



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

# **HOCKING COUNTY HEALTH** **DEPARTMENT**

**350 State Route 664 North ~ Logan, Ohio 43138**  
**Phone 740-385-3030 Fax 740-385-2252**

Most Americans have access to clean, running water. Many times, we take this luxury for granted and we rarely think about where the water comes from and how we can keep it clean. The water we often use for drinking water is called groundwater. This is the water that soaks into the soil from rain or other precipitation and moves downward to fill cracks and other openings in beds of rocks and sand. Ground water is naturally filtered by the soil that holds it. Sometimes, it can be contaminated by pollutants that come into contact with the earth's surface. Care should be taken to protect ground water from pollutants.

According to the National Groundwater Association, some human activities that can pollute ground water include:

- Improper use of fertilizers, animal manures, herbicides, insecticides, and pesticides
- Improperly built or poorly located and/or maintained septic systems for household waste water
- Heavy construction and mining
- House plumbing involving certain materials such as lead and copper
- Leaking or abandoned underground storage tanks and piping
- Storm water drains that discharge chemicals to groundwater
- Improper disposal or storage of hazardous household wastes
- Chemical spills at local industrial sites.

Visit [www.wellowner.org](http://www.wellowner.org) to learn more about ground water and how you can keep your drinking water safe and clean. You may also contact a registered sanitarian at the Hocking County Health Department at 740-385-3030 ext. 2.