

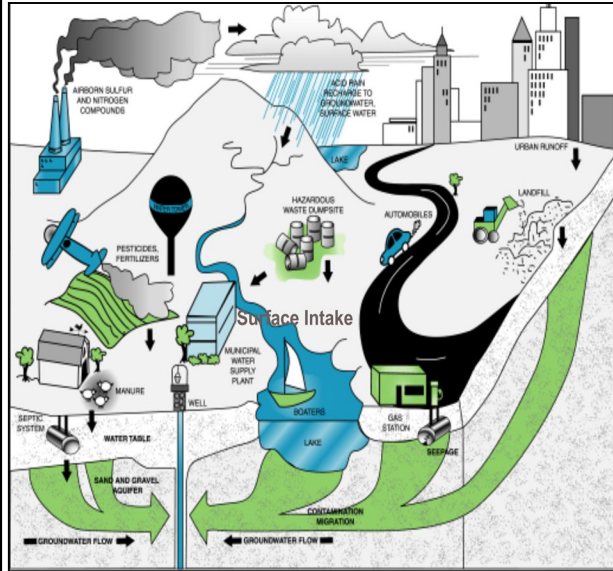
# Maintain your septic Tank

Groundwater contaminated by poorly or un-treated household wastewater poses dangers to drinking water and to the environment. Septic system maintenance comes down to four key elements:

- Inspect and Pump Frequently
- Use Water Efficiently
- Properly Dispose of Waste
- Maintain Your Drainfield

# Be aware of the dangers of grease

Grease sticks to the insides of drain pipes and sewer pipes, restricting water flow. As more and more fats, oils, and grease accumulate, the greater the chances of a back-up. Sewage can back-up into your tubs or toilets, or even worse, it could overflow into streams and groundwater. Please be proactive in fighting grease, don't pour it down the drain!



# Town of Fairmont



## NEED MORE INFORMATION?

Town of Fairmont  
910-628-9766  
NC Rural Water Association  
[www.ncrwa.com](http://www.ncrwa.com)

Thank you for Reading!

Wellhead  
Protection Trifold



## WHAT IS GROUNDWATER?

Groundwater is precipitation that has soaked into the ground and is stored in pores between the soil or in cracks in the bedrock. The Town of Fairmont uses groundwater it pumps from the ground using three (3) wells located in its service area.

## THE WELLHEAD PROTECTION PROGRAM

Fairmont is updating its Wellhead Protection Program to protect its water supply from contamination. As a part of the program, it has identified vulnerable areas around its wells called "Wellhead Protection Areas". Chemicals and other pollutants spilled or dumped in these areas can be drawn into the wells, possibly contaminating our community's drinking water supply. Residents and businesses in these areas must be very careful with chemicals and other potential pollutants.



## POLLUTION SOURCES!

Many things we do in our daily lives can pollute our surface and groundwaters. Sources of groundwater pollution include:

- Used oil, paint thinner, gasoline and other chemicals poured on the ground
- Leaking storage tanks (aboveground and underground)
- Overuse of pesticides and fertilizers on lawns, golf courses and agricultural fields
- Chemical spills at businesses, farms and along highways
- Illegal dumps and poorly managed landfills
- Failing septic tanks
- Leaking sewer lines
- Improperly abandoned wells
- Unlined waste pits, ponds and lagoons

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## HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Water is our most valuable natural resource – we must protect it! You can help by doing your part to protect our supply and by supporting this program.

Here are some tips:

Never pour used oil, paint thinner or other hazardous chemicals on the ground or down the drain. Take them to a recycling center or to a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day. For information call the Robeson County Landfill.

910-865-3348

Check for and fix leaks in storage tanks (i.e. home heating oil/kerosene) at your home or business

Inspect and pump your septic tank as needed

Have any unused wells on your property properly abandoned

Minimize your use of pesticides and fertilizers and store them properly

Clean up junk and debris on your property

Report all chemical spills immediately

Encourage community leaders and businesses to do everything possible to protect our drinking water supply