

# The Wellhead

## Word

March 2008

Protecting Groundwater Supplies Through Wellhead Protection

## Best Management Practices

Protecting the area around the wellhead is crucial to ensuring that our drinking water is safe. It requires the cooperation of residents, land owners and local businesses. Regulatory and zoning methods help accomplish the goal of protecting the wellhead area but voluntary best management practices are the preferred and practical method.

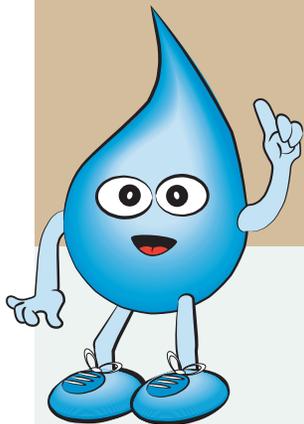
Best Management Practices or BMP's are control measures or practices designed to prevent or reduce pollution. A good BMP will have the greatest effect on reducing the threat of contamination to the water source. When determining what BMP's will work best for your community you should evaluate local issues and concerns and identify specific strategies and actions.

Remember not to underestimate the power of education. Education and outreach are often the most effective BMP's. Educating the residents and business within a wellhead protection area about how their activities affect your community's drinking water can motivate individuals to become more involved. Many communities hold local events and distribute information to encourage participation in watershed education activities.

You can protect your drinking water source everyday through activities such as maintaining vehicles and disposing of waste properly. Contact your local DEQ environmental specialist for more information about BMP's.

### A few examples of BMP's are:

- recycling and reuse of waste products
- regular onsite system maintenance
- timing and placement of chemicals on agricultural land to provide for maximum effectiveness and minimum runoff and infiltration.



## Who Can I Contact for More Information about BMP's?

- Your local DEQ office.
- Oklahoma City Groundwater Support.

H2O Joe says protect the wellhead area with proper BMP's

Utilize your community's resources to get the word out on protecting source water. Mobilize the efforts of your local organizations such as, the Boy Scouts, School Organizations, and Social Clubs. Work to inform your friends and neighbors about the importance of wellhead protection and about what you can do as a community to identify potential contaminates.



## Next Issue: Case Studies of BMP's

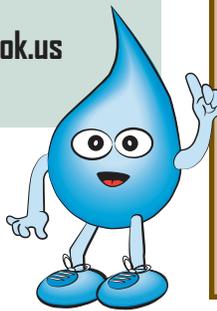
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# Environmental Complaints and Local Services Wellhead Protection Contacts

For more information about the Wellhead Protection Program contact your local DEQ office or Oklahoma City Groundwater Support Unit.

Groundwater Support  
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**(405) 702-6100**  
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Web Site  
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## Local Offices

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| Ada.....(580) 332-3157          | Miami.....(918) 540-0150         |
| Alva.....(580) 327-2649         | Oklahoma City.....(405) 702-6100 |
| Ardmore.....(580) 226-2554      | Ponca City.....(580) 762-1907    |
| Bartlesville.....(918) 333-2734 | Poteau.....(918) 647-5734        |
| Burns Flat.....(580) 562-4394   | Purcell.....(405) 527-8738       |
| Chouteau.....(918) 476-8588     | Tulsa.....(918) 293-1600         |
| Claremore.....(918) 341-7179    | Sallisaw.....(918) 790-2498      |
| Duncan.....(580) 255-6068       | Shawnee.....(405) 275-7967       |
| Durant.....(580) 920-2037       | Stillwater.....(405) 372-7387    |
| Enid.....(580) 234-0997         | Tahlequah.....(918) 456-5714     |
| Guymon.....(580) 338-1357       | Valliant.....(580) 933-5566      |
| Henryetta.....(918) 652-0446    | Wagoner.....(918) 485-8873       |
| Jay.....(918) 253-4656          | Wheatland.....(405) 745-7120     |
| Lawton.....(580) 357-9733       | Wilburton.....(918) 465-5218     |
| McAlester.....(918) 423-3482    | Woodward.....(580) 256-0641      |



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