

# PROTECTING OUR GROUNDWATER

## What you can do to protect your drinking water

The best way to protect our drinking water is to make sure pollution does not get into the environment around us, especially in the Critical Aquifer Recharge Areas CARA.



### Dispose of Hazardous Products Properly

Items such as used motor oil, oil-based paint, cleaning solvents, fuels, antifreeze, transmission and brake fluid, and pesticides and herbicides should never be dumped on the ground or into a stormwater drain on the street. For more information on proper disposal of hazardous materials visit King County's Local Hazardous Waste Management Program website at [www.lhwmp.org](http://www.lhwmp.org).



### Limit your use of chemicals, fertilizers, pesticides, and other hazardous products

Use the least toxic products or methods available. Over application or misuse can cause these chemicals to make their way into surface water and groundwater. For more information, visit King County's website on Natural Yard Care [www.lhwmp.org/home/gsgs](http://www.lhwmp.org/home/gsgs).



### Properly Maintain Your Septic System

If you have a septic system, pump it out on a regular basis (every three years depending on the tank and family size). Household hazardous wastes should never be flushed or put down the drain. This includes strong acids or bases, petroleum products, solvents, heavy metals and pesticides. For more information contact Public Health - Seattle & King County District Offices, in Eastgate at (206) 296-4932.



### If you own or operate a business in Redmond, evaluate your hazardous materials handling process

- Properly store products and waste, both indoors and outdoors, utilizing secondary containment (a container to catch spills or leaks from the original container).
- Be prepared for spills. Have a spill kit and spill procedures in place and train employees on how to use them.
- Keep lids on dumpsters and waste bins stored outside.
- Minimize use of toxic cleaning solvents, such as chlorinated solvents, and other toxic chemicals.
- For additional information on hazardous materials storage and handling or environmentally safer alternatives, contact our Wellhead Protection Pollution Prevention Specialist staff at (425) 556-2714.



### BE VIGILANT

If spills occur, clean them up immediately. Call Redmond's Spill Hotline at (425) 556-2868 to report spills 24-hours a day.

**wellhead**  
**protection**