What YOU Can Do to Protect Your Source of Drinking Water

**Yard Maintenance**

**DO**
- Apply chemicals only as directed.
- More is not always better!
- Cultivate plants which discourage pests.
- This reduces pesticide usage.
- Leave lawn clippings on lawn or compost them.
- Pull weeds by hand.
- Clean up after pets.

**DON'T**
- Use gas powered leaf blowers or weed wackers.
- Overapply fertilizers, herbicides, or pesticides.

**Automotive**

**DO**
- Recycle used oil & antifreeze at service stations.
- Have automotive fluid leaks fixed.
- Clean up spills immediately.
- Drive only when necessary.

**DON'T**
- Pour used oil, antifreeze, or other chemicals on the ground or down a storm drain.

**Storm Drains**

**DO**
- Take unwanted chemicals to hazardous waste collection sites.

**DON'T**
- Pour chemicals into storm drains or drainage ditches.

**Plumbing/Septic Systems**

**DO**
- Have your septic tank inspected annually.
- Have your septic tank pumped at LEAST every five years.
- Use phosphate free detergents.
- Take unwanted chemicals to hazardous waste collection sites.

**DON'T**
- Pour chemicals down the drain.
- Use toilets as trash cans.
- Use septic system additives or “cleaners.”

**Additional Water Protection Ideas**

- If you have a fuel oil tank, make sure it is not leaking. You can also install a concrete bermed pad under the tank to catch any accidental spills or leaks.
- Hire someone to seal properly all unused water wells on your property.
- Write or call your elected representatives about your interest in protecting water resources.

For More Information about Source Water Protection, call: The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency/Division of Drinking and Ground Waters (614) 644-2752