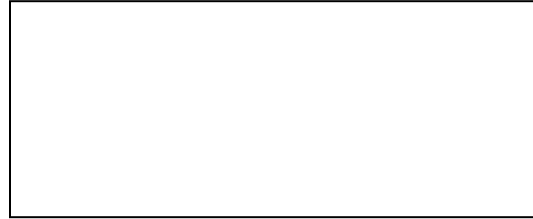


**WHP News Release – Class V Well Management
For Information Contact:**



WHP NEWS RELEASE

The City has been working together with local, state and federal agencies to protect area drinking water sources through the implementation of its Wellhead Protection Plan. An effective way for landowners to support this effort is to register and properly manage Class V wells located on their properties. Class V wells are shallow disposal methods (aka floor drains not hooked up to a sanitary sewer, stormwater drainage wells, large capacity septic systems etc...) used to place fluids below the land surface. Class V wells are a concern because they may pose a risk to underground sources of drinking water. The risk a Class V well may present depends on factors such as: the type of fluid(s) it receives, its location in relation to water supply sources, its construction, maintenance, and local geology. According to Bruce Olsen, Minnesota Department of Health hydro-geologist, “Improper management of Class V wells can allow contaminants to enter into our ground water aquifers and drinking water supplies. Property owners have a responsibility to see that their shallow disposal methods are managed correctly to make sure local groundwater supplies do not become contaminated as a result of poor management practices.”

To learn how to become actively involved in the protection of drinking water or to determine specific ways to manage your Class V well to prevent groundwater contamination, property owners are encouraged to contact the City’s Wellhead Protection Manager or log on to the Minnesota Rural Water Association website at mrwa@mrwa.com.