

**EAST MALTA COLONY  
Public Water System**

PWS ID # MT0001769

**Source Water Delineation  
and Assessment Report**

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The drinking water for East Malta Colony is supplied by 1 well, located ½ mile east of the colony complex. This Source Water Delineation and Assessment Report was prepared under the requirements and guidance of the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act and the US Environmental Protection Agency, as well as a detailed Source Water Assessment Plan developed by a statewide citizen's advisory committee here in Montana. The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is conducting these assessments for all public water systems in Montana. The purpose is to provide information so that the public water system staff/operator, consumers, and community citizens can begin developing strategies to protect your source of drinking water. The information that is provided includes the identification of the area most critical to maintaining safe drinking water, i.e., the Inventory Region, an inventory of potential sources of contamination within this area, and an assessment of the relative threat that these potential sources pose to the water system.

Based on the site visits, sanitary survey, well log, and the depth of the well, the well is completed in a gravel and sand layer. The sand and gravel layer appears to be part of the fluvial-alluvial deposits laid down by the pre-glacial Missouri River. These sediments were then overlain with glacial deposits. In accordance with the Montana Source Water Protection Program criteria (1999), the aquifer is considered to have a low sensitivity to potential contaminant sources since it has artesian flow at the surface and is a confined aquifer. Sensitivity is defined as the relative ease that contaminants can migrate to source water through the natural materials.

Three types of source water protection management regions for the East Malta Colony public water system were mapped as part of this assessment. They are the control zone, inventory region, and the recharge region. Potential sources of contamination were identified within each of these three regions and the results are as follows:

- The goal of management in the control zone is to avoid introducing contaminants directly into the water supply's well or immediate surrounding areas. The control zone is delineated as a 100-foot radius around the wells and all sources of potential contaminants should be excluded in this region. Potential contaminant sources identified within the control zones include: No potential sources of contamination were identified within the control zones.
- The inventory region should be managed to prevent contaminants from reaching the well before natural processes reduce their concentrations. Since the source water is confined, the inventory region for the wells consists of a 1000-foot radius circle around the wells. Significant potential contaminant sources identified within the inventory region include: shops for vehicle repair, chemical mixing and storage, livestock barns, sewer lines, cropped land and above ground fuel storage.
- The goal of management in the recharge region is to maintain and improve water quality over long periods of time or increased usage. Recharge to the wells is likely from infiltration of precipitation and surface water into the sand and gravel units where the units outcrop upgradient south of the well. Potential contaminant sources identified within the recharge region are the same as the Inventory Region.

Susceptibility is the potential for a public water supply to draw water contaminated by inventoried sources at concentrations that would pose concern. Susceptibility is determined by considering the hazard rating for each potential contaminant source and the existence of barriers that decrease the likelihood that contaminated water will flow to the public water supply wells. The East Malta Colony

public water supply hazard rating for all of the potential contaminant sources identified is low because the East Malta Colony source water well is confined and potential contaminant source migration pathways through the confining layer (i.e. poorly sealed wells) were not identified in the inventory region. Low risk potential sources and potential sources located outside the Inventory Region, but within the Recharge Region may still pose a threat over time, but are not discussed in detail in this assessment. This provides a quick look at the existing potential sources of contamination that could, if improperly managed or released, impact the source water for East Malta Colony. The susceptibility analysis provides the community and the public water system with information on where the greatest risk occurs and where to focus resources for protection of this valuable drinking water resource.

The costs associated with contaminated drinking water are high. Developing an approach to protect that resource will reduce the risks of a contamination event occurring. In this report, we have summarized the local geology and well construction issues as they pertain to the quality of your drinking water source. We have identified the area we believe to be most critical to preserving your water quality (the Inventory Region) and have identified potential sources of contamination within that area. In addition, we provide you with recommendations, i.e., Best Management Practices, regarding the proper use and practices associated with some common potential contamination sources. We believe public awareness is a powerful tool for protecting drinking water. The information in this report will help you increase public awareness about the relationship between land use activities and drinking water quality.

# INTRODUCTION

This Source Water Delineation and Assessment Report (SWDAR) was prepared for the East Malta Colony Public Water Supply, PWS ID# MT0001769, located in Phillips County. It was completed by, Bill O'Connell with Montana Rural Water Systems, Inc. with review and assistance from the Source Water Protection Program at the Department of Environmental Quality. George Hofer, the East Malta Colony water system operator, also provided additional assistance.

## PURPOSE

This report is intended to meet the technical requirements for the completion of the delineation and assessment report for the East Malta Colony Public Water System (PWS) as required by the Montana Source Water Protection Program (DEQ, 1999) and the federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) Amendments of 1996 (Public Law 104-182). The Montana Source Water Protection Program is intended to be a practical and cost-effective approach to protect public drinking water supplies from contamination. A major component of the Montana Source Water Protection Program is "delineation and assessment." Delineation is a process whereby areas that contribute water to aquifers or surface water bodies that are used to supply drinking water are identified on a map. These areas are called source water protection areas. Assessment involves identifying locations in the delineated areas where contaminants may be generated, stored, or transported, and then determining the relative potential for contamination of drinking water by these sources. The primary purpose of this source water delineation and assessment report is to provide information that helps East Malta Colony protect its drinking water sources.

## LIMITATIONS

This report was prepared to assess threats to East Malta Colony's public water supply, and is based on published information and information obtained from local residents familiar with the community. The terms "drinking water supply" or "drinking water source" refer specifically to the source of the East Malta Colony public water supply and not to any other public or private water supply. Also, not all potential or existing sources of groundwater or surface water contamination in the area of the East Malta Colony public water supply are identified. Only potential sources of contamination in areas that contribute water to its drinking water source are considered.

The term "contaminant" is used in this report to refer to constituents for which maximum concentration levels (MCLs) have been specified under the national primary drinking water standards, and to certain constituents that do not have MCLs but are considered to potentially represent health threats.

# CHAPTER 1

## BACKGROUND

### THE COMMUNITY

The East Malta Hutterite Colony is located in Phillips County, in north-central Montana, as shown in [Figure 1](#). The nearest town is Malta, which is located approximately 13 miles west of the colony. The economy of the colony relies on the production of a variety of agricultural products.

The Colony complex comprises residential buildings, a kitchen building, and several other facilities that support the agricultural activities at the colony. A map showing the layout of the colony is included with Appendix A. East Malta Colony serves 35 people through 1 primary (kitchen) and 5 secondary service connections (lots/hook ups). East Malta Colony's public water system (PWS) is classified as a Community PWS because it serves more than 25 residents. Drinking water to the Colony is supplied by 1 well located ½ mile southeast of the building complex ([Figure 1](#)).

### GEOGRAPHIC SETTING

East Malta Colony is located on the rolling plains of the Milk River Drainage, the area was formed when the pre-glacial Missouri River cut a broad channel through the region in North-central Montana (see [Figure 1](#)). The Colony is on the glacial deposits that overlay the Cretaceous sandstone and shale formations of the Northern Great Plains. The Colony is near Beaver Creek, which flows northeast to the Milk River.

East Malta Colony is located in the Milk River Watershed, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), which is located within the Lower Missouri River Watershed Management Region for Montana. The Milk River Watershed extends north into Canada and west to the Rocky Mountains.

*[Figure 1. Vicinity Map and Well Locations](#)*

### CLIMATE

Information on climate in the East Malta Colony area is based on the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Havre climate station (Western Regional Climate Station). Average temperatures and total precipitation for the period of record are shown in Table 1.

**Table 1. Period of Record Monthly Climate Summary Malta Climate Station**

Station (245337) Period of Record:

**MALTA, MONTANA (245337)**

Period of Record Monthly Climate Summary

Period of Record: 3/ 1/1906 to 5/31/1972

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Average Max. Temperature (F)	22.1	26.9	39.6	58.0	69.3	76.8	86.2	84.5	72.3	60.3	41.9	28.2	55.5
Average Min. Temperature (F)	-0.7	3.6	15.9	30.6	41.4	50.2	55.5	52.6	42.2	31.8	17.8	6.0	28.9
Average Total Precipitation (in.)	0.50	0.38	0.45	0.85	1.81	3.13	1.60	1.20	1.17	0.69	0.38	0.41	12.56
Average Total SnowFall (in.)	5.4	4.4	4.1	2.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	1.0	3.0	5.3	25.6
Average Snow Depth (in.)	4	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	1

Percent of possible observations for period of record.

Max. Temp.: 96.5% Min. Temp.: 96.4% Precipitation: 96.9% Snowfall: 82.7% Snow Depth: 60.3%

Check [Station Metadata](#) or [Metadata graphics](#) for more detail about data completeness.

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*Western Regional Climate Center, [wrc@dr.edu](mailto:wrc@dr.edu)*

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE SOURCE WATER**

East Malta Colony’s drinking water is supplied by 1 well located ½ mile southeast of the Colony complex. The well was drilled to depths of about 96 feet deep and draws water from a sand and gravel aquifer. The static water level has been measured at 2 feet below the surface but at the time of drilling the well flowed artesian. The well is reported to flow under artesian pressure in the spring (conversation with George Hofer, 2/25/05). The drinking water aquifer is confined and the groundwater flow direction in the vicinity of the well is towards the northeast. Recharge to the wells is likely from infiltration of precipitation and surface water south of the area where the pre-glacial Missouri River channel ends. Additional detail on the geology and hydrogeology of the area is provided in Chapter 2.

**THE PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY**

East Malta Colony serves 35 people through 1 primary connection at the communal kitchen and 6 secondary service connections (hook ups). The East Malta Colony is classified as a community public water system (PWS) since it serves at least 25 of the same people every day. Information on the water system was obtained from correspondence in the DEQ Public Water Supply Section files including the most recent sanitary surveys completed on 7/31/2002 included in Appendix A) and personal communication with the PWS operator.

The East Malta Colony uses one well, located ½ mile southeast of the Colony complex to supply drinking water. The groundwater is mineralized and as a result the water is filtered and disinfected with a UV system before going through a Reverse Osmosis (RO) unit. The treated water is stored in a 100-gallon tank and pumped to the kitchen. The treatment unit is located in a room next to the community

kitchen.

The well is 96 feet deep with static water level from 2 feet to flowing at the wellhead. Beaver Creek flows within 100 feet of the well but the static water level and flowing conditions of the well are several feet above the Creek level. The well water source is groundwater.

## **WATER QUALITY**

Every PWS performs monitoring for contamination to their water supply. The monitoring constituents include coliform and other signs of pathogenic organisms, nitrates, metals and multiple organic chemicals. The monitoring schedule depends on many factors such as the size and source water for a PWS, the number of sources (e.g. wells), and the population served. Each PWS has a specific monitoring program tailored to their system that follows the general protocols for operation of a PWS defined by DEQ. PWS monitoring schedules are available at <http://nris.state.mt.us/wis/swap/swapquery.asp>. The East Malta Colony PWS monitoring data from DEQ's PWS database for the past five years was reviewed and is summarized in this section.

The water system has had health-based violations (for coliform). Health based violations are issued when the amount of contaminant exceeds the safety standard (maximum contaminant level, MCL) or water was not treated properly. The health based MCL violation occurred in October, 2003 when water samples confirmed the presence of total coliform bacteria in the water supply. A Public Health Advisory was posted for the system following the detections. The Health Advisories were subsequently lifted based on the satisfactory bacteriological test results of five additional samples and proof of public notification.

## CHAPTER 2 DELINEATION

The source water protection area, the land area that contributes water to the East Malta Colony's PWS is identified in this chapter. Three management areas are identified for a PWS's source water protection area. These three regions, the control zone, inventory region, and recharge region, are delineated for the wells. The control zone, also known as the exclusion zone, is an area at least 100-foot radius around each well. The inventory region represents the zone of contribution of the wells, which typically approximates a three-year groundwater time-of-travel. Analytical equations describing groundwater flow using estimates of pumping and aquifer characteristics and/or simple hydrogeologic mapping are used to calculate groundwater time-of-travel distance. The recharge region represents the area where the source aquifer for the East Malta Colony's water system well is replenished.

### GENERAL GEOLOGIC AND HYDROGEOLOGIC SETTING

This section provides an overview of the geology and hydrology of the East Malta Colony area and is based on a primarily on a geologic map of the area by Alt (1989) and the well log for the East Malta Colony PWS well available from the Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology (MBMG) Ground-Water Information Center (GWIC). A regional geologic map is provided in [Figure 2](#). The geology of the area can be used to determine the locations, boundaries, and hydraulic properties of local aquifers. An understanding of hydrogeologic conditions also provides an explanation for the sensitivity of local aquifers to potential contaminant sources.

The stratigraphy in the East Malta Colony area generally consists of a several sequences of clay and a sand and gravel layer. The clay layers are excellent confining layers.

*[Figure 2. Geology of the Area](#)*

## PWS WELL INFORMATION

East Malta Colony's drinking water is supplied by one well, located ½ mile east of the colony compound. The well was completed at a relatively safe depth of 96 feet deep in a gravel and sand layer. The static water level measured at the time of drilling was 2 feet below surface but the well frequently flows at the surface during the spring. The drinking water source material is interpreted to be sand and gravel units deposited by the pre-glacial Missouri River. The aquifer is confined and the groundwater flow direction in the vicinity of the well is towards the north to northeast. Recharge to the well is likely from infiltration of precipitation and surface water where the pre-glacial Missouri River channel ends south of the well.

Copies of the well log showing the lithology recorded by the driller and well construction information are included in Appendix B and are summarized in Table 2.

East Malta Colony PWS Well Number	Well #1
DEQ Well Name/ Source Code	0001769
GWIC ID	42018
DNRC Water Right	H022681-00
Well Location	48.3457/-107.5908
Well Elevation	Not reported
Date Completed	10/26/78
Total Depth (bgs)	96
Well Completion: Casing	90 to 96
Well Completion: Screen	¼ x 4 inch slots
Well Completion: Annular Seal	Na
Static Water Level (at time of drilling)	2
Well Pump Test Data	45 gpm

## CONCEPTUAL MODEL AND ASSUMPTIONS

East Malta Colony's production well is located in the Milk River watershed, which is located within the Lower Missouri River Watershed Management Region for Montana. East Malta Colony's drinking water source is interpreted to be groundwater from a sand and gravel unit. Groundwater flow direction is from the southeast towards the north-northeast. The aquifer is confined and recharge to the wells is primarily from infiltration of precipitation where the formations are exposed.

### *Table 3. Source Water (Aquifer) Sensitivity Criteria*

Based on DEQ Source Water Protection Program Criteria (DEQ, 1999)

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High	Moderate	Low
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Surface water and GWUDISW</li> <li>• Unconsolidated Alluvium (unconfined)</li> <li>• Fluvial-Glacial Gravel</li> <li>• Terrace and Pediment Gravel</li> <li>• Shallow Fractured or Carbonate Bedrock</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Semi-consolidated Valley Fill sediments (semi-confined)</li> <li>• Unconsolidated Alluvium (semi-confined)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consolidated Sandstone Bedrock</li> <li>• Deep Fractured or Carbonate Bedrock</li> <li>• Semi-consolidated</li> <li>• Confined Aquifers</li> </ul>

for ranking aquifer sensitivity (Table 3), the PWS East Malta Colony’s source water is considered as having **low source water sensitivity** to contamination because the aquifer is confined. Sensitivity is defined as the relative ease that contaminants can migrate to source water.

**DELINEATION**

Methods and criteria for delineating source water protection areas are specified in the Montana Source Water Protection Program (DEQ, 1999). Source water protection areas delineated for the East Malta Colony PWS include a control zone, an inventory region and a recharge region. The delineated management zones for the wells are shown on [Figure 3](#).

*Control Zone* – A 100-foot radius control zone is delineated for East Malta Colony’s well. All sources of potential contaminants should be excluded in this region.

*Inventory Region* - For the East Malta Colony well, the DEQ’s Source Water Protection Program criteria for a confined aquifer system was followed. The inventory zone was delineated using a 1,000-foot radius centered on the well. The 1,000-foot radius is the default delineation and was chosen because of the isolated nature of the Colony and the confined aquifer supplying the well. All sources of potential contaminants are inventoried in this region.

*Recharge Region* –The recharge region for the East Malta Colony well includes agricultural land. The inventory for the recharge region focuses on general land uses and large industrial facilities. The goal of management in the recharge region is to maintain and improve the long-term quality of groundwater in the aquifer. The recharge region is delineated using a 1-mile radius.

**LIMITING FACTORS**

Delineation of the source water protection areas for the East Malta Colony PWS well is based on published reports and lithology indicated on the well log. The delineation was completed using conservative assumptions to help ensure that the inventory zone reflects the actual area where contamination to the system may occur.

[Figure 3. Drinking Water Protection Areas and Potential Sources of Contamination](#)

# CHAPTER 3

## INVENTORY

### INVENTORY METHOD

An inventory of significant potential contaminant sources was conducted to assess the susceptibility of East Malta Colony's well to contamination and to provide a foundation for source water protection planning. The inventory for East Malta Colony focuses on facilities that generate, use, or store potential contaminants and certain land uses in the inventory region delineated in the previous section. Sources of all primary drinking water contaminants and pathogens are identified, although only potential sources of contaminants that are the greatest threat to human health were selected for detailed inventory.

It is important to remember that the sites and areas identified in this section are only potential sources of contamination to the drinking water. Contamination of the drinking water is not likely to occur when potential contaminants are properly used and managed. Not all of these inventoried activities pose actual high risks to your public water supply. The day-to-day operating practices and contamination awareness varies considerably from one facility or land use activity to another.

The inventory for the East Malta Colony PWS focuses on all activities in the control zone for the well; certain types of municipal and private facilities or land uses in the inventory region; and general land uses and large facilities in the Recharge Region. Databases were searched to identify businesses and land uses that are potential sources of regulated contaminants. The process for completing the inventory included several steps, which are summarized as follows:

Step 1: Urban and agricultural land uses were identified from the U.S. Geological Survey's Geographic Information Retrieval and Analysis System (<http://nris.state.mt.us/gis/datalist.html>). Sewered and unsewered residential land uses were identified from boundaries of sewer coverage obtained from municipal wastewater utilities.

Step 2: EPA's Envirofacts System (<http://www.epa.gov/enviro/>) was queried to identify EPA regulated facilities located in the inventory region. This system accesses facilities listed in the following databases: Resource Conservation and Recovery Information System (RCRIS), Biennial Reporting System (BRS), Toxic Release Inventory (TRI), and Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Information System (CERCLIS) and the Permit Compliance System (PCS - for Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations with MPDES permits). The available reports were browsed for facility information including the Handler/Facility Classification to be used in assessing whether a facility should be classified as a significant potential contaminant source.

Step 3: Databases were queried to identify the following in the inventory region:

- Underground Storage Tanks (UST) (<http://www.deq.state.mt.us/UST/USTDownloads.asp>)
- Hazardous waste contaminated sites (DEQ hazardous waste site cleanup bureau),
- Landfills (<http://nris.state.mt.us/gis/datalist.html>), and
- Abandoned and active mines including gravel pits (<http://nris.state.mt.us/gis/datalist.html>)

Any information on past releases and present compliance status was noted.

Step 4: Major road and rail transportation routes were identified throughout the inventory region (<http://nris.state.mt.us/gis/datalist.html>).

Step 5: Public water system officials, or someone they designated as knowledgeable of the area, were interviewed to identify potential sources that are not listed in databases or on maps elsewhere (such as animal feeding operations that are not required to obtain a permit) and to assist in locating potential sources listed in the state and federal databases.

Step 6. Significant potential contaminant sources were identified in the control zone and inventory region and land uses and facilities that generate, store, or use large quantities of hazardous materials were identified within the recharge region

Potential contaminant sources are designated as significant if they fall into one of the following categories:

1. Large quantity hazardous waste generators.
2. Landfills.
3. Underground storage tanks.
4. Known groundwater contamination (including open or closed hazardous waste sites, state or federal superfund sites, and UST leak sites).
5. Underground injection well.
6. Major roads or rail transportation routes.
7. Cultivated cropland greater than 20 % of the inventory region.
8. Animal feeding operations.
9. Wastewater treatment facilities, sludge handling sites, or land application areas.
10. Septic systems.
11. Sewer mains.
12. Storm sewer outflows.
13. Abandoned or active mines

## **CONTROL ZONE INVENTORY RESULTS**

The East Malta Well contained no identified potential sources of contamination within the control zone. The well is located in a well house, which reduces the susceptibility to surface contamination. The PWS should be vigilant to ensure that potential sources of contamination are excluded from the control zone and that positive drainage away from each well casing is maintained.

## **INVENTORY REGION RESULTS**

The inventory results for East Malta Colony's well is summarized in Table 4 and shown on [Figure 3](#). The inventory region includes Beaver Creek and farm and pasture. The colony complex and nearby cropland are located outside of the Inventory Region. The farm complex includes Colony housing and school, hog and chicken barns, a dairy stockyard with runoff retention pond, a slaughterhouse, equipment repair and

maintenance shops, and various other shops and storage buildings including above ground fuel tanks (See Appendix A for PWS Site Plans).

Herbicides are not applied in this area.

Human waste is piped through sewer mains from the houses to the lagoon.

Additional point sources of potential pollutants (such as businesses or facilities listed on regulatory databases) were not identified in the inventory region.

Potential contaminants at the entire Colony include human and animal wastes, solvents and fuels, waste chemicals, and herbicides. The primary hazards are chemical or fuel spills, runoff from the stockyard and slaughterhouse, and leakage from sewer mains (Table 4).

Land uses within the inventory region include primarily pasture and crops. Beaver Creek is the only contaminant source in the Region. Septic system density within the inventory region is low and is not considered a risk to the PWS drinking water. Additional point sources of potential pollutants (such as businesses or facilities listed on regulatory databases) were not identified in the inventory region).

**Table 4. Summary of Potential Contaminant Sources in the Inventory Region**

<i>Source Type</i>	<i>Potential Contaminants</i>	<i>Description/Concern</i>
<b>Land Use Cover (Step 1)</b>		
Agricultural Crop Land	Pathogens, nitrates, pesticides and herbicides	Over-application or improper handling of pesticides or fertilizers may impact drinking water. Excessive irrigation may cause transport of contaminants or sediments to groundwater
Residential Development with Sewer Lines not in Region	Pathogens and nitrates	If not properly designed, installed, and maintained, sewer lines can be a point source of residential and commercial effluent in groundwater.
<b>EPA Envirofacts Sites (Step 2)</b>		
None Identified		
<b>DEQ Databases (Step 3)</b>		
None Identified		
<b>Miscellaneous Others, including Steps 4 and 5</b>		
Garden/Cropped Agricultural Land	Pathogens and nitrates, various herbicides	Land application of animal waste; spills and excess application of fertilizers and herbicides

Notes: Individual sites identified are evaluated in Chapter 4.

**Figure 4. Land Use and Potential Sources of Contamination in the Protection Areas**

## RECHARGE REGION INVENTORY RESULTS

Land use in the recharge region is reported in the 1992 National Land Cover dataset ([Figure 4](#)) to be primarily grasslands and agricultural land. The percentage of agricultural land is considered a moderate risk to the drinking water supply. Grasslands are not

considered potential sources of contamination unless there are significant grazing operations in the area.

Septic system density within the watershed/recharge region is low and is not considered a risk to the PWS drinking water.

Additional point sources of potential pollutions (such as businesses or facilities listed on regulatory databases) were not identified in the recharge region.

### **INVENTORY UPDATE**

To make this SWDAR a useful document for the years to come, the certified water system operator should update the inventory for his records every year. Changes in land uses or potential contaminant sources should be noted and additions made as needed. The complete inventory should be submitted to DEQ every five years to ensure the source water delineation and assessment remains current.

### **INVENTORY LIMITATIONS**

The potential contaminant sources described above are identified from readily available information. Consequently, unregulated activities or unreported contaminant releases may have been overlooked. The use of multiple sources of information, however, should ensure that the major threats to the source water for East Malta Colony's public water supply have been identified. The lack of identification of a potential contaminant source in the inventory or susceptibility assessment of this report does not mean that the potential for contamination does not exist or there is not a threat. It is highly recommended that the PWS and community "enhance" or refine the identification of the potential contamination sources through further research and local input.

# CHAPTER 4

## SUSCEPTIBILITY ASSESSMENT

### GENERAL DISCUSSION

Susceptibility is the potential for a public water supply to draw water contaminated by inventoried sources at concentrations that would pose a concern. Susceptibility is assessed in order to prioritize potential pollutant sources for management actions by local entities, in this case the East Malta Colony PWS managers and operators. The goal of Source Water Management is to protect the source water by 1) controlling activities in the control zone, 2) managing significant potential contaminant sources in the inventory region, and 3) ensuring that major land use activities or other significant activities in the recharge region pose minimal threat to the source water. Management priorities in the inventory region are determined by ranking the significant potential contaminant sources identified in the previous chapter according to susceptibility. Alternative management approaches that could be pursued by the PWS managers and operators to reduce susceptibility are recommended in this chapter.

### HAZARD DETERMINATION

The proximity of a potential contaminant source to a spring or well intake, potential contaminant migration pathways, or the density of potential non-point contaminant sources determines the threat of contamination, referred to here as hazard (Table 5). Hazard and the existence of barriers to contamination determine susceptibility, which is described in Table 6. Table 5 below describes the criteria to determine hazard within the inventory region as it was delineated in this SWDAR. Note that this table is specific to PWSs that draw their water from unconfined aquifers. The determination of hazard is somewhat different for other types of water sources.

***Table 5. Hazard of Potential Contaminant Sources for Well Drawing Water from Unconfined Aquifers***

Type of Potential Contaminant Source	High Hazard	Moderate Hazard	Low Hazard
<b>Septic System Density</b> (# per square mile)	More than 300 septic systems per sq. mile	Between 50 and 300 septic systems per sq. mile	Less than 50 septic systems per sq. mile
<b>Municipal or Community Sanitary Sewer</b> (% land use)	More than 50 percent of the inventory region	Between 20 and 50 percent of the inventory region	Less than 20 percent of the inventory region
<b>Agricultural</b> (% land use)	More than 50 percent of the inventory region	Between 20 and 50 percent of the inventory region	Less than 20 percent of the inventory region
<b>Point sources of all contaminants</b>	Within 1-year TOT	Between 1 to 3 years TOT	Over 3 years TOT

**Note:** Highlighted areas are those relevant to the East Malta Colony PWS inventory region

TOT – Time of travel

## DISCUSSION OF SUSCEPTIBILITY

Susceptibility is determined by considering the hazard rating for each potential contaminant source and the existence of barriers that decrease the likelihood that contaminated water will flow to the East Malta Colony PWS wells (Table 6).

*Table 6. Susceptibility Based on Hazard and Barriers*

Presence Of Barriers	Hazard		
	High	Moderate	Low
No Barriers	Very High Susceptibility	High Susceptibility	Moderate Susceptibility
One Barrier	High Susceptibility	Moderate Susceptibility	Low Susceptibility
Multiple Barriers	Moderate Susceptibility	Low Susceptibility	Very Low Susceptibility

Barriers to contamination can be anything that decreases the likelihood that contaminants will reach a spring or well. Barriers can be engineered structures, management actions, or natural conditions. Examples of engineered barriers are spill catchment structures for industrial facilities and leak detection for underground storage tanks. Emergency planning and best management practices are considered management barriers. Thick clay-rich soils, a deep water table or a thick unsaturated zone above the well intake can be natural barriers.

The well log shows up to 80 feet of clay. The clay layer is likely laterally extensive in the East Malta Colony area. The clay serves as a natural barrier to the downward migration of potential contaminants from the surface.

A summary of the susceptibility assessment for East Malta Colony PWS production wells is located in Table 7. Because a contaminant source has not been identified in the inventory or susceptibility assessment of this report, it doesn't mean that the potential for contamination does not exist or is not a threat. Table 7 only includes the potential contaminant sources identified in Chapter 3 that were determined to present a significant potential risk to the drinking water supply. It is highly recommended that the PWS operator and community members familiar with the nature of businesses and land use in the area enhance the inventory through further research and local input.

## MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

It should be noted that even small releases of some chemicals in close proximity to a public water supply well can have significant negative impact on water quality, and therefore are a significant threat to the public water supply. Steps can be taken to reduce the likelihood of releases in the source water for the PWS or in the vicinity of the sources. Management recommendations for protecting the East Malta Colony drinking water supply are detailed in the susceptibility table (Table 7). If these, and other, management recommendations are implemented; they may be considered additional barriers that will reduce the susceptibility of the intake to specific sources and contaminants.

**Table 7. Susceptibility Assessment of Significant Potential Contaminant Sources**

Potential Contaminant Source	Potential Contaminants	Hazard	Hazard	Barriers	Susceptibility	Management Recommendations
<b>Inventory Region</b>						
Garden/Cropped Agricultural Area(s)	Nitrate and SOCs from fertilizer, pesticides and herbicides.	Contaminants leaching into groundwater	Low	Artesian flow Thick clay layers overlie the aquifer Distance from the PWS well	Low	Prohibit land application within inventory region. Use agricultural best management practices (BMPs) and apply all chemicals according to label instructions.
Animal Waste Management Areas (Barns, Dairy, Stockyard, Corral Areas)	Pathogens, nitrates, stored chemicals	Leaching from animal wastes, spills of chemicals used	Low	Concrete floor, no cracks Good housekeeping	Low	Use agricultural best management practices (BMPs) to ensure wastes do not impact groundwater. Monitor integrity of animal waste storage units/areas. Dispose of wastes outside of inventory region. Recycle/dispose of waste chemicals properly. Ensure good housekeeping in chemical use areas.
Slaughterhouse/Butcher Shop	Pathogens and nitrates	Spills, runoff, leaching into groundwater	Low	Concrete floor, no cracks Good housekeeping	Low	Use best management practices (BMPs) to ensure wastes do not impact groundwater. Monitor integrity of animal waste storage areas. Dispose of wastes outside of inventory region. Ensure good housekeeping.
Heavily Grazed Areas	Pathogens and nitrates	Contaminants directly entering the well casing or leaching into groundwater	Low	Artesian flow Confined Aquifer	Low	Maintain fencing around the wells to prevent cattle access. Encourage use of agricultural best management practices (BMPs) in the watershed to keep cattle away from the wells and stream especially directly upstream of the well locations. Work with upstream landowners to ensure livestock waste products are kept away from the stream.
Sewer Lines/ Sewage Lagoon(s)	Pathogens, nitrates	Ongoing or catastrophic leakage of sewage into groundwater	Low	Existing program to replace/repair sewer lines System is relatively new and well designed	Low	Ensure ongoing inspection and maintenance with rehabilitation or replacement of existing sewer mains if necessary. Use sewer main liners. Develop rapid response plan for leaks or ruptures.
Vehicle/Equipment Maintenance Areas/Shops	Petroleum products, maintenance products, VOCs, SOCs and others	Spills or leaks of chemicals used	Low	Concrete floor, no cracks Good housekeeping	Low	Protect area from fuel or other chemical spills. Maintain sealed concrete floors. Ensure proper chemical and waste use, storage, and disposal/recycling. Ensure good housekeeping.
County and Colony Access Roads	Pesticides, fertilizers, VOCs, SOCs, other	Spills, routine spraying, storm water runoff, infiltration into groundwater	Low	County Emergency Response Plan, training and preparation of local response personnel	Low	Notify road owners of well and protection area locations. Develop Emergency Response Plan for Colony roads. For County roads, encourage and support (1) emergency planning, (2) training of local emergency response personnel, and (3) use of levees or engineered storm drainage to carry any spills away and prevent infiltration into ground. Encourage reduced herbicide use.
Chemical/Waste Storage, Handling, Mixing, and Cleaning Areas	Various Chemicals	Spills, leaks, runoff, infiltration into groundwater	Low	Concrete floor, no cracks Good housekeeping	Low	Limit volumes stored. Provide containment for large volumes. Ensure prompt and complete cleanup of spills. Maintain sealed concrete floors. Ensure proper chemical and waste use, storage, and disposal/recycling. Follow label instructions. Ensure good housekeeping.
Fuel Storage Tanks	Petroleum products and VOCs	Spills or leaks	Low	Compliance with 1998 upgrades Spill prevention	Low	Ensure proper operation and maintenance. Verify existing contamination, if any, is being properly removed or remediated. Properly abandon and remove USTs if out-of-service. Test soil to evaluate potential impact from historic spills or leaks.
<b>Recharge Region</b>						
Agricultural Crop Land	Nitrate and SOCs from fertilizer, pesticides and herbicides. Pathogens (if grazing occurs)	Contaminants leaching into groundwater	Low	Clay layers overlie the aquifer	Low	Encourage use of agricultural best management practices (BMPs) in the recharge region

## CHAPTER 5 MONITORING WAIVERS

### WAIVER RECOMMENDATION

The East Malta Colony PWS should apply for use waivers including Phase 2 inorganics (which includes barium, cadmium, chromium, fluoride, mercury and selenium). The waiver allows the PWS to collect one sample round for these constituents every 9-year cycle (the standard is one sample round per 3-year cycle). Information on susceptibility and use waivers is provided in this section to give the PWS operators an opportunity to consider if waivers may be feasible.

Before a susceptibility or use waiver is requested, the PWS Operators are encouraged to carefully review the following section on Monitoring Waiver Requirements. If after reviewing this section it is determined that waivers are feasible, the PWS should submit a letter to DEQ requesting the specific monitoring waivers. The PWS must be in compliance with monitoring requirements to be considered. If requested by DEQ, the PWS may also need to provide additional information regarding chemical use in the area within the Inventory Region. Table 8 shows how identified potential contaminant sources affect the eligibility for monitoring waivers.

***Table 8. Susceptibility Assessment as it relates to Waiver Eligibility for Significant Potential Contaminant Sources in the Inventory Region***

Source	Contaminant	Susceptibility	Waiver Eligibility
<b>Point Sources, Transportation Corridors</b>	VOCs, SOCs, petroleum products and other chemicals	<b>Low</b>	Chemical use in right-of-way may preclude waivers for some chemicals. PWS should confirm chemical use history along the right-of-way. Waivers might be rescinded if a spill occurred.
<b>Agricultural Cropped Areas</b>	Nitrates and SOCs	<b>Low</b>	Chemical use may preclude waivers for some chemicals. The PWS should confirm chemical use/storage history by land parcel.

## **MONITORING WAIVER REQUIREMENTS**

The 1986 Amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act require that community and non-community PWSs sample drinking water sources for the presence of volatile organic chemicals (VOCs) and synthetic organic chemicals (SOCs). The US EPA has authorized states to issue monitoring waivers for the organic chemicals to systems that have completed an approved waiver application and review process. All PWSs in the State of Montana are eligible for consideration of monitoring waivers for several organic chemicals. The chemicals diquat, endothall, glyphosate, dioxins, ethylene dibromide (EDB), dibromochloropropane (DBCP), and polychlorinated biphenyls are excluded from monitoring requirements by statewide waivers.

### Use Waivers

A Use Waiver can be allowed if through a vulnerability assessment, it is determined that specific organic chemicals were not used, manufactured, or stored in the area of a water source (or source area). If certain organic chemicals have been used, or if the use is unknown, the system would be determined to be vulnerable to organic chemical contamination and ineligible for a Use Waiver for those particular contaminants.

### Susceptibility Waivers

If a Use Waiver is not granted, a system may still be eligible for a Susceptibility Waiver, if through a vulnerability assessment it is demonstrated that the water source would not be susceptible to contamination. Susceptibility is based on prior analytical or vulnerability assessment results, environmental persistence, and transport of the contaminants, natural protection of the source, wellhead protection program efforts, and the level of susceptibility indicators (such as nitrate and coliform bacteria). The vulnerability assessment of a surface water source must consider the watershed area above the source, or a minimum fixed radius of 1.5 miles upgradient of the surface water intake. PWSs developed in unconfined aquifers should use a minimum fixed radius of 1.0 mile as an area of investigation for the use of organic chemicals. Vulnerability assessment of spring water sources should use a minimum fixed radius of 1.0 mile as an area of investigation for the use of organic chemicals. Shallow groundwater sources under the direct influence of surface water (GWUDISW) should use the same area of investigation as surface water systems; that is, the watershed area above the source, or a minimum fixed radius of 1.5 miles upgradient of the point of diversion. The purpose of the vulnerability assessment procedures outlined in this section is to determine which of the organic chemical contaminants are in the area of investigation.

Given the wide range of landforms, land uses, and the diversity of groundwater and surface water sources across the state, additional information is often required during the review of a waiver application. Additional information may include well logs, pump test data, or water quality monitoring data from surrounding public water systems; delineation of zones of influence and contribution to a well; time-of-travel or attenuation studies; vulnerability mapping; and the use of computerized groundwater flow and transport models. DEQ's PWS Section and DEQ's Source Water Protection Program will conduct review of an organic chemical monitoring waiver application. Other state agencies may be asked for assistance.

### Susceptibility Waiver for Confined Aquifers

Confined groundwater is isolated from overlying material by relatively impermeable geologic formations. A confined aquifer is subject to pressures higher than atmospheric pressure that would exist at the top of the aquifer if the aquifer were not geologically confined. A well that is drilled through the impervious layer into a confined aquifer will enable the water to rise in the borehole to a level that is proportional to the water pressure (hydrostatic head) that exists at the top of a confined aquifer.

The susceptibility of a confined aquifer relates to the probability of an introduced contaminant to travel from the source of contamination to the aquifer. Susceptibility of an aquifer to contamination will be influenced by the hydrogeologic characteristics of the soil, vadose zone (the unsaturated geologic materials between the ground surface and the aquifer), and confining layers. Important hydrogeologic controls include the thickness of the soil, the depth of the aquifer, the permeability of the soil and vadose zones, the thickness and uniformity of low permeability and confining layers between the surface and the aquifer, and hydrostatic head of the aquifer. These factors will control how readily a contaminant will infiltrate and percolate toward the groundwater.

The Susceptibility waiver has the objective of assessing the potential of contaminants reaching the groundwater used by the PWS. A groundwater source that appears to be confined from surface infiltration in the immediate area of the wellhead may eventually be affected by contaminated groundwater flow from elsewhere in the recharge area. Contaminants could also enter the confined aquifer through improper well construction or abandonment where the well provides a hydraulic connection from the surface to the confined aquifer. The extent of confinement of an aquifer is critical to limiting susceptibility to organic chemical contamination. Regional conditions that define the confinement of a groundwater source must be demonstrated by the PWS in order to be considered for a confined aquifer susceptibility waiver. Confinement of an aquifer can be demonstrated by pump test data (storage coefficient), geologic mapping, and well logs. Site-specific information is required to sufficiently represent the recharge area of the aquifer and the zone of contribution to the PWS well. The following information should be provided:

- Abandoned wells in the region (zone of contribution to the well),
- Other wells in the region (zone of contribution to the well),
- Nitrate/Coliform bacteria analytical history of the PWS well, and
- Organic chemical analytical history of the PWS well.

## **CHAPTER 6**

### **MANAGEMENT & EMERGENCY RESPONSE**

Procedures for responding to emergencies are described and an emergency coordinator is designated in this chapter. The equipment and materials needed to respond to an emergency and the source of a temporary water supply are also described.

#### **Possible Disruption Threats**

The main threat to the PWS has been identified as casing failure or line breaks. A failure of the casing could allow contaminated surface water or poorer quality water from a different aquifer to enter the well and distribution system.

#### **Emergency Coordinator**

The emergency coordinator for East Malta Colony is George Hofer.

#### **Equipment and Material Resources**

A catastrophic loss of water will require the services of an engineer and a well driller. Minor disruptions to the public water system will be handled by the colony.

#### **Procedures to Shut Down the Wells**

The wells can be isolated from the water distribution system by using the valves at the well pump-houses. Any well can be turned off at the pump house but requires a key for access. The keys are located with the operator.

## **SECURITY**

In the wake of the September 11<sup>th</sup> attacks a new emphasis has been placed on site security. East Malta Colony's water facilities are located within the community complex. The pump house doors are locked. The well cap should be locked to prevent tampering.

## Important emergency contacts and phone

CONTACT NAME	TITLE	PHONE	RESPONSIBILITY
<i>George Hofer</i>	<i>Plumber</i>	<i>654-2795</i>	<i>PWS Facilities</i>
<i>MT Rural Water Systems- MRWS</i>		<i>454-1151</i>	<i>PWS</i>
<i>Mark Gruener</i>	<i>District 6 rep</i>	<i>538-6166</i>	<i>Disaster and Emergency Services</i>
<i>Sheri Medow Smith</i>	<i>Homeland Security</i>	<i>841-3969</i>	<i>Homeland Security Manager</i>
<i>Montana DEQ Spill Hotline</i>		<i>444-6911</i>	
<i>DEQ Enforcement Division</i>		<i>444-0379</i>	
<i>DEQ Source Water Protection</i>	<i>Section Head</i>	<i>444-4806</i>	<i>Water Quality</i>

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# GLOSSARY\*

**Acute Health Effect.** A negative health effect in which symptoms develop rapidly.

**Alkalinity.** The capacity of water to neutralize acids.

**Aquifer.** A water-bearing layer of rock or sediment that will yield water in usable quantity to a well or spring.

**Barrier.** A physical feature or management plan that reduces the likelihood of contamination of a water source from a potential contaminant source

**Best Management Practices (BMPs).** Methods for various activities that have been determined to be the most effective, practical means of preventing or reducing non-point source pollution.

**Biennial Reporting System (BRS).** An EPA database that contains information on hazardous waste sites. The data can be accessed through the EPA Envirofacts website.

**Chronic Health Effect.** A negative health effect in which symptoms develop over an extended period of time.

**Class V Injection Well.** Any pit or conduit into the subsurface for disposal of waste waters. The receiving unit for an injection well typically represents the aquifer, or water-bearing interval.

**Coliform Bacteria.** A general type of bacteria found in the intestinal tracts of animals and humans, and also in soils, vegetation and water. Their presence in water is used as an indicator of pollution and possible contamination by pathogens.

**Comprehensive Environmental Cleanup and Responsibility Act (CECRA).** Passed in 1989 by the Montana State Legislature, CECRA provides the mechanism and responsibility to clean up hazardous waste sites in Montana.

**Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA).** Enacted in 1980. CERCLA provides a Federal “Superfund” to clean up uncontrolled or abandoned hazardous-waste sites as well as accidents, spills, and other emergency releases of pollutants and contaminants into the environment. Through the Act, EPA was given power to seek out those parties responsible for any release and assure their cooperation in the cleanup.

**Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Information System (CERCLIS).** A database that provides information about specific sites through the EPA Envirofacts website.

**Confined Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO).** Any agricultural operation that feeds animals within specific areas, not on rangeland. Certain CAFOs require permits for operation.

**Confined Aquifer.** A fully saturated aquifer overlain by a confining unit such as a clay layer. The static water level in a well in a confined aquifer is at an elevation that is equal to or higher than the base of the overlying confining unit.

**Confining Unit.** A geologic formation present above a confined aquifer that inhibits the flow of water and maintains the pressure of the groundwater in the aquifer. The physical properties of a confining unit may range from a five-foot thick clay layer to shale that is hundreds of feet thick.

**Delineation.** The process of determining and mapping source water protection areas.

**Glacial.** Of or relating to the presence and activities of ice or glaciers. Also, pertaining to distinctive features and materials produced by or derived from glaciers.

**Geographic Information Systems (GIS).** A computerized database management and mapping system that allows for analysis and presentation of geographic data.

**Hardness.** Characteristic of water caused by presence of various calcium and magnesium salts. Hard water may interfere with some industrial processes and prevent soap from lathering.

**Hazard.** A relative measure of the potential of a contaminant from a facility or associated with a land use to reach the water source for a public water supply. The location, quantity and toxicity of significant potential contaminant sources determine hazard.

**Hydraulic Conductivity.** A constant number or coefficient of proportionality that describes the rate water can move through an aquifer material.

**Hydrology.** The study of water and how it flows in the ground and on the surface.

**Hydrogeology.** The study of geologic formations and how they effect groundwater flow systems.

**Inventory Region.** A source water management area for groundwater systems that encompasses the area expected to contribute water to a public water supply within a fixed distance or a specified three year groundwater travel time.

**Lacustrine.** Pertaining to, produced by, or formed in a lake or lakes.

**Large Capacity Septic System.** Defined by Underground Injection Control regulations as an on-site septic system serving 20 or more persons.

**Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST).** A release from a UST and/or associated piping into the subsurface.

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL).** Maximum concentration of a substance in water that is permitted to be delivered to the users of a public water supply. Set by EPA under authority of the Safe Drinking Water Act to establish concentrations of contaminants in drinking water that are protective of human health.

**Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology – Groundwater Information Center (MBMG/GWIC).** The database of information on all well drilled in Montana, including stratigraphic data and well construction data, when available.

**Montana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MPDES).** A permitting system that utilizes a database to track entities that discharge wastewater of any type into waters of the State of Montana.

**National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES).** A national permitting system that utilizes a database to track entities that discharge wastewater into waters of the United States.

**Nitrate.** An important plant nutrient and type of inorganic fertilizer that can be a potential contaminant in water at high concentrations. In water the major sources of nitrates are wastewater treatment effluent, septic tanks, feed lots and fertilizers.

**Nonpoint-Source Pollution.** Pollution sources that are diffuse and do not have a single point of origin or are not introduced into a receiving stream from a specific outlet. Examples of nonpoint- source pollution include agriculture, forestry, and run-off from city streets. Nonpoint sources of pollution, such as the use of herbicides, can concentrate low levels of these chemicals into surface and/or groundwaters at increased levels that may exceed MCLs.

**Pathogens.** A microorganism typically found in the intestinal tracts of mammals, capable of producing disease.

**Phase II (and IIB) Rules.** EPA updated or created legal limits on 38 contaminants. The rules became effective July 30, 1992 and January 1, 1993. Some of these contaminants are frequently-applied agricultural chemicals such as nitrate and others are industrial solvents.

**Phase V Rule.** EPA set standards for 23 contaminants in addition to those addressed by the Phase II Rules. The Phase V Rule became effective January 17, 1994. Some of these contaminants include inorganic chemicals such as cyanide and other Phase V contaminants are pesticides that enter water supplies through run-off from fields where farmers have applied them or by leaching through the soil into groundwater. Six are probable cancer-causing agents. Others can cause liver and kidney damage, or problems of the nervous system and brain.

**Point Source.** A stationary location or a fixed facility from which pollutants are discharged. This includes any single identifiable source of pollution, including but not limited to any pipe, ditch, channel, tunnel, conduit, well, discrete fracture, container, rolling stock (tanker truck), or vessel or other floating craft, from which pollutants are or may be discharged.

**Pollutant.** Generally, any substance introduced into the environment that adversely affects the usefulness of a resource (e.g. groundwater used for drinking water).

**Permit Compliance System (PCS).** An EPA database that provides information on the status of required permits for specific activities for specific facilities. The data can be accessed through the EPA Envirofacts website.

**Public Water System (PWS).** A system that provides water for human consumption through at least 15 service connections or regularly serves 25 individuals.

**Pumping Water Level.** Water level elevation in a well when the pump is operating.

**Recharge Region.** An area in which water is absorbed that eventually reaches the zone of saturation in one or more aquifers. As a source water management region, the term generally describes the entire area that could contribute water to an aquifer used by a public water supply. Includes areas that could contribute water over long time periods or under different water usage patterns.

**Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA).** Enacted by Congress in 1976. RCRA's primary goals are to protect human health and the environment from the potential hazards of waste disposal, to conserve energy and natural resources, to reduce the amount of waste generated, and to ensure that wastes are managed in an environmentally sound manner.

**Resource Conservation and Recovery Information System (RCRIS).** Is a database that provides information about specific sites through the EPA Envirofacts website.

**Secondary Maximum Contaminant Levels (SMCL).** The maximum concentration of a substance in water that is recommended to be delivered to users of a public water supply based on aesthetic qualities. SMCLs are non-enforceable guidelines for public water supplies, set by EPA under authority of the Safe Drinking Water Act. Compounds with SMCLs may occur naturally in certain areas, limiting the ability of the public water supply to treat for them.

**Section Seven Tracking System (SSTS).** SSTS is an automated system EPA uses to track pesticide producing establishments and the amount of pesticides they produce.

**Source Water.** Any surface water, spring, or groundwater source that provides water to a public water supply.

**Source Water Delineation and Assessment Report (SWDAR).** A report for a public water supply that delineates source water protection areas, provides an inventory of potential contaminant sources within the delineated areas, and evaluates the relative susceptibility of the source water to contamination from the potential contaminant sources under “worst-case” conditions.

**Source Water Protection Areas.** For surface water sources, the land and surface drainage network that contributes water to a stream or reservoir used by a public water supply. For groundwater sources, the area within a fixed radius or three-year travel time from a well, and the land area where the aquifer is recharged.

**Spill Response Region.** A source water management area for surface water systems that encompasses the area expected to contribute water to a public water supply within a fixed distance or a specified four-hour water travel time in a stream or river.

**Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) Code.** A method of grouping industries with similar products or services and assigning codes to these groups.

**Static Water Level (SWL).** Water level elevation in a well when the pump is not operating.

**Susceptibility (of a PWS).** The relative potential for a PWS to draw water contaminated at concentrations that would pose concern. Susceptibility is evaluated at the point immediately preceding treatment or, if no treatment is provided, at the entry point to the distribution system.

**Synthetic Organic Compounds (SOC).** Man made organic chemical compounds (e.g. herbicides and pesticides).

**Total Dissolved Solids (TDS).** The dissolved solids collected after a sample of a known volume of water is passed through a very fine mesh filter.

**Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL).** The total pollutant load to a surface water body from point, nonpoint, and natural sources. The TMDL program was established by section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act to help states implement water quality standards.

**Toxicity.** The quality or degree of being poisonous or harmful to plants, animals, or humans.

**Toxicity Characteristic Leachate Procedure.** A test designed to determine whether a waste is hazardous or requires treatment to become less hazardous.

**Toxic Release Inventory (TRI).** An EPA database that compiles information about permitted industrial releases of chemicals to air and water. Information about specific sites can be obtained through the EPA Envirofacts website.

**Transmissivity.** A number that describes the ability of an aquifer to transmit water. The transmissivity is determined by multiplying the hydraulic conductivity time the aquifer thickness.

**Turbidity.** The cloudy appearance of water caused by the presence of suspended matter.

**Unconfined Aquifer.** An aquifer containing water that is not under pressure. The water table is the top surface of an unconfined aquifer.

**Underground Storage Tanks (UST).** A tank located at least partially underground and designed to hold gasoline or other petroleum products or chemicals, and the associated plumbing system.

**Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC).** Chemicals such as petroleum hydrocarbons and solvents or other organic chemicals that evaporate readily to the atmosphere.

**Watershed.** The region drained by, or contributing water to, a stream, lake, or other water body of water.

\* With the exception of the definitions for Lacustrine, Phase II and Phase V Rules, and Standard Industrial Classification Code, definitions were adapted from EPA's Term References System (formerly known as Glossary of Selected Terms and Abbreviations) which can be found at: <http://www.epa.gov/trs/index.htm>. The definitions of glacial and lacustrine were taken from the Glossary of Geology by Robert L. Bates and Julia A. Jackson.

The definitions for Phase II and Phase V Rules were adapted from:

<http://www.epa.gov/OGWDW/source/therule.html#PhaseII>

<http://www.epa.gov/OGWDW/source/therule.html#PhaseV>

The definition for Standard Industrial Classification Code was adapted from:

EPA/Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance: Guide to Environmental Issues: Glossary of Terms & Acronyms *Term Detail*

# Appendix A

## PWS Sanitary Survey



# Appendix B

## PWS Well Logs



# Appendix C

## Concurrence Letter