

## Village of Schoolcraft



# Wellhead Protection Program

The water pumped by Schoolcraft's wells has been underground for decades or longer. It flows beneath our feet in aquifers – areas of rock, gravel, and sand that can stretch for miles and hold millions of gallons of water. And while we're pumping water out of the aquifer, new water is flowing in, percolating through the soil to replenish our drinking water source.

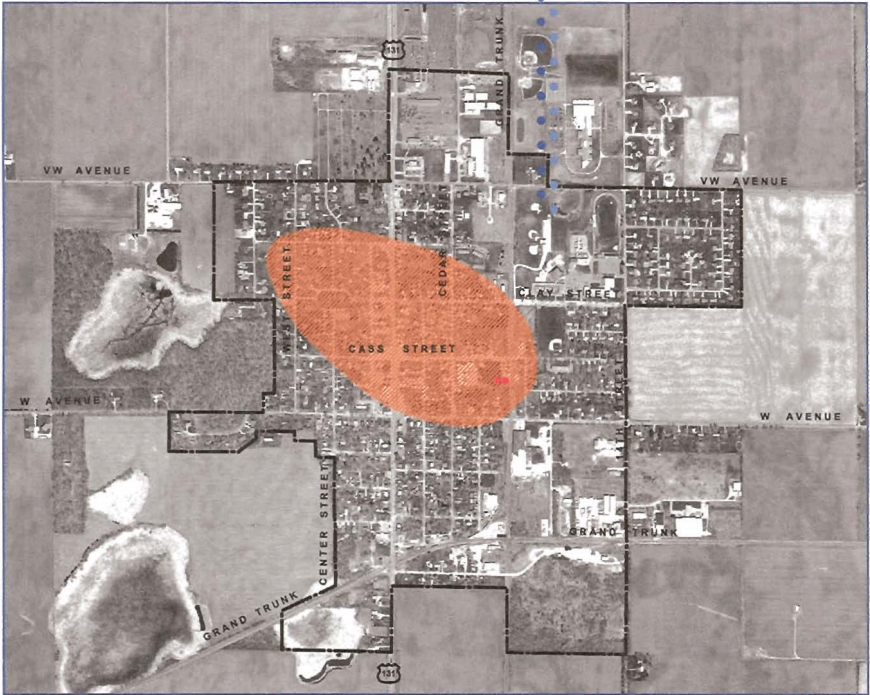
Unfortunately, water isn't the only thing that can end up in our aquifer...



The Village of Schoolcraft is working with businesses and citizens to educate the public and find other ways to keep our groundwater and drinking water clean. With everyone's cooperation, our community's drinking water will be clean for generations to come.

## Our Wellhead Protection Area

The Village of Schoolcraft draws water from an aquifer beneath the village. Schoolcraft has two municipal wells located on land owned by the village. Each well can pump about 500 gallons of groundwater per minute. This public water system provides water for drinking, irrigation, and fire protection to approximately 1,600 residents in the village, as well as many local businesses.



The red dots represent Schoolcraft's two wells. The shaded area represents Schoolcraft's Wellhead Protection Area, the region encompassing all the groundwater that is likely to reach our wells in the next ten years.



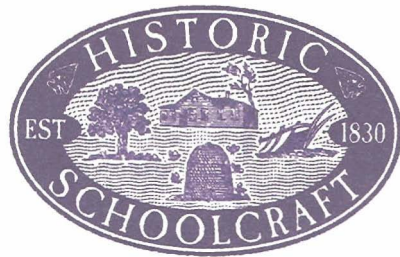
# What You Can Do

- Plug abandoned wells securely.  
Unused wells can be a direct channel between the surface and an aquifer, allowing water runoff — which carries bacteria, sediment, fertilizer, pesticides, and other chemicals — to flow directly into groundwater without being filtered by the soil.
- Use agricultural chemicals wisely.  
Excess fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides not absorbed by plants or soil can seep into groundwater.
- Store hazardous materials carefully.  
Check for leaks and spills often. All storage tanks should have secondary containment, a barrier or an outer wall that can contain leaks or spills.
- Maintain septic tanks properly.  
If tanks are overloaded or malfunctioning, water and contaminants can flow into the drain field and leach to the ground water.
- Dispose of chemicals safely.  
Your local hazardous waste collection service is available to help you. Many household and automotive products are hazardous to groundwater if disposed of improperly. Pouring them down storm drains, dumping them on the ground, or putting them out with the trash endangers the safety of ground water. Avoid buying more than you need, and share leftovers.

## Questions?

Contact:

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This brochure was created with appreciation to the following for information and assistance:

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