

PROPOSED ADDITIONAL TEXT TO CHAPTER 3 – NATURAL RESOURCES

Drinking Water Resources

Clark Township relies on its surface and groundwater resources for drinking water sources. In recognition of this, it is the intent of this Plan to encourage protection of the Township's groundwater resources.

The most significant sources of water supply contamination are landfills, surface impoundment areas, subsurface percolation from septic tanks and cesspools, open dumps, uncapped or improperly capped abandoned wells, injection wells and underground storage tanks. These uses represent both *point* and *non-point* contamination sources. Point source is the term used to describe contaminants, which originate in the immediate area of the well or tap. All of the above, if located in close proximity to a water supply source, are examples of potential point source polluters. Contaminants from these uses may seep directly down through the soil to the water source.

Non-point source contamination is much more difficult to control because the cause of the problem may actually be located a considerable distance from a well. This type of contamination is caused by pollutants that filter into an underground aquifer and then migrate slowly through the groundwater aquifer to off-site well and water sources. Prevention of this type of contamination must involve a collective effort on the part of property owners and local officials from a large geographic area. It is the recommendation of this Plan that all existing and future wells be protected from both point and non-point source contamination to the greatest degree possible.