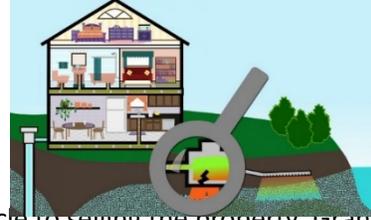


Septic System Fix-Up and Abandoned Well Sealing Grants Available!

Homeowners struggling with non-compliant septic systems, or needing to seal an old unused well can receive help. Grant funds are available to pay a large portion of these costs. Anyone interested should contact the Anoka Conservation District.

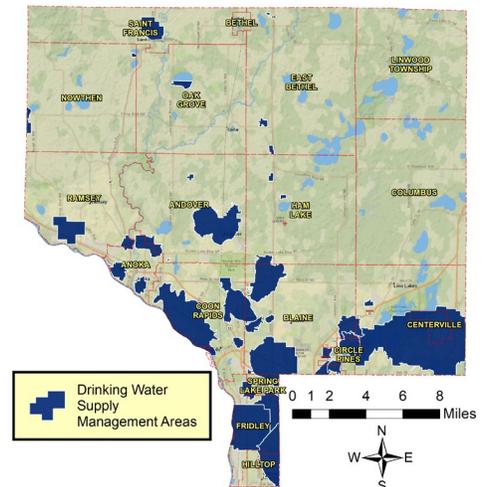
Septic systems are one of the most expensive and critical components of a home where city sewer and water is not present. Failure can be dramatic, such as sewage backing up onto the lawn. Or a septic system can be deemed non-compliant because it does not have enough vertical separation from saturated soils. A non-compliant septic system can be a problem for owners, or be an obstacle to selling the property. Grants are awarded because failing septic systems threaten groundwater and nearby lakes and streams.



Old, unused private wells are a less noticeable threat to groundwater. These wells act like a straw into the aquifer. They can provide a direct route for pollutants to move from the surface to aquifer. When selling a home, owners are required to disclose wells, and buyers often don't want the liability of an unused, unsealed well. Grants can help protect groundwater and remove a homeowner's liability. Grants for well sealing are only available in designated Drinking Water Supply Management Areas (see map).

Applications for both the Septic System Fix-Up Grants and the Well Sealing Grants are accepted through the Anoka Conservation District. Learn more about the available grants and see if you qualify by visiting <https://www.anokaswcd.org/financial-technical-assistance.html> or by contacting Kris Larson (Kris.Larson@anokaswcd.org or 763-434-2030 ext. 11).

For more information on how groundwater becomes contaminated and what we can do to prevent contamination, search YouTube for "Our Groundwater Connection: Contamination," or visit: <https://youtu.be/gRSHJpe8pg8>. The video explains different sources of pollution, how pollutants travel and build up over time, and what happens when wells become contaminated. The video concludes with the message that "everyone has the responsibility to stop contamination from getting into our groundwater. When we work together to prevent pollution, we can ensure clean drinking water now, and for many generations to come."



The Lower Rum River Watershed Management Organization is a special purpose unit of government made up of three cities: Andover, Anoka and Ramsey. Its purpose is to manage the area's waters, particularly those that flow across city boundaries.