



Top 10 ways to protect and conserve groundwater

1

Keep in mind that we live on top of our drinking water and activities on the land surface can affect the quality of our groundwater.

2

Get involved in water education and teach your family, friends and neighbors: if you don't want to drink it, don't put it on or in the ground!

3

Reduce household chemical use and properly dispose of motor oil and unwanted or unused chemicals and medications. Visit www.hhw.org or call (408) 299-7300 for more information.

4

Select low water-use plants and limit the amount of pesticides and fertilizers used in your yard. Minimize runoff, which can carry chemicals into surface water and groundwater.

5

If pesticides, oil, gasoline, or other hazardous products leak or spill onto your driveway or other hard surface, use kitty litter or other absorbent material on the spill. Do not wash down the area.

6

Use water wisely. Take short showers, run only full loads of dishes and laundry, and repair leaks promptly.

7

If you own a well, create a zone of protection around your well and inspect your well on a regular basis.

8

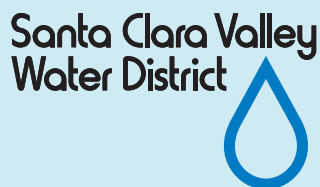
Read the annual Consumer Confidence Report or Water Quality Report provided by your public water system.

9

Be proactive about testing your well water quality.

10

Have your septic tank inspected and pumped on a regular basis.



Contact Us

For more information, contact the Groundwater hotline at (408) 630-2300. Visit our website at www.valleywater.org to use our **Access Valley Water** online customer service center.