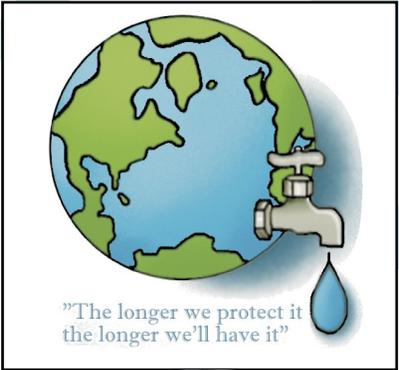


Your drinking water -
Keeping it safe



Keeping our drinking-water source protected, preserved, and at the forefront of community planning—so we can ensure clean, safe water for generations to come.

Marcellus WHPP



Village of Marcellus
177 E. Main Street
Marcellus, MI 49067

Marcellus will be a vibrant, welcoming community, that maintains its small-town charm, while promoting thoughtful growth.

What can you do?

- Learn about groundwater and your water source.
- Help identify land uses and possible sources of contamination.
- Use hazardous products as directed and dispose of them properly.
- Recycle used motor oil and antifreeze.
- Conserve water.

Want to help?

As concerned citizens, it is important that we do our part to protect our water. Once ground water becomes contaminated, it is extremely expensive and difficult to replenish our source of drinking water. Ways to protect your future water:

- ~ Help identify land uses and potential sources of contamination.
- ~ Dispose of household hazardous waste, toxins, (insecticides, oil-based paints, chemicals) at a certified dump site.
- ~ Consider alternatives to household products containing hazardous chemicals.
- ~ Practice proper turf management techniques and avoid over using fertilizers in lawns and gardens.
- ~ Used motor oil and transmission fluid should be recycled. Many oil change service stations already recycle their oil and some accept used oil donations.
- ~ Conserve water when possible.

What is Wellhead Protection?

In order to understand our need for the Wellhead Protection Plan, it is important to know the importance of our local groundwater supply and the area that contributes to it. Within Michigan, approximately 44% of the population relies on groundwater to supply their drinking water needs. Because we all depend on safe, reliable water for continued growth and development, it is necessary to improve & ensure the quality of our groundwater.

Our water supply is our sole source of Marcellus's drinking water; therefore protecting it will protect public health, enhance the quality of life & protect a vital natural resource.

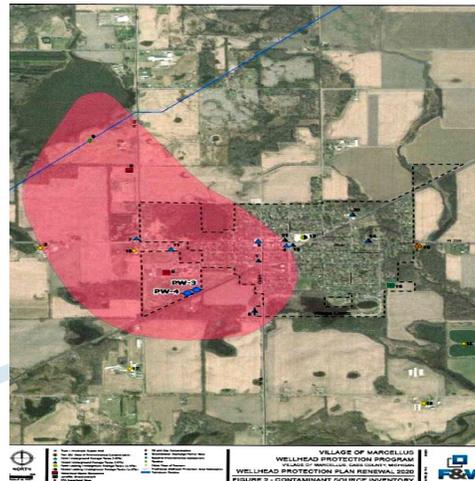
Water is a known renewable resource because it is cyclical. Water travels from the ground to the surface and into lakes, rivers and streams. The water then evaporates into the air, only to return later, via rain, fog, snow or hail to the surface. It then seeps into the ground where it begins the cycle all over again. Contaminates and pollutants can be added at any point of this process, which constitutes significant risk to public health, recreation and the economy.

Our Wellhead Protection Plan is aimed at protecting the water supply from existing and future emitters of pollution.

Wellhead Protection Plan

The Wellhead Protection Plan is a common sense approach to the immediate and long-term protection of our water supply system. The objective is to manage and control the potential sources of contamination throughout the Village and other designated areas, focusing on our well field sites. In addition, the plan is taking positive steps to manage potential sources of contaminants and contingency planning for the future by trying to protect the areas around the Village from contamination.

The Village's water system is composed of 2 production wells, one elevated storage tank and a distribution system. The Village DPW operates and maintains the systems. Below is a map of the Wellhead Protection Area for the Village of Marcellus.



Wellhead Protection Delineation Map

Steps taken by the Village to develop a Wellhead Protection Plan

1. Identify the aquifer recharge areas to be protected.
2. Determine how vulnerable the recharge area is to pollution.
3. Identify land uses and potential sources of pollution in the wellhead protection area and implement ways to prevent groundwater contamination.
4. Establish a plan to work with property owners and residents to ensure that pollution doesn't degrade our groundwater supplies.
5. Hold regular review and coordination meetings to update, strengthen, and actively maintain the Wellhead Protection Plan, ensuring that protection of our community's drinking-water source remains a central and continuous priority in Village operations and decision-making.

What is groundwater?

Groundwater is the water that fills the small spaces between rock particles (sand, gravel, etc.) or cracks in solid rock. Rain, melting snow, or surface water becomes groundwater by infiltrating into the ground and filling these spaces. The top of the water-saturated zone is called the "water table." When water infiltrates from the surface and reaches the water table, it begins moving towards points where it can escape, such as wells, rivers, or lakes.

The groundwater, which supplies the public water supply wells, often comes from within a short distance (1-2 miles) of the well. How fast groundwater moves depends on how much water is pumped from the wells and what type of geologic material the water is moving through. The 'capture zone' for each well was identified as part of the wellhead protection planning process.