

# benefits of a source water protection plan

## What are the advantages of having a DEP-Approved Source Water Protection Plan (SWPP)?

1. *Good news for your customers! You can advertise it in your Consumer Confidence Report.*
  2. *A SWPP is like an “insurance policy” to protect your sources from catastrophic loss. Identifying the principal threats to your drinking water sources in a user-friendly format will*
    - Help you update the Emergency Response Plan, and coordinate with Emergency Responders to quickly and effectively mitigate any threats.
    - Help you select and implement local actions that will reduce the risks to your drinking water.
  3. *Your plan provides the scientific basis for designating source water protection areas on a map. This is essential for:*
    - The development of regulatory land use management options such as overlay zoning or ordinances.
    - Appropriate land purchase or conservation easements.
  4. *A SWPP provides a great educational tool for the citizens, landowners, farmers, businesses, and elected officials.*
    - Colorful easy-to-read maps
    - Customizable brochures
    - Customizable education presentation
  5. *A SWPP is attractive to potential partners – it provides an implementation roadmap for partners like County Conservation Districts, watershed/wildlife/conservation organizations, and County Planners.*
  6. *A SWPP is attractive to grant reviewers because it links benefits to public health through safe drinking water. Grant projects can include environmental education, actions to reduce non-point source pollution, and land conservation practices*
  7. *Having an approved SWPP provides opportunities for education and exchange through training and conferences, some of which may offer contact hours or continuing education units.*
  8. *A SWPP is required to install PennDOT “Water Supply Area Spill Response” road signs.*
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# developing a successful steering committee

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## Invite a variety of members.

Water System Staff • Municipal Officials • Local Industry Educators • Conservation District • Planning Commission • Environmental Organizations

## Hold meetings that have a goal or outcome that develops the source water protection plan.

## Form subcommittees and assign tasks and due dates to keep momentum going. Stick to deadlines and budget.

## Contact your technical consultant or DEP Region Office for help in coordinating meetings, agendas, and information for your committee.

