

## STACY WORKING TO PROTECT DRINKING WATER WELLS

The City of Stacy is in the process of implementing its Wellhead Protection Plan. This plan is designed to protect the groundwater resources that supplies Stacy's wells. The plan is focused on identifying potential sources of contamination that could pollute local groundwater resources. The ultimate goal of this plan is help ensure that Stacy continues to provide its residents with a safe and abundant supply of clean drinking water for generations to come.

### Where Does Your Drinking Water Come From?

Most cities in the State of Minnesota obtain their drinking water from underground aquifers. The City of Stacy owns and operates two large capacity water supply wells, with a third scheduled to come online soon. These wells draw water from groundwater aquifers located several hundred feet underground. While the wells are relatively deep and protected, contamination can still reach these aquifer over time, especially if it travels through old wells that are not properly maintained. Because it is cheaper to prevent contamination than it is to treat contaminated water, Stacy is looking for help from its residents to protect our water supply aquifers.

Wells can become polluted when substances that are harmful to human health get into the groundwater. Water from these wells can be dangerous to drink when the level of pollution rises above health standards. The City of Stacy regularly samples the water from their wells and provides an annual Consumer Confidence Report to residents. The most recent report can be located on the City of Stacy website.

### Private Wells

The City of Stacy is working to identify private wells that fall within the wellhead protection area. A side benefit of the Wellhead Protection Plan is that it not only protects the municipal water supply wells, but it will also help protect private wells.



Private well owners are encouraged to obtain educational information about how to best manage their wells. The Minnesota Department of Health has a website that contains much useful information for well owners. A Well Owner's Handbook is provided by the Minnesota Department of Health at the following website: <http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/wells/construction/handbook.pdf>

If you are interested in having the water in your private well tested, more information can be found at this site: <http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/wells/waterquality/test.html>

If you currently have a well on your property that is not being used, you are required by law to seal that well or obtain a special permit to keep it open. If you need to seal your well, it must be done by a well contractor licensed in the State of Minnesota. Well owners may be eligible to obtain grant money

from the County or State to assist in sealing their well. Contact City Hall for more information at (651) 462-4486.