

Source Water Protection

What Is Source Water Protection Plan (SWPP)?

A SWPP is an agreement between stakeholders such as the Lower Souris Watershed Committee (LSWC) and the Water Security Agency with community residents to create a plan to prevent pollution of drinking water sources.

- A plan to protect a source water
- Ensure a clean and dependable water source for future generations
- Monitor water quality



How Can Source Water Be Contaminated?

Source water can be contaminated by a point source such as discharge from a factory, or non-point sources such as runoff from farms.

- Nutrient loading from runoff or discharge sites
- Algal Blooms / Algae produced toxins
- Contamination through wells
- Livestock and wildlife waste
- Fuel, oil, or other machine leaks



What Is the Benefit of a SWPP?

A SWPP will begin the process of making improvements to a source waters watershed. With a SWPP, stakeholders are legally obliged to fulfill their commitments which can include items such as:

- Riparian buffer along waterways to uptake nutrients from waters and reduce nutrient runoff
- Management of agricultural drainage
- Proper closure of abandoned wells
- Relocation of livestock away from water sources

How Can a SWPP be Initiated?

The LSWC can assist small Towns, Villages, and First Nations Reserves to develop a SWPP. If your community is interested in creating a SWPP, contact the [LSWC](#). In addition, the LSWC will occasionally receive funding to do risk analysis for source waters and will often begin a SWPP based off risk and the willingness of a community to participate.