

Source Water Protection and The Drinking Water Protection Program

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Drinking Water Protection Program

Coastal Partnerships for Drinking Water Protection Workshops
Feb. 13, 2024
Sunset Recreation Center – Seaside Oregon

Goals

- Increase awareness of OHA and DEQ Drinking Water Protection program and assistance we can provide to water systems and their communities
- Become familiar with tools and technical assistance available to help reduce contamination risks

What is source water protection?

- What is source water?



What is source water protection?

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- Any type of surface water or groundwater feature from which we extract water for drinking water use
- Includes rivers, streams, lakes, springs, and aquifers



Why protect your source water?

- Cleaner raw water = lower treatment cost and fewer risks to public health
- Treatment plants not always able to remove contaminants
- Many emerging chemicals, pharmaceuticals, etc. lack water quality standards and/or testing protocols.
- Environmental impacts from Oregon's increasing population places increasing pressure on water quality (and quantity!)
- Pollution "clean-up" is expensive -- on average 30 – 40x more costly than pollution prevention!

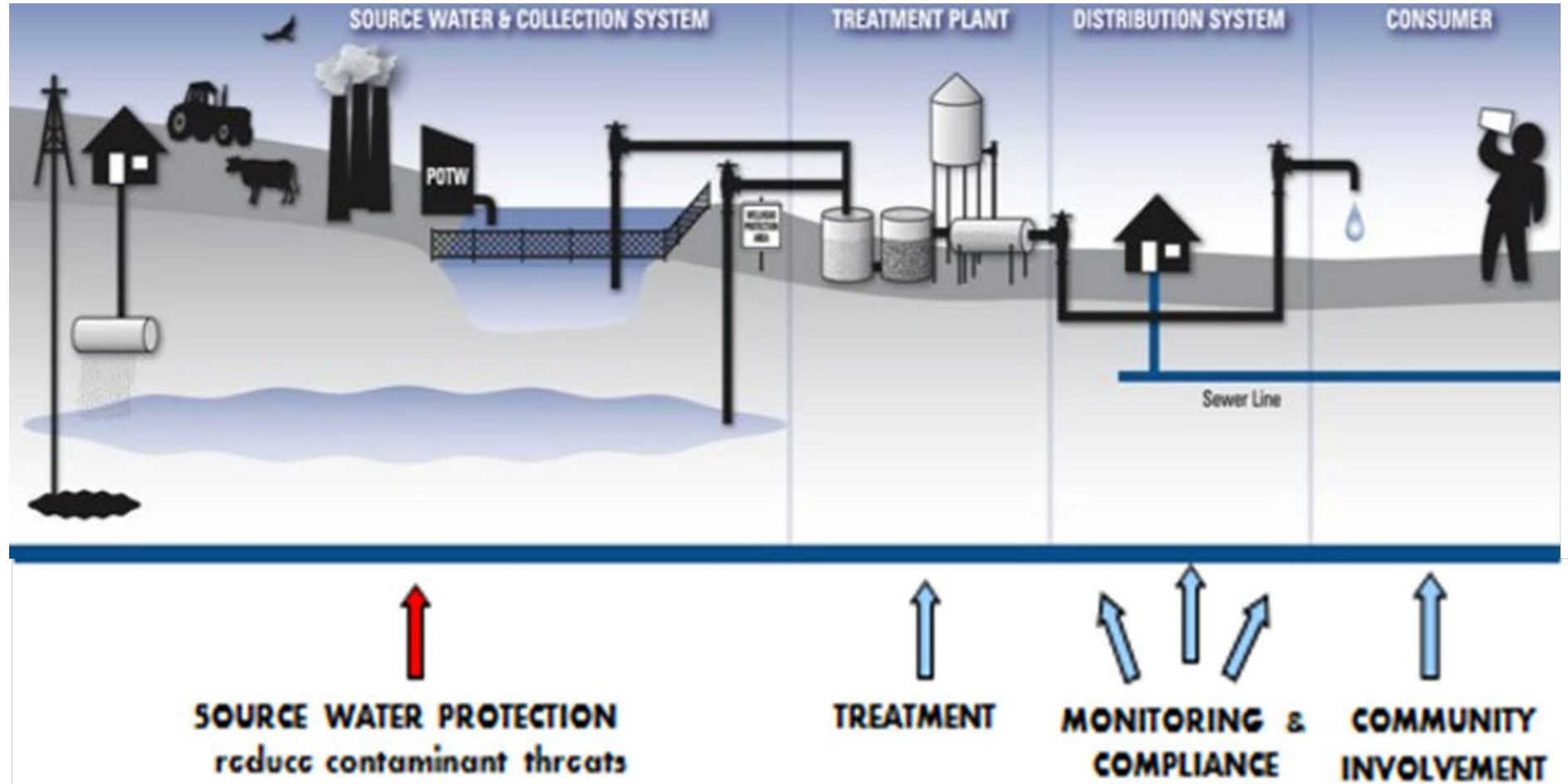


Multi-barrier approach

Take-away:

Watersheds and aquifers are the first 'barrier' in the multi-barrier approach to public health – Natural Infrastructure

Ecosystems are the first line of defense



Drinking Water Protection Program

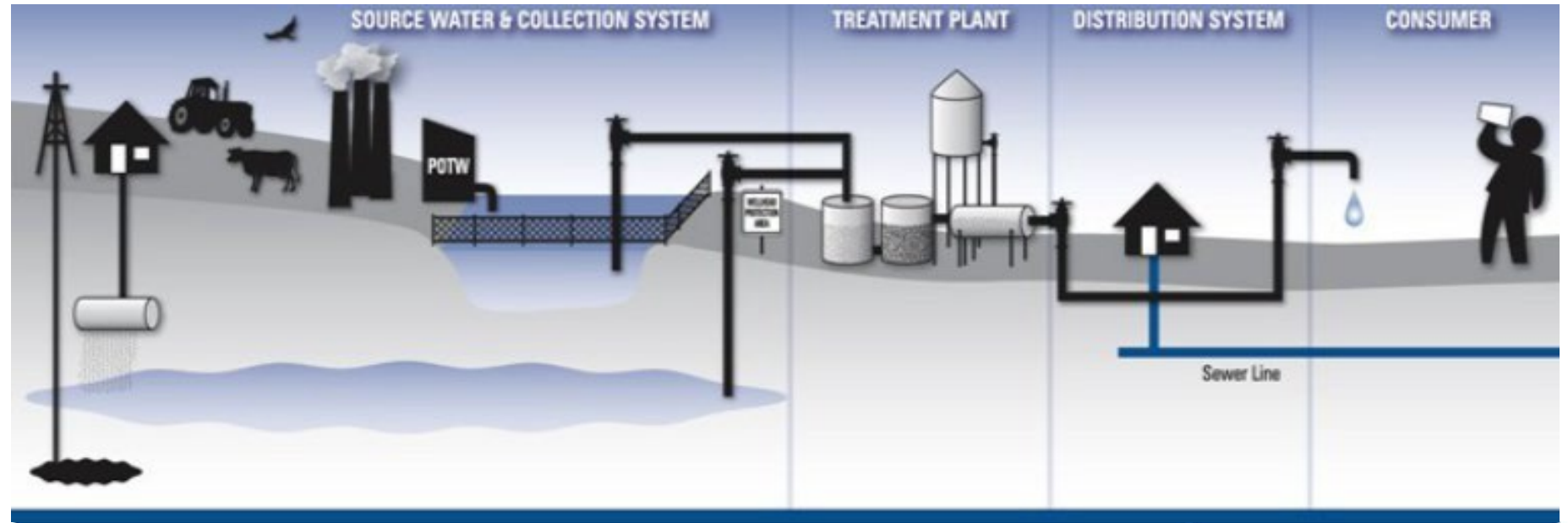
An interagency program between



Public Health Division/Drinking Water Program



Water Quality Division/ Drinking Water Protection Program



SOURCE WATER PROTECTION
reduce contaminant threats

TREATMENT

MONITORING & COMPLIANCE

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

DEQ Drinking Water Protection Program

DEQ DWP

OHA Drinking Water Services



Source Water Assessment Reports

- Completed for community and non-transient non-Community
- Details on land use and ownership
- Maps of nearby water systems and drinking water source areas
- Potential contaminant sources, locations, and risk levels
- susceptibility analysis
- Strategies and resources to help reduce risks
- Updated reports include common strategies to reduce risk, resources, and funding info

What and where: PCSs and SWAs

Potential Contaminant Sources

Activities or contaminants that have the potential to impact drinking water quality. Can be point or nonpoint and due to human influence or natural conditions.

Source Water Areas

Surface water: The geographic area (watershed(s)) providing water to a water system

Groundwater: area at the surface that overlies the critical portion of the aquifer that's supplying groundwater to the water system's well(s) and/or spring(s).

Examples of strategies already implemented

Help us add to the list!

- Septic system replacement, education, and maintenance
- Drinking Water Protection Plans
- Pesticide collection events
- Expanded/restored riparian buffers
- Landowner agreements re pesticide applications
- Underground Storage Tank removal/replacement
- Unused well abandonment
- Land conservation and acquisition

Water systems need partners

- Public water systems have limited resources
- Source water protection not required
- Much of source area is outside of water system jurisdiction
- Watershed restoration/enhancement or groundwater protection not usually their specialty



Benefits of collaboration

- Broadens community support for conservation and restoration activities
- Enhances regional water quality and land-use planning
- Leverages resources for funding sources that are:
 - ✓ Only available to public water suppliers
 - ✓ Require specific land ownership types
 - ✓ Give higher priority if in drinking water source area



Partnerships

- Land trusts, soil and water conservation districts, watershed councils, non-governmental organizations, and drinking water providers have common goals:
 - Diverse and resilient ecosystems
 - Non-regulatory, voluntary approach to encourage adoption of best practices
 - Similar geographic priority areas and pollutants of concern
 - Address wide-range of issues
 - What's good for fish and aquatic habitat is good for drinking water (and vice versa!)
 - Land trusts, SWCDs, watershed councils, NGOs commonly approach local landowners and are good at outreach!



Next steps for partner organizations

- Tap into DEQ/OHA resources:
 - Identify drinking water source areas and potential partners
 - [Oregon DEQ Drinking Water Program](#)
- Check out original and updated source water assessments
- Online interactive maps, data and GIS layers
- Review funding sources

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
Coastal Workshop Summary of Funding Resources for Source Water Protection
 Loans and grants that have application openings March 2024- December 2024

Who is eligible to apply?
 ◆ Local Government ◆ Nonprofit
 ● Water District/Utilities ▼ Eligibility more open ended,
 ● Tribal Government refer to grant document for more info

Funding Source	Maximum Request	Resource Description	Due Date
Oregon Health Authority Source Protection Fund ◆ ●	\$50,000 grant/ \$100,000 loan	Supports any project or planning process that leads to risk reduction within the delineated drinking water source area.	Late March 2024
Clean Water State Revolving Fund ◆ ● ● ◆ ▼	a. \$100,000 b. No maximum	a. Low interest planning loans with up to 100% principal forgiveness b. Nonpoint source loans; funding source for land acquisition and other nonpoint source projects	4/12/24
Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board Open Solicitation Grants ◆ ● ● ▼	a. No maximum b. \$75,000 c. No maximum	a. Stakeholder engagement grant b. Technical assistance grant c. Restoration grant	Late April 2024
Coastal Zone Management Habitat Protection & Restoration Funding ◆ ● ● ◆	\$6 million	Restoration (includes planning for restoration), Land Conservation/Acquisition	Letters of Intent due in summer (usually July)
Oregon Water Resources Department's Water Project Grants ◆ ● ● ◆ ▼	No maximum 25% match is required	Eligible projects must provide economic, social, and environmental benefits.	Summer 2024
Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife Private Forest Accord Grant Program ◆ ● ●	No maximum	Implementation, Planning, Monitoring, Research Must benefit Private Forest Accord covered species.	Late December 2024

For more information, please refer to this comprehensive grant document:
<https://www.oregon.gov/deq/wq/Documents/dwpResources-FundingforLandConservation.pdf>

Translation or other formats
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State of Oregon
 DEQ Department of Environmental Quality

Source water protection resources

[DEQ Drinking Water Protection Interactive Map Viewer](#)

Shows most Updated Source Water Assessment results, land use, regulatory databases (including WQ 303(d) listed streams)

[Coastal Drinking Water Atlas and Interactive Web Tool](#)

[Updated Source Water Assessments](#)

Source water area/watershed and identification of potential risks

[Resource guides - surface water and groundwater](#)

Lists of partner organizations, best management practices, links to funds and resources

Title VI and alternative formats

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