

WARNER GROUNDWATER PROTECTION Newsletter

PROTECTING WARNER'S DRINKING WATER FOR OUR FUTURE

HELP KEEP OUR GROUND WATER CLEAN

Your household or business should **DO** these activities:

Lawn & Garden, Maintenance:

- Use "green" non-toxic and less-toxic alternatives to pesticides and household chemicals.
- Follow package directions on pesticides, fertilizers and other household chemicals.
- When fertilizer is needed, use controlled-release nitrogen sources for lawns or gardens.
- Take leftover household chemicals, paints, and used oil and auto fluids to Warner's Household Hazardous Waste collection days.
- Buy only the amount of solvent, cleaners, paints, that you need to do the job. Share with neighbors!
- Take care of your septic system. Inspect it every year and get it pumped out every 3-5 years.

- Store driveway and road salts indoors and away from water sources. Use as little salt as possible.

Health & Wellness:

- Dispose of old medicines for free by taking them to the Warner Police Department's Drug Take Box at 180 West Main Street. Or, you can mix solid medications with water, then pour into coffee grounds or kitty litter and place into household trash.
- Pick up your pet's poop and take it with you when walking them along trails! No one likes stepping in poop when enjoying trails and poop is a proven source of water contamination.
- Many consumer products for body care contain harmful chemicals that end up in septic systems, wastewater facilities, and trace amounts in groundwater. Choose your products carefully and read ingredient lists.

OUR WATER IS CONNECTED

New Hampshire's drinking water comes from groundwater or surface water.

Groundwater is the water that flows through the spaces between soil particles (known as sand & gravel aquifers) and through fractures in rock (known as bedrock aquifers).

Groundwater comes from rain, snowmelt, and runoff percolating through the ground.

Additional information on groundwater protection and its importance to communities can be found at:

Warner Village Water District Webpage

<https://WarnerNH.gov/vvwd>

NHDES Source Water Protection Website

<https://www.des.nh.gov/climate-and-sustainability/conservation-mitigation-and-restoration/source-water-protection>

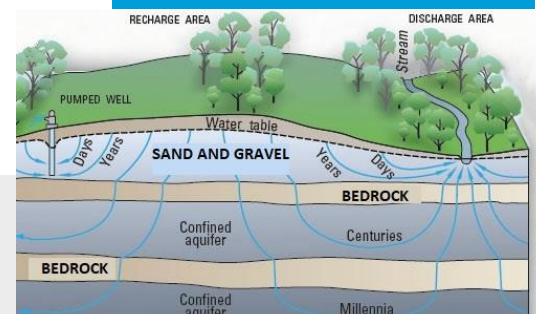


Image: USGS as revised by CNHRPC

Automotive Work:

- Store gasoline and used fluids properly in labeled containers.
- Keep absorbent materials such as rags, pads, "Speedi-Dry" or kitty litter near work areas and clean up all spills as soon as they occur.
- Dispose of all used absorbents immediately in a leak-proof container.
- Do automotive work over an impervious surface, such as a concrete floor or tarp.
- Use drip pans large enough to contain motor vehicle or power equipment fluids being replaced or drained.



Your household or business should AVOID these activities:

- Avoid damage to your leach field and distribution lines by keeping vehicles, livestock and heavy objects off.
- Don't overload your septic system by using a garbage disposal unless the system is specifically designed for one. Try composting fruit and vegetable scraps in a composting bin.
- Never pour chemicals, fats/oils or medicines down the sink, toilet or outside drains.
- Don't use lawn and garden fertilizers if heavy rains are anticipated - the nutrients will be flushed into runoff areas and won't be absorbed into soil.
- Never apply fertilizers within 25 feet of most lakes, brooks, ponds and rivers.
- Please, never dump unwanted electronics equipment, appliances or household furnishings in a backyard. Contact the Warner Transfer Station at 603-456-3303 or the Town Hall to get advice on how to get rid of these items safely.

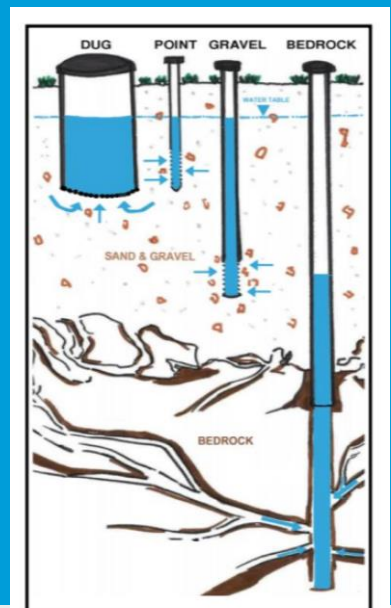
Surface water comes from rainfall, snowmelt and runoff traveling over land and from seepage into lakes, rivers, brooks, and reservoirs.

Private wells and large municipal wells, like the two wells the Warner Village Water District pumps from, tap into these groundwater supplies.

It's important to keep a community's drinking water supply clean. People and businesses in Warner can follow several easy best practices to help accomplish this goal.

Did you know?

- Warner's sand and gravel aquifer, from which municipal drinking water is extracted by the Warner Village Water District to serve its customers, **is only 43 feet below the surface**. Drinking water from these "stratified drift" aquifers is quickly vulnerable to spill and runoff contamination.
- Most of the bedrock wells Warner residents use in their backyards **are drilled to depths of 400 feet or more below the surface**. Drinking water from bedrock aquifers is most vulnerable to geologic contaminants, but also from long-ago saturated chemicals.



Types of wells (NHDES, 2018)

Contact the Warner Groundwater Protection Committee:

Alice Chamberlin, Chair, email: groundwater@WarnerNH.gov

Groundwater Protection Committee website: <https://WarnerNH.gov/gpc>

How deep is YOUR water supply?