

Wellhead Protection Activities to Date Wakonda Source

July 1995

Preliminary Delineation

Summer 1996

East Dakota/Vermillion Basin WDD monitoring well project

June 1998

Well No. 3 completed

October 2000

Board of Directors meeting with SDGS to discuss aquifer characteristics

December 2000

Area landowner informational meeting

February 2001

Board of Directors meeting with Clay County Planning and Zoning Director to discuss source water/zoning options

March 2001

Annual Meeting presentation by SDARWS on source water protection program

Spring 2001

Installation of groundwater protection area signs

November 2001

Appointment of Clay RWS representative to Clay County Planning and Zoning Review Committee

Winter 2001-2002

Installation of additional monitoring wells

January 2002

Board of Directors meeting with NRCS representative to discuss source water management options

January 2004

County Planning and Zoning Committee adds Aquifer Protection Overlay District to County Zoning Ordinance

March 2004

Well driller contacted to plug three abandon wells in source water area.

Spring 2007

Installation of area irrigation wells reviewed with SD DENR.

April 2007

Three abandon wells plugged in source water area.

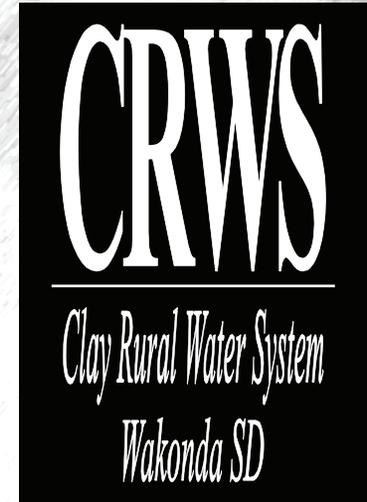
1998-2006

Source water protection information included in Consumer Confidence Report distributed to members



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If you would like more detailed information on Clay Rural Water's Wellhead Protection program, please contact the System Office at (605)267-2088



Wellhead
Protection

Clay Rural Water System Efforts to Protect Your Drinking Water



Protect drinking water from source to tap.

Clay Rural Water System like most public water systems in south Dakota relies upon groundwater for producing drinking water.

Clay Rural Water System has three wells completed into the Lower Vermillion Missouri aquifer for its Wakonda Source. These wells range in depth from 60 to 200 feet, and produce between 450 and 900 gallons per minute each.

The raw water quality out of these wells is generally good. Lime softening and filtration are done to remove iron and manganese, and to soften the water to a level that allows the majority of customers to use the water without home water softeners. Chlorine is added for disinfection and fluoride is added to prevent tooth decay.

Because of the shallow nature of the Lower Vermillion Missouri aquifer, it can be susceptible to contamination from surface activities. The South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources Geological Survey Program has defined the area around the wells which will contribute water to the wells over a 10 year period of time.

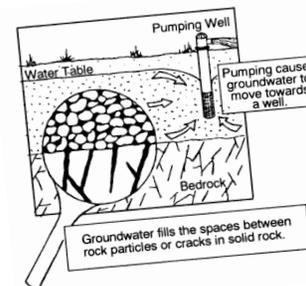


If you observe activity that could be a threat to our groundwater source, please call 267-2088.

Aerial photograph showing the Source Water/Wellhead Protection Area for the Clay Rural Water System.

Why Do Wells Become Polluted?

Wells 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. Many of our everyday activities can cause pollution.



Much can be done to prevent pollution, such as wise use of land and chemicals. The expense of treating polluted water or drilling new wells can also be avoided. Help avoid drinking water contamination by being an environmentally aware