

Did you know...

- *Only 3% of the water on earth is drinkable.*
- *It is projected that by the end of the 21st century, water will have become the most critical natural resource worldwide.*
- *You can avoid contaminating your source of drinking water by properly disposing of chemicals that have the potential to contaminate local streams or ground water.*
- *Improper disposal methods include: pouring chemicals on the ground, down a sink or toilet, or down a storm drain (many storm drains lead directly to rivers)*

For questions concerning Woodville's Municipal Water Supply and Drinking Water Source Protection Area, contact:

Woodville Village Office
Phone (419) 849-3031

For more information about Drinking Water Source Protection, contact:

Ohio EPA—Northwest District Office (Bowling Green)
419-373-4101
or
Ohio EPA—Central Office (Columbus)
(614) 644-2752

or visit Ohio EPA's source water protection program website at:

<http://epa.ohio.gov/ddagw/swap.aspx>

Protecting the Village of Woodville's Source of Drinking Water



*Steps your community can take
to help limit the costs of water
treatment and ensure a safe
supply of water for the future*

Where does the Village of Woodville's drinking water come from?

Woodville's drinking water is pumped out of the ground by numerous wells in wellfields located on the north side of State Route 20. This ground water is pumped to the water treatment plant where the water goes through a series of filters to remove the heavy particles, after which chlorine is added to kill harmful bacteria. From there, it is pumped through an underground network of pipes to Woodville's homes and businesses.

Where does the ground water come from? All ground water originally comes from rain or melted snow that has seeped into the ground. Water fills the spaces between sand and gravel as well as fractures in rocks. Beneath northwest Ohio and Indiana, there is a very thick and extensive sequence of limestone and dolomite that provides abundant water, which is known as the regional carbonate aquifer. The direction of ground water flow in the deeper portions of this aquifer is generally to the northeast, toward Lake Erie.



Why is ground water in karst more vulnerable to contamination?

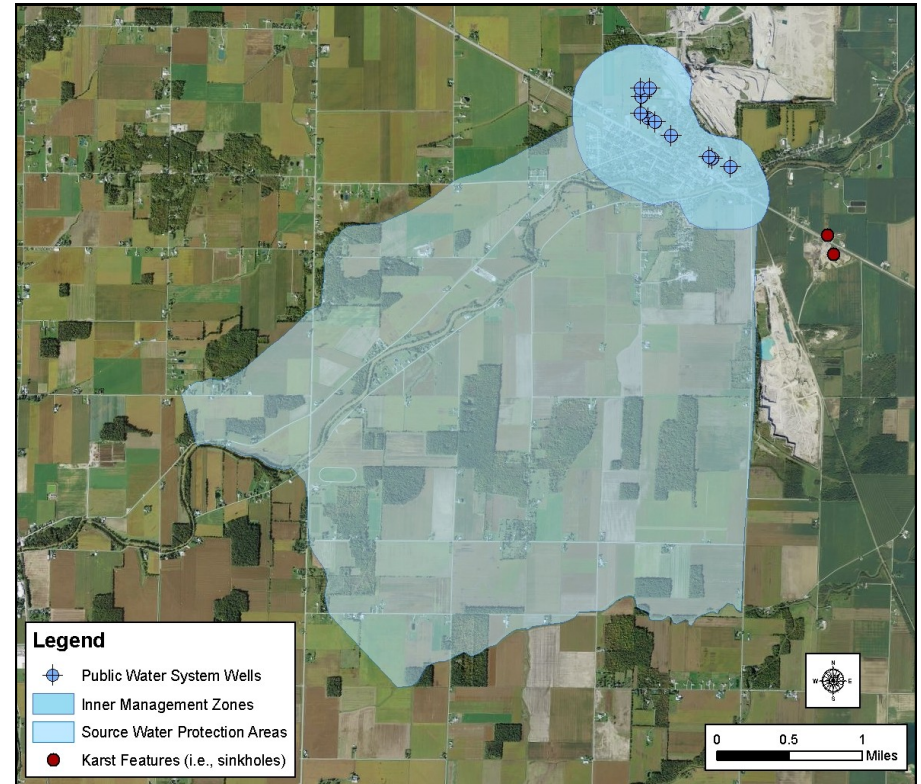
'Karst' refers to carbonate formations that are extensively fractured, often characterized by caves and sinkholes. When agricultural runoff, septic wastes, or other contaminants are carried into sinkholes by rainwater, they eventually mix with the groundwater.

Ground water moves very quickly in areas where karst occurs. One accident can contaminate multiple wells in a matter of days.

What are the main threats to source water quality?

The most likely sources of ground water contaminants in and around Woodville include chemical spills along high-ways or railways, agricultural runoff, pipeline breaks, leaks from underground storage tanks, and spills in or near quarries. The vulnerability of Woodville's water supply is heightened because the carbonate aquifer in this area has only a thin cover of soil, and is believed to be karst (see Figure to left).

To help the Village avoid ground water contamination, Ohio EPA provided a 'drinking water source assessment' that designates a protection area where attention should especially be focused on preventing spills, leaks, or other releases of chemicals.



Woodville's Source Water Protection Area. The 'inner management zone' is the central focus of Woodville's source water protection plan. However, any major chemical spills within the larger source water protection area should be considered a potential threat to the water supply.

How can we help protect the drinking water supply?

In 2013 the Village of Woodville developed a local drinking water source protection plan. In it village officials commit to periodically providing residents and business owners with letters and other types of information on protecting the source water. They will also maintain contact with first responders to fires and spills, to ensure they are aware of the source water protection area. They will work with the Sandusky County Soil and Water Conservation staff to encourage farmers in the area to adopt or continue practices that minimize the likelihood of impacting ground water quality. More information about the village's source water protection efforts and how you can help is available on Woodville's website at: www.villageofwoodville.com.