

## NEVADA DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION BUREAU OF WATER POLLUTION CONTROL

## **Suggested Management Approaches for Potential Sources of Contamination**

Potential Sources of Contamination	Suggested Management Approach
Service Stations (auto repair shops, car wash, gas stations, etc.) Class V disposal wells	The disposal of any kind of hazardous materials through these wells is illegal and can cause serious threats to ground water. Permit must be obtained from NDEP to dispose of non-hazardous liquids from these wells. When identified, all activities should cease and contact the Underground Injection Control (UIC) program at NDEP. Educate local business owner/operator by distributing NDEP's UIC fact sheets.
Auto salvage yards	Automotive fluids should be properly collected, contained and disposed of according to local regulations. Monitor activities near wellhead protection areas (WHPAs) to detect for violations. Encourage recycling and take advantage of NDEP's recycling program by calling Nevada Recycling Hotline (1-800-597-5865).
Abandoned water wells	Poorly constructed wells and improperly abandoned wells can act as a 'direct route' for ground water contamination. The State regulations require proper plugging of water wells. Educate the citizens in your community by distributing NDEP's Abandoning Unused Water Wells fact sheets. Coordinate with NDEP for financial assistance to plug your unused wells.
Illegal dumping	Monitor WHPAs to detect illegal dumping. Use Nevada's Recycling Hotline (1-800-597-5865) to report illegal dumping.
Accidental spills	Monitor WHPAs for accidental spills. Place wellhead protection signs on perimeters of WHPAs. Have an emergency response/contingency plan ready if an accidental event threatens your water supply.
Underground Storage Tanks (USTs)/ Home Heating Oil Tanks	All USTs and home heating oil tanks should be monitored and tested according to the requirements of NDEP. Leaking tanks should be removed as soon as possible and corrective actions should be taken for site remediation. Coordinate with NDEP for financial assistance from the State Petroleum Fund. Educate the citizens in your community by distributing NDEP's Home Heating Oil Tanks fact sheets.
Aboveground Storage Tanks	Coordinate with local Fire Department about siting and construction of aboveground storage tanks.

Potential Sources of Contamination	Suggested Management Approach
Septic Systems	Proper design, construction and maintenance of septic systems are vital to your water quality. It is important not to dispose of common household hazardous materials into your septic system. Educate the citizens in your community by distributing NDEP's Domestic Septic Systems fact sheets
Chemical Storage Facilities	Avoid storage or use of chemicals/hazardous activities within WHPAs. Storage and transportation of chemicals/hazardous materials should comply with all applicable laws.
Feedlots and Animal Wastes	Monitor WHPAs for contamination from surface runoff. Ensure that wastes are not disposed via abandoned wells.
Pesticides and Pesticide Wastes	Unused pesticides and pesticide wastes can contaminate Nevada's streams, lakes and ground water. Proper disposal of these substances is important. Participate in the Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDOA) Pesticide Disposal Program. Educate the citizens in your community by distributing NDOA's Pesticide Disposal Program pamphlet.
Mining Facilities	Coordinate with NDEP's Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation about design, construction, operation and closure of mining facilities.
Surface Runoff	Divert surface runoff to protect WHPAs by constructing lined ditches or swales, siltation or filter berms, grassed waterways and outlets, etc.

## **Other Management Tools**

Regulatory Options	Suggested Management Approach
Sanitary Ordinances Zoning Ordinances and Source Prohibitions Land Use and Master Planning Special Use Permits Subdivision of Land Parceling of Land	Local governments may use these regulatory options as management tools to protect their communities' underground drinking water resources. These tools will be most effective if they become part of a local community Wellhead Protection Program (WHPP). For detail information, refer to NDEP's fact sheet entitled "Local Authority for Ground Water and Wellhead Protection."

Non-Regulatory Options	Suggested Management Approach
Land Acquisition	This is another management option by which the community or utility can acquire land within a WHPA through donation, purchase or trade development rights, and/or conservation easements restricting use of land.
Ground Water Monitoring	A ground water monitoring program consists of regular sampling of wells for contaminants. It helps the community to measure the effectiveness of its source controls and compliance with drinking water standards. This program may apply to all or part of the WHPA.
Local Business Owner Education	Encourage local business owners to take advantage of the Business Environmental Program offered by Nevada Small Business Development Center (NSBDC). This program is free and confidential. This program can provide assistance over the phone (1-800-882-3233), distribute information materials, or conduct an assessment at a business. Distribute NSBDC's pamphlet on the Business Environmental Program to the local business owners in your community to promote education on ground water protection issues.
Household Hazardous Waste Collection	A good management tool to reduce the amount of hazardous waste going to the landfill or septic systems. Coordinate with your local government to implement a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day. Funding is available through NDEP's Solid Waste Program.  This option helps to educate the public about the types of household products which are toxic or hazardous. It encourages public involvement. Educate the citizens in your community by distributing NDEP's flyer about Safer Alternatives to Hazardous Household Products.
Wellhead Protection Sign	Place signs on perimeters of WHPAs. A sign would reduce the risk of an accident. It serves as notification in case of an accidental spill of contaminant. Signs help to educate the public.
Public Education	Public Education is a key aspect of any WHPP. Public education efforts are important in building public support for regulatory changes and local funding. NDEP has prepared a flyer listing the available sources for getting ground water protection related public education materials. Use this source to educate the public about WHPP.
	The Nevada Rural Water Association (NvRWA) conducts free workshops to educate small communities. Encourage citizens in your community to participate in NvRWA's workshops.