



alternative sources and contacts

Top Ten Sources for Water Information

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

- Phone: 800-426-4791 Safe Drinking Water Hotline
- E-mail: hotline-sdwa@epamail.epa.gov
- Web site: www.epa.gov/ow (Ground Water & Drinking Water)
- Best Bet: Publication: Water on Tap: A Consumer's Guide to the Nation's Drinking Water

National Drinking Water Clearinghouse (NDWC)

- Phone: 800-624-8301 Drinking water questions
- Web site: www.estd.wvu.edu/ndwc/NDWC_homepage.html
- Best Bet: Search On Tap and Water Sense newsletters by subject

The Groundwater Foundation

- Phone: 800-858-4844 Groundwater questions
- E-mail: info@groundwater.org
- Web site: www.groundwater.org
- Best Bets: The Aquifer, Groundwater Basics and Groundwater Guardian

Minnesota Department of Health (MDH)

- Phone: 651.215.0700 Environmental Health Division
- Web site: www.health.state.mn.us (Environmental Health)
- Best Bets: Frequently Called Phone Numbers by Subject and Information for Citizens

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MN DNR)

- **Phone: 651-296-4800 MN DNR Waters 651.296.6157 or 888-MINNDNR General**
- **Web site: www.dnr.state.mn.us (Waters)**
- **Best Bets: Lake Finder Surveys and Maps, External Water Resource Links, and Do I need a permit?**

University of Minnesota Extension Service (Extension)

- **Phone: 612.624.2200 or 800-525-8636 INFO-U Messages about water quality and septic systems**
- **Septic system: 612.625.7243 design and installation 800-719-2825 operation and maintenance**
- **Local contact: University of Minnesota Extension Service offices in every county**
- **Web site: www.extension.umn.edu/water**
- **Best Bets: Educational materials: Drinking Water Quality, On-Site Sewage Treatment, and Shoreland Mgmt**

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA)

- **Phone: 651.296.6300 or 800-657-3864**
- **Web site: www.pca.state.mn.us (Water)**
- **Best Bets: Permits/Regulations, Directory of MN's Ground Water Programs, and Phone Referral List**

Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA)

- **Phone: 651.297.2200 or 800-967-2474**
- **Web site: www.mda.state.mn.us**
- **Best Bet: Free Water Testing Clinics for Nitrates**

United States Geological Survey in Minnesota (USGS)

- **Phone: 763.783.3100**
- **E-mail: Earth science questions, Ask-A-Geologist@usgs.gov**
- **Web site: wwwmn.cr.usgs.gov (Water)**
- **Best Bets: National Water-Quality Assessment Program in Minnesota**

American Ground Water Trust (AGWT)

- **Phone: 800-423-7748 Ground water questions**
- **Web site: www.agwt.org**
- **Best Bet: Educational Products and Publications**

Quick Resource List by Subject Area

Water Testing

- Locate certified water testing labs through MDH 651.215.0700
- Info-U 612.624.2200 or 800-525-8636
- Your County Environmental Health Department

Safe Drinking Water

- EPA National Primary Drinking Water Regulations, www.epa.gov/OGWDW/wot/appa.html
- MDH, including Source Water Protection 651.215.0700
- Info-U 612.624.2200 or 800-525-8636
- The National Ag Safety Database (Interpret Your Water Test Report) www.cdc.gov/niosh/nasd/menus/tophome.html

Well Water Disinfection, Construction, Regulations, Sealing (including financial assistance)

- MDH-Well Management Section 651.215.0811 or 800-383-9808
- Your County Environmental Health Department
- Info-U at 612.624.2200 or 800-525-8636

Surface Water (Lakes, Rivers and Streams)

- MN DNR Waters 651.296.4800 and MN DNR General 651.296.6157 or 888-MINNDNR
- MPCA 651.296.6300 or 800-657-3864
- Minnesota Lakes Association, www.mnlakesassn.org
- Rivers Council of Minnesota, www.riversmn.org

Septic Systems-Regulations, Maintenance, Construction

- University of Minnesota Extension Service www.extension.umn.edu/water
- Septic system questions: 612.625.7243 or 800-719-2825
- E-mail questions: olson150@umn.edu or heger001@tc.umn.edu
- Order publications: 612.624.4900 or 800-876-8636 or from your county offices
- National Small Flows Clearinghouse www.estd.wvu.edu/nsfc/nsfc_homepage.html
- Your County Planning and Zoning or Environmental Health Depts
- MPCA (Individual Sewage Treatment Systems) 651.296.6300 or 800-657-3864

Home Water Treatment

- **National Sanitation Foundation International www.nsf.org or 800-NSF-MARK**
- **Water Quality Association, www.wqa.org**
- **MDH 651.215.0700**
- **Info-U 612.624.2200 or 800-525-8636**
- **Order Extension publications: 612.624.4900 or 800-876-8636 or from your county offices**
- **The National Ag Safety Database (Home Water Treatment) www.cdc.gov/niosh/nasd/menus/tophome.html**

Groundwater-quantity and quality

- **MPCA 651.296.6300 or 800-657-3864**
- **American Ground Water Trust 800-423-7748**
- **MN DNR Waters 651.296.4800 and MN DNR General 651.296.6157 or 888-MINNDNR**

News

- **U. S. Water News, www.uswaternews.com**
- **Water Resources Center, wrc.coafes.umn.edu**
- **Minnesota Sea Grant, www.seagrant.umn.edu**