



Department of  
Environmental  
Conservation

Department  
of Health

Department  
of State

Agriculture  
and Markets

# DRINKING WATER SOURCE PROTECTION PROGRAM: **PROTECTING YOUR DRINKING WATER**

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## Free Technical Assistance for Communities

Protecting drinking water is a high priority for New Yorkers. In response, New York State has launched the Drinking Water Source Protection Program (DWSP2) to assist municipalities with proactively protecting their drinking water sources. The goal is to help municipalities develop and implement a drinking water source protection plan for their source(s) of drinking water by providing technical assistance, **free of charge**.

DWSP2 is a four agency initiative co-led by New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and Department of Health (DOH), in consultation with the Department of State (DOS) and Department of Agriculture and Markets (AGM). The State will assist municipalities with understanding the risks to their drinking water sources and what protection actions might be appropriate to deal with or minimize those identified. After completing this program, participating municipalities can use their newly developed drinking water source protection plan to start implementing protection measures.

The State encourages and looks forward to all public supply communities working with a technical assistance provider, **at no cost**, to develop a DWSP2 plan for their source of drinking water. If you would like to work with a technical assistance provider, complete an [online application](#) now! If you have any questions, reach out to the DWSP2 Team at [source.water@dec.ny.gov](mailto:source.water@dec.ny.gov).

## What can I expect?

- Free technical assistance throughout the entire DWSP2 Plan development process.
- Adaptable schedule in developing and/or implementing for communities to continue meeting other priorities.
- Flexibility in amount of work for the community due to the aid of a technical assistance provider.
- New or updated map of your source water and surrounding area.
- Complete inventory of potential contaminant sources surrounding the drinking water source.
- Thorough list of implementation actions to address current and future potential contaminant sources and land use changes.
- State and Federal funding programs highlighted to aid with the cost of implementation actions (e.g. [Water Quality Improvement Project Program](#) and [Source Water Buffer Program](#)).
- Completed DWSP2 Plan may improve the likelihood of receiving state funding.

## How Will Drinking Water Source Protection Benefit Your Community?

- Protect public health by preventing pollutants from entering a drinking water supply.
- Avoid preventable drinking water treatment costs.
- Increase community confidence in their local public drinking water.
- Create long-lasting partnerships that support implementation.
- Utilize a broad array of existing funding sources to aid with project implementation costs.
- Help utilities be prepared and reduce the impacts and costs of an emergency.

## State Support

Are you interested in the program? Would you like to learn more? Reach out to us at [source.water@dec.ny.gov](mailto:source.water@dec.ny.gov)! The DWSP2 Team is available to get you started with:

- A presentation to your local community or possible stakeholders
- Sharing fact sheets
- Outlining municipal and technical assistance provider roles and responsibilities
- Discussing benefits from participating in the program

## DWSP2 Framework

The State has released a working draft that municipalities can use to develop their drinking water source protection plan, "[\*A Framework for Creating a Drinking Water Source Protection Program Plan\*](#)". This working draft includes an easy-to-follow summary touching on the key components of a protection plan. Technical assistance providers will use the Framework, as they work with their communities, to develop DWSP2 plans.

## More Information/Resources

- [Learn more about DWSP2 \(https://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/115250.html\)](https://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/115250.html)
- [Learn more about Drinking Water Source Protection \(https://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/water/drinking/\)](https://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/water/drinking/)

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