

Your water. Your decision.

What's happening in your community?

How is your community protecting its drinking water?

What agricultural practices are being tried in your area? Look below at some of the agriculture strategies used to protect lakes, rivers and aquifers. Place a check next to every practice you think is common in your community.

Fertilizer & Pesticides

- Using a soil test to apply the correct amount of fertilizer
- Being careful to apply fertilizer at the correct time (e.g., not right before rain)
- Limiting pesticide use through integrated pest management

Buffers & Soil Conservation

- Planting or maintaining vegetation as a buffer at the edge of fields
- Planting or maintaining trees, shrubs or tall grass between fields and water bodies
- Conservation tillage

Livestock

- Keeping animals and their waste out of streams, rivers and lakes
- Fencing off and bridging streams
- Properly maintaining and storing wastes
- Managing grazing to maintain plant cover in pastures

Irrigation & Groundwater Protection

- Determining when and how much to irrigate by measuring soil moisture, calculating crop water use and being aware of the weather
- Keeping a distance between chemicals, such as pesticides, and the well
- Testing well water annually or more frequently
- Monitoring underground storage tanks for leaks or other problems

Septic Tanks

- Annual inspections of septic tanks
- Regularly pumping out septic tanks
- Preventing hazardous waste from getting into the septic system
- Avoiding damaging your drain field

What other ways do you know that we should promote as a way to protect drinking waters sources such as rivers, streams, lakes and aquifers?

Now, look at those you did NOT check, and see our brochure for more information on how to try those as well. After all, it's your water.



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