

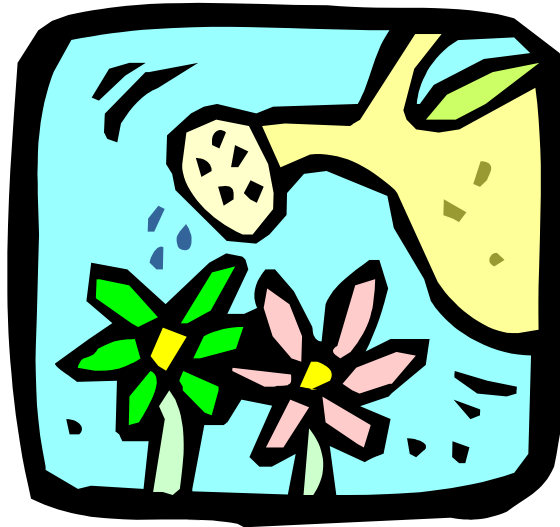
Why is protecting the area around a well important?

Ground water is one of our most important resources. In some situations, it can easily be contaminated by activities on the land above it. If groundwater becomes contaminated, it is very expensive and often impossible to clean up. Sometimes a new source of drinking water must be found for a home or community, placing a huge financial burden on public funds, homeowners and businesses.



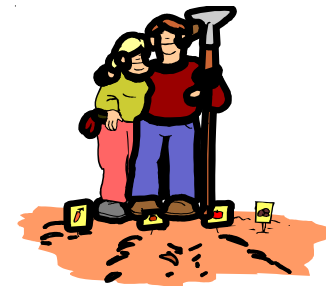
How does my garden affect drinking water?

Fertilizers and pesticides can move through the ground into the aquifer that supplies drinking water. Overwatering and improper use of fertilizers and pesticides can pose a serious threat to the safety of your community's drinking water supply.



To protect ground water, consider the following common sense gardening tips:

- ◆ Keep soil healthy. Compost provides organic nutrients.
- ◆ Choose locally adapted, disease resistant plants.
- ◆ Weed by hand. Use mulch to control weeds.
- ◆ Water according to soil needs. Excess water can wash pesticides and fertilizers into the ground water.
- ◆ Fertilize according to what the plants actually require. Time fertilizer applications accordingly.
- ◆ Use alternatives to chemical products whenever possible, and the least toxic option when not.
- ◆ Be cautious. If you use fertilizers or pesticides, read labels carefully and follow directions exactly. Do not apply when it is windy or raining.
- ◆ Buy only the amount of chemical products you can use.





Basic Steps in Common Sense Gardening

- ◆ Maintain a healthy lawn and garden which will resist damage.
- ◆ Monitor pests carefully.
- ◆ Identify the pests in your lawn and garden.
- ◆ Learn their habits.
- ◆ Decide what level of damage is acceptable to you.
- ◆ If pest population approaches an "unacceptable" level, use least harmful controls first, and toxic chemicals last.



Southern Garden Plants

Native plants are naturally adapted to the climate and soils, requiring fewer chemicals and less supplemental watering.

Lemon Balm	Bee Balm
Sage	Thyme
Butterfly Weed	Chive
Artemisia	Impatiens
Coreopsis	Canna
Dianthus	Caladium
Daylily	Nasturtium
Coneflower	Periwinkle
Sedum	Begonia
Lamb's Ear	Dusty Miller
Lavendar	Pansy
Rosemary	Sunflower
Goldenrod	Globe Thistle
Baptisia	Sea Holly
Torch Lily	Blue Flax
Dill	Parsley
Mint	Ginger
Oregano	Sweet Woodruff
Fennel	

For more information, please contact:

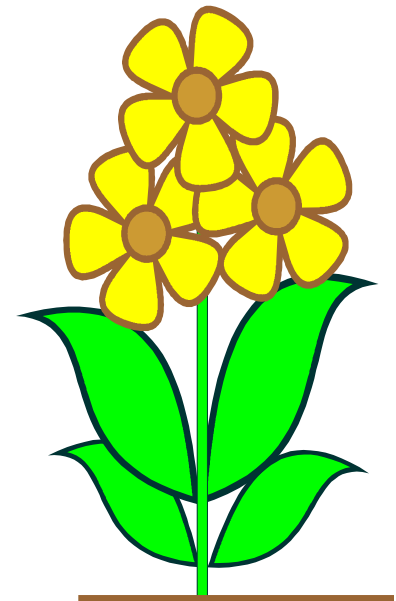


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Common Sense Gardening for Well Owners



Protecting Our Ground Water