Where can I get more information?

A range of other publications, such as water quality protection notes, policies and guidelines, are produced by the department’s Water Source Protection staff. To access these resources please go to <http://drinkingwater.water.wa.gov.au/> then scroll down and click on the relevant link or contact the department’s Water Source Protection staff on 08 6364 7600.

Feedback

We welcome your comments and suggestions on the issues raised in this brochure and the associated drinking water source protection plan. Ultimately the quality of water provided to consumers will depend on everyone working together.

Perth office

Department of Water
Water Source Protection
168 St Georges Terrace
Perth WA 6000
Telephone: 08 6364 7600
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Regional office

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5 Bevan Street
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How to obtain a copy of the Hopetoun Water Reserve drinking water source protection plan

If you would like to view this protection plan please visit <http://drinkingwater.water.wa.gov.au/> and then select Publications> scroll down to the link for drinking water source protection plans and assessments. If you are unable to access the internet, please call the Department of Water to arrange for a copy of the plan to be posted to you.

Overview of Springdale wellfield

Protecting your drinking water

Drinking water source protection plans are developed by the Department of Water in consultation with local communities, state and local government authorities and other interested stakeholders. Government bodies such as the Department of Health and water service providers such as the Water Corporation are also consulted.

The Department of Water aims to publish protection plans for all of the 145 drinking water sources throughout Western Australia. So far more than 90 of these protection plans have been published.

The support we receive from local communities, state and local government authorities and other interested stakeholders, for both the preparation and implementation of these protection plans, will greatly assist in ensuring the availability of safe, good quality drinking water now and in the future.

Feedback

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Drinking water source protection plans

The Department of Water protects and manages public drinking water source areas in Western Australia. This involves developing and implementing policies and plans based on the multiple barrier framework. The first and most important barrier is the drinking water source followed by barriers at the storage, treatment and distribution points of a drinking water supply system recommended in the *Australian drinking water guidelines, 2004*.

A drinking water source protection plan has now been developed for the Hopetoun water reserves. Water quality risks have been identified, and management strategies for addressing them have been recommended.

### Hopetoun water reserves

**Map 1: Town Wellfield**

**Map 2: Springdale Wellfield**

### Land use

The main land uses in the Hopetoun water reserves are:
- private land (rural and special rural)
- drinking water treatment plant
- general agriculture
- quarry (potential to encroach onto the Town wellfield)
- café
- permaculture
- sites of Aboriginal significance
- infrastructure, roads and tracks
- recreational activities along Jerracuttup River.

### Contamination

Drinking water source protection plans identify sources of potential water contamination. The main water quality risks for the Hopetoun water reserves are:
- nutrients and bacteria from septic tanks
- contamination from spills and leaks of fuels and other hydrocarbons/chemicals
- nutrients from animal excreta
- pesticide contamination from pest/weed control
- micro-organism contamination from animal excreta.

Following careful assessment of all potential contamination risks recommendations have been made to ensure the long-term protection of this drinking water supply. The main recommendations are to:
- proclaim the boundary of the amended Hopetoun (Town wellfield) water reserve under the *Country Areas Water Supply Act 1947*
- incorporate the plan into the Shire of Ravensthorpe’s local planning scheme to ensure that future land uses in the water reserve are compatible
- ensure current land uses within the water reserves adopt best practice management to protect the water source
- put signs in place to make people aware of the reserve boundaries.

**Water treatment plant in the Town wellfield**

While it will be possible for all existing, approved uses and activities to continue, there is a need for those involved to adopt best management practices designed to protect the quality of this drinking water source. New developments or expansion of existing land uses or activities will need to consider the recommendations in the Hopetoun water reserves drinking water source protection plan.

**Residential development in the Town wellfield**