

Thursday 1 August - 2005 Resolution: Participate to protect the aquifer

In the last couple of years, we are aware that men's practices put the vulnerability of water in great danger. Because we consider water to be inexhaustible, we take it for granted, we waste it, and we pollute it. But when the water becomes polluted, it becomes a potential cause of infectious or chronic illness.

Each action counts!

- As citizens, we can make a difference by doing good gestures to assure the perennity of water.
- Save water in different ways.

Regular water analysis for nitrates-nitrites and bacteriological parameter of the water, suggested at beginning of spring and in the fall or after a rain storm if big changes occur, this will assure regular maintenance or quality of water. (This will confirm the water-tightness of the well and the efficacy of any work done to correct contamination. If you have a contamination of nitrates-nitrites or bacteriological parameter, it is most likely to be from farming or a faulty septic system.)

Maintaining the water-catchment, to protect the water, regular inspection of the well and its surroundings should be done regularly. (The lid is solid and water-tight, no obstructions in the vent, the drainage of surrounding surface water to be directed in the opposite direction of the well, no stagnant water at proximity of the well, in a surface well we want the absence of cracks in the casing or in the joints of water-tightness of casings to prevent surface water or wastes to infiltrate into the well, and no animal and dead leaves at proximity of the well.)

- Help eliminate pollutants, like paints, oil, medicine by disposing of them in the appropriate manner.
- Try to substitute natural remedies, instead of using pesticides.
- Respect natural state of aquatic life in, humid land, marsh and swamps.
- Inform your surroundings about the importance of preserving water quality.
- Etc.

The humanity and ecosystems depend on water for survival, there is no substitute. If the ecosystems are degraded and the water quality reduced, the population will be affected also. With reduced water quality the food chain can be affected seriously and even affect human survival.

Now it is time for choices from this knowledge, we have to find a durable harmony with nature, so we can use water safely forever. It is a calling and a responsibility for everyone of us to protect water, so future generations have accessibility of secure drinkable water.

(Reference: Pour que l'eau vive, le puits, dépliant d'Environnement Québec)