

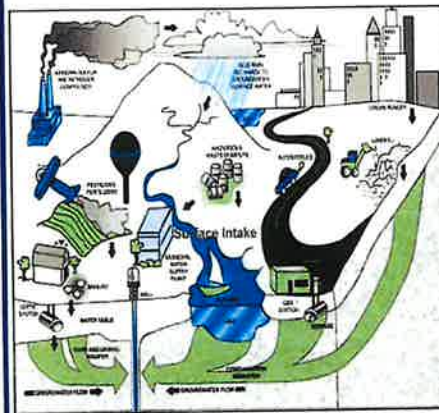
Maintain your septic Tank

Groundwater contaminated by poorly or un-treated household wastewater poses dangers to drinking water and to the environment. Septic system maintenance comes down to four key elements:

- Inspect and Pump Frequently
- Use Water Efficiently
- Properly Dispose of Waste
- Maintain Your Drainfield

Be aware of the dangers of grease

Grease sticks to the insides of drain pipes and sewer pipes, restricting water flow. As more and more fats, oils, and grease accumulate, the greater the chances of a back-up. Sewage can back-up into your tubs or toilets, or even worse, it could overflow into streams and groundwater. Please be proactive in fighting grease, don't pour it down the drain!



*Town of
Saratoga*



Thank you for Reading!

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

Call 408-286-5400
or visit www.saratoga.org
for more information.

**Wellhead
Protection Trifold**



WHAT IS GROUNDWATER?

Groundwater is precipitation that has soaked into the ground and is stored in pores between the soil or in cracks in the bedrock. The Town of Saratoga uses groundwater it pumps from the ground using two (2) wells located in its service area.

THE WELLHEAD PROTECTION PROGRAM

The Town of Saratoga is updating its Wellhead Protection Program to protect its water supply from contamination. As a part of the program, it has identified vulnerable areas around its wells called "Wellhead Protection Areas". Chemicals and other pollutants spilled or dumped in these areas can be drawn into the wells, possibly contaminating our community's drinking water supply. Residents and businesses in these areas must be very careful with chemicals and other potential pollutants.



POLLUTION SOURCES!

Many things we do in our daily lives can pollute our surface and groundwaters. Sources of groundwater pollution include:

- Used oil, paint thinner, gasoline and other chemicals poured on the ground
- Leaking storage tanks (aboveground and underground)
- Overuse of pesticides and fertilizers on lawns, golf courses and agricultural fields
- Chemical spills at businesses, farms and along highways
- Illegal dumps and poorly managed landfills
- Failing septic tanks
- Leaking sewer lines
- Improperly abandoned wells
- Unlined waste pits, ponds and lagoons

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

Town of Saratoga
252-238-3487
NC Rural Water Association
www.ncrwa.com

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Water is our most valuable natural resource – we must protect it! You can help by doing your part to protect our supply and by supporting this program.

Here are some tips:

Never pour used oil, paint thinner or other hazardous chemicals on the ground or down the drain. Take them to a recycling center or to a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day. For information call the Wilson County Landfill.

(252) 291-7335

Check for and fix leaks in storage tanks (i.e. home heating oil/kerosene) at your home or business

Inspect and pump your septic tank as needed

Have any unused wells on your property properly abandoned

Minimize your use of pesticides and fertilizers and store them properly

Clean up junk and debris on your property

Report all chemical spills immediately

Encourage community leaders and businesses to do everything possible to protect our drinking water supply