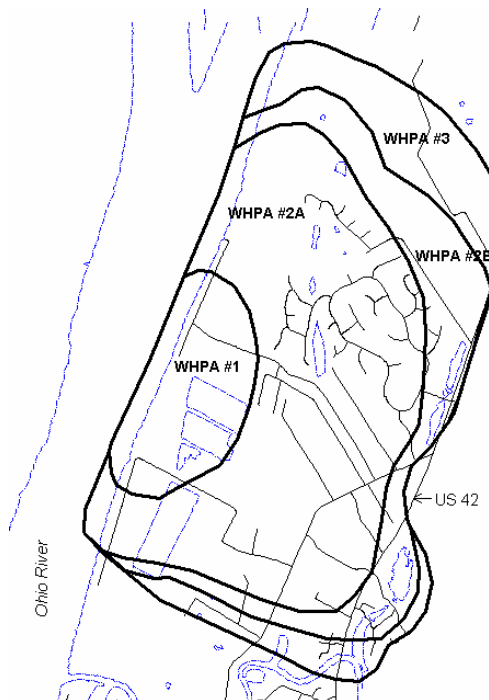
# Wellhead Protection



Louisville Water Company, (LWC), serves nearly a million people in the Metro Louisville Area. Most of your water is drawn directly from the river, but LWC is also beginning to use riverbank infiltration wells, (RBI) wells), to draw water through the aquifer next to the river at the B. E. Payne Plant.

Wellhead protection is a plan designed to protect the groundwater resources of a public water system from contamination. LWC is developing and implementing a Wellhead Protection Plan for the area surrounding the collector well, (the RBI well), at the B. E. Payne Plant on River Road.

From the map, find your street and the Wellhead Protection Area where your home lies.



The Wellhead Protection Area, (WHPA), has been divided into sections that represent the time of travel of a potential contaminant from its source into the well. WHPA #1 is the area surrounding the well that would require six months or 180 days for a contaminant to travel from the outer edge of the area into the well.

WHPA #2A is equal to a 5 year time of travel, while WHPA #2B is equal to a 10 year time of travel. Potential contaminants entering the groundwater from WHPA #3 would take longer than 10 years to enter the well.

Prospect, KY

## What is a Local Planning Team?

The Local Planning Team, (LPT), is a group of people that have volunteered their time and efforts to help LWC develop the Wellhead Protection Plan. The LPT is made up of residents, local business owners, and representatives from the government. The LPT has developed a Management Plan that will help local residents prevent contamination of the aquifer that supplies drinking water to the City.

## What are some potential sources of contamination?

Although it is common practice to associate contamination with highly visible activities such as landfills, gas stations, or agriculture, many potential contaminants come from every day activities. Septic systems, lawn and garden chemicals, storm-water runoff, and household accidents can contaminate groundwater. It takes only a very small amount of some chemicals in drinking water to raise health concerns.

## How will management strategies affect you?

The management strategies developed by the LPT are not designed to limit activities on your property. They take advantage of common sense practices to reduce the risk of groundwater contamination. These are called

Best Management Practices. The Management Plan is developed locally, and is tailored to meet the community's needs and risks. Wellhead Protection is a community effort!

### How YOU can help!

- ◆ Properly use and dispose of household hazardous materials
- ◆ Follow Best Management Practices
- ◆ Use environmentally friendly products whenever possible.

### Did You Know?

- ◆ The average household throws 15.5 pounds of hazardous materials into the trash each year. Certain products, such as used oil or paint thinner, are frequently poured down storm drains and many products end up going down the sink drain to septic systems or sewers.
- ◆ We use hazardous products every day in our homes. These products become a hazard when improper use or disposal causes a threat to the environment or to human health.

### Pollution Prevention Begins At Home

All of us contribute to groundwater pollution through our daily activities. Fertilizers and pesticides run off lawns with rainwater. Motor oil washes off driveways and streets into storm sewers. Together, these small sources of pollution add up to make one of the nations's leading sources of pollution - Non-point Source Pollution.

There are several things you can do as a homeowner to make your home maintenance more environmentally friendly. By practicing these simple suggestions, you can help make your community cleaner and safer.

Read the label before you buy a product, and purchase the least toxic substance possible for the job at hand. Buy only the amount necessary to do the job. Look for these signal words:

Poison/ Danger	Highly Toxic	A few drops to one teaspoon will kill an average person
Warning	Moderately Toxic	One teaspoon to one ounce will kill and average person
Caution	Slightly Toxic	Requires more than one ounce to kill an average person

**Store it safely** - Keep hazardous substances out of reach of children and pets, make sure lids are tightly capped and sealed, keep away from heat or sparks, and in the original containers. Never store hazardous materials in food or beverage containers.

**Use it safely** - Read all labels carefully before using and follow all directions. Use the proper safety equipment when working with hazardous chemicals, and wear protective gloves, clothing, and eye glasses. Prevent inhalation, ingestion, and skin absorption.

**Dispose of it safely** - Reuse/Recycle is the preferred option whenever possible. While many items may be safely disposed of in the trash, others must be disposed of at Haz Bin. Never pour a material out onto the ground.

Have a question or need more information? Please Contact:

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