

## Source Water Protection Recommendations

The main action for the Steering Committee as it moves forward is **education**. In relation to the transportation corridors, it is recommended that the systems begin by placing "Water Supply Area" signs along roadsides to inform travelers that they are entering a sensitive area.

The Committee is also attempting to expand and include more upstream municipalities in the entire effort. Discussions have begun with a few of them regarding land use concerns and future development in the watershed area.

The other important recommendation is to address the **riparian buffers** in the watershed. There are specific areas where buffers are either damaged or lacking all together, creating an immediate threat to water quality.

The Steering Committee will continue to meet, even though the Plan is complete. For more information about the future efforts in this watershed, contact the closest public drinking water supplier to you or your local planning officials.



### What can I do to help?

As a resident or business in the East Greenville Borough Watershed, you make choices everyday that can affect the water quality and quantity you see in the local streams. These decisions affect not only the aquatic life in the watershed, but potentially the water you drink.

Whether you receive water from a public water supply like East Greenville Borough or have your own private well, you should be concerned about the impact you have on drinking water quality.

Be aware of where you get your drinking water and what areas influence its quality and quantity. If you see anything suspicious or potentially threatening to any water supply, report it to the water supplier or proper authorities at once.



For more information about Source Water Protection in Pennsylvania, visit the website:  
<http://www.sourcewaterprotection.org>  
Or contact one of PRWA's Source Water Protection or Wellhead Protection Specialists at (814) 353-9302

## East Greenville Borough Water Department



## Source Water Protection Program

With assistance from



**Source Water Protection**

This brochure has been funded by the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania Citizen Education Fund under a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

## WHAT IS SOURCE WATER PROTECTION?

The value of a clean, high quality drinking water supply cannot be overestimated. Public Water Supplies invest a great amount of time and money into their water systems. It only makes sense to protect that investment.

The Source Water Protection Program is meant to be a tool for public water supplies to ensure their drinking water remains clean and of high quality now and for future generations. The program is designed to be a multi-barrier, multi-jurisdictional approach to continually manage and protect public drinking water.

### The Program & The Plan

**The best means of protecting drinking water is at the local level through community involvement.** The Source Water Protection Program begins when local communities create a steering committee comprised of people who represent the various interests in the Source Water Protection area. The committee is given the responsibility of developing their own Source Water Protection Plan.

### The Plan must include:

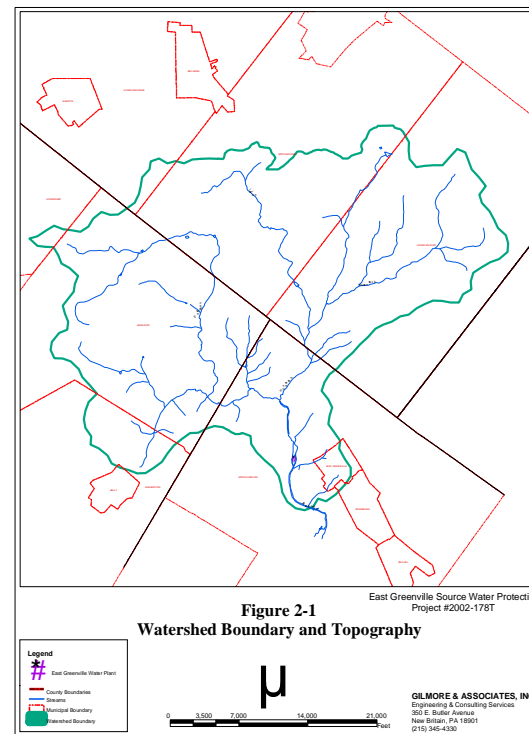
- ◆ Identification of the protection area
- ◆ Identification of potential sources of contamination
- ◆ Methods for managing the protection area
- ◆ Development of a contingency plan for the public water supply in the event of contamination

### The East Greenville Watershed

For the purpose of this study, the East Greenville Watershed is defined as everything upstream of the East Greenville Borough's intake on the Upper Perkiomen Creek in Upper Hanover Township. The area is 36 square miles and covers portions of Montgomery, Berks and Leigh counties. The map of the watershed area is shown to the right.



The East Greenville Water Department's water intake along the Perkiomen Creek. The Water Department serves 3,100 East Greenville Borough residents.



### Plan Findings

The Upper Perkiomen Watershed is mainly agricultural and forested in nature. The truest threats to the drinking water supply of East Greenville Borough are a result of stormwater runoff. Sediment from poorly buffered riparian areas and the contaminants the excess water carries during storm events can create serious problems for the Borough's drinking water supply. Transportation corridors and stream crossings are also a concern for the Borough. The reality of an accident or spill along the stream corridors has yet to occur, but knowing how to respond is essential to ensure minimal impact to the system and its population served.