

### ISSUE STATEMENT #3: KNOWLEDGE AND DATA REGARDING GROUNDWATER

There is not enough awareness or understanding of groundwater-surface water interaction and the extent to which land management decisions impact groundwater quality and quantity. More information is needed to identify and target vulnerable areas in protecting groundwater resources from pollution and enable local governments and communities to take action.

#### DESIRED FUTURE CONDITION

People understand their impact on groundwater.

Every local government has a clear understanding of their local groundwater picture and what is needed to protect groundwater.

**GOAL 1:** Increase decision maker, technical staff, and citizen knowledge of where drinking water contaminants exist and knowledge of vulnerabilities of groundwater-surface water interaction.

**Measurable outcome:** An increase in knowledge of and an expanded awareness of groundwater risk and vulnerabilities.

#### Measure:

- Counting of number of activities and attendance/participation in activities;
- Pre and post event knowledge; potential follow-up later
- Knowledge acquired at the meeting.
- Pre and post survey of general population, decision making bodies, and targeted groups.

**Frequency of measure:** Biannual (?)

#### Considerations/Notes regarding analysis and assessment:

- Need to define spectrum of vulnerabilities

#### Considerations/Notes regarding analysis and assessment:

- A complete outreach and education plan needs to be developed that includes identification of metrics to measure progress.
- Consider turnover in decision makers; this may include the frequency of outreach efforts.

#### Potential measures of level of effort/activity to address goal:

- e-Link or similar BMP database

#### Targeting implementation activities:

- Targeted, in-person direct communication; vulnerable areas.
- 5 & 10 year check in may work to evaluate knowledge retained, behaviors
- Note: Anoka County outreach coordinator (Abby has info)

**GOAL 2:** Develop science-based policies to protect groundwater and groundwater depended resources.

**Measurable outcome:** Model ordinances or policies are developed to address groundwater protection concerns based on knowledge and information that is generated through plan and partner activities, including the groundwater budgets and monitoring activities.

**Measure:**

**Frequency of measure:** Biannual (?)

**Considerations/Notes regarding analysis and assessment:**

**Potential measures of level of effort/activity to address goal:**

**Targeting implementation activities:**

- Groundwater dependent lakes, streams, or wetlands.
- 

### **GOAL 3:** Support the completion of the Mille Lacs County Geologic Atlas.

**Measurable outcome:** Completion; adopted

**Measure:** Completion

**Frequency of measure:**

**Considerations/Notes regarding analysis and assessment:**

- Mille Lacs County will require County Board approval and financing for staff time necessary to complete the local work.
- Receive approval in 2021; Complete local responsibilities by yr end 2022.

**Potential measures of level of effort/activity to address goal:**

**Targeting implementation activities:**