**Goal:**

The goal is to prevent contamination and to have a way to protect groundwater sand source water from development (industrial, mining, agricultural, residential) that will negatively impact water quality.

**What are Local Wellhead Protection Ordinances?**

Draft and pass a local ordinance to define the activities and land uses that are not allowed within the wellhead protection areas in the city or county

**Why Local WPH Ordinances are Important:**

* Allows your community to designate how to protect your Wellhead Protection Area
* Can also decide if you want it city limit or county wide (to include all WHPAs in the county)
* Gives your community authority to take proactive action to protect your water from preventable contamination and keep down on treatment costs
* Addresses concerns before they arise
* Gives clear expectations for businesses and industry in your town or county
* Help businesses know what to do to prevent contamination
* Gives your community legal grounds to protect your Wellhead Protection Area

**Things to Consider Including in Your Local WHP Ordinance:**

* Infiltration and injection (particularly if not in MS4)
* Mining activities
* Industrial zoning
* Land use activities that may impact ground water
* Underground storage tanks (USTs)
* Pesticide and fertilizer use on public properties

**Topics to Consider Addressing in Your Local WHP Ordinance:**

* Map of enforcement area for zoning overlay
* Existing facilities
* Land use activities
* Restrictions
* Permitting
* Ground water monitoring
* Enforcement and penalties

**Collaboration Strategies:**

Work with other local or regional water and environmental groups to maximize impact

* Zoning, permitting, planning, and/or surveyor departments
* Business code
* Wellhead Protection Local Planning Team
* [Local Health Department](https://www.in.gov/isdh/24822.htm)
* [MS4](https://www.in.gov/idem/stormwater/2333.htm)
* [Soil and Water Conservation District](https://www.in.gov/isda/2368.htm)
* [Purdue Extension Office](https://extension.purdue.edu/about#counties)
* SWERP
* [Watershed Groups](https://www.in.gov/idem/nps/pages/finder/)
* [Watershed Specialist](https://www.in.gov/idem/nps/files/watershed_specialists_map.pdf)
* [Watershed Plans](https://www.in.gov/idem/nps/3180.htm)
* [Hoosier River Watch](https://www.in.gov/idem/riverwatch/index.htm)
* [Indiana Clean Lakes Program](https://www.in.gov/idem/cleanwater/2362.htm)
* [Indiana beach program](https://www.in.gov/idem/lakemichigan/2532.htm)

**Complementary WHP Strategy:**

* Purchase property around wellheads, in sanitary setback area, and/or in wellhead protection area

**Examples of Local WHP Ordinances:**

**Marion County:**

<http://indyh2o.org/businesses/regulatory-changes/>

Type of document:

* Indianapolis zoning codes
* Marion County health ordinances

What does it cover?

* Employee training on spill response and prevention
* Maintenance of spill kits on site
* Proper floor condition and maintenance
* Proper container use, labeling, and storage
* Overfill fill alarms
* Secondary containment measures
* Provides a checklist for businesses to see what they need to do in order to comply

**Elkhart:**

<https://www.elkhartindiana.org/topic/index.php?topicid=22&structureid=28&structureid=28>

Type of document:

* Ordinance
* Registration requirements
  + Commercial/industrial onsite wastewater disposal register with health department
  + Commercial/industrial toxic or hazardous substance storage areas

What does it cover?

* Waste Water Testing
* Wellhead protection
* Above Ground Storage Tanks of hazardous substances
* Education and review program
* Reportable spills
* Records
* Penalties
* Enforcement
* Appeals
* Variances

**Richmond:**

<http://www.richmondindiana.gov/Assets/Aquifer+Protection+Overlay.pdf>

Type of document:

* Zoning overlay (Aquifer Protection Overlay (APO) District
* Prevents certain things from going on in WHPA

What does it cover?

* Hazardous material storage
* Manufacturing regulated substances
* Monitoring
* Land application

**South Bend:**

<https://www.southbendin.gov/government/content/wellhead-protection>

Type of document:

* Code ordinance

What does it cover?

* WHP permit (reviewed by Water Resources Advisory Board) needed in order to get a construction permit
* Violations

**Hamilton County:**

<https://www.hamiltoncounty.in.gov/654/Wellhead-Protection-Program>

Type of document:

* Zoning ordinance

What does it cover?

* Submit plan to surveyor for all new construction and changes to existing structures
* Lists prohibited land uses
* Transfer/deliver of bulk liquids
* Disposal of solid waste
* Excavation activities
* Class V injection wells
* USTs and ASTs

**Valparaiso:**

<https://ci.valparaiso.in.us/DocumentCenter/View/840>

Type of document:

* Ordinance that made WHPA overlay districts
* But it is not a zoning map that can impact construction

What does it cover?

* New construction reviewed by CPWSS
* Reporting requirements
* Violations

**Westfield:**

<http://www.westfield.in.gov/egov/documents/1133191480_457916.pdf>

Type of document:

* Overlay zoning districts and associated regulations

What does it cover?

* All new edits to land/structures in the land need to submit and have plan approved by the director of community development and the director of Westfield public works department
* Possible input from Health Department, County Surveyor’s Office

**Communities with Wellhead Website but No Ordinance:**

* Carmel: <http://www.carmel.in.gov/department-services/utilities/wellhead-protection-program>
* Noblesville: <http://www.cityofnoblesville.org/eGov/apps/document/center.egov?view=item;id=781>
* Goshen: <http://goshenindiana.org/water-quality>
  + <http://goshenindiana.org/wellhead-protection-information>
* Greenfield: <https://www.greenfieldin.org/utilities/water-utility/1209-wellhead-protection-program>

**Communities with Local Ordinances for Private Wells:**

Another way to help protect water and citizens is through ordinances that regard private wells. It might work to combine the wellhead protection area ordinance with this to give it a broader appeal while giving extra protection to community’s water resources. Adams County does not currently but has one in the works.

