

What is source water?

Source water is the untreated water from creeks, streams, lakes, rivers, wells, springs, and reservoirs that serve as sources of a community's drinking water.



Bogert's Bridge over the Little Lehigh Creek, Lehigh Parkway, Allentown, PA

Allentown's drinking water comes from surface water sources such as the Little Lehigh Creek, and groundwater sources such as Schantz Spring. Lehigh County Authority gets its drinking water from Allentown's water system and 19 wells located throughout the watershed. A **watershed** is the area of land where all the water that falls on it will eventually drain to the same body of water, either off the surface to a stream, lake, wetland, or river, or through the groundwater.

Everyone has an important part to play in protecting drinking water. **Do your part.** Help report roadway spills in our watershed. Remember, you dump it, you drink it. Recycle used motor oil. Used motor oil from a single oil change can ruin a million gallons of fresh water.

For collection centers for oil and household hazardous materials, call 1-800-CLEANUP or visit www.earth911.com.

This brochure was developed by source water collaboration of the City of Allentown, Lehigh County Authority, Lehigh County Conservation District, Lower Macungie Environmental Advisory Council, and Emmaus Environmental Advisory Council.



City of Allentown
610-437-7682 Bureau of Water Resources
610-437-7750 Dept. of Parks & Recreation
www.allentownpa.gov

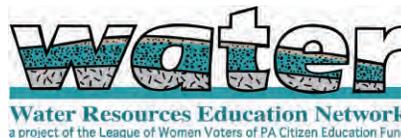
Lehigh County Authority
610-398-2503, www.lehighcountyauthority.org

Lehigh County Conservation District
610-391-9583, www.lehighconservation.org

Wildlands Conservancy
610-965-4397, www.wildlandspa.org

Borough of Emmaus & Upper Milford Township EAC
610-965-9288, www.uppermilford.net/EAC

Lower Macungie Township EAC
eac@lowermac.com



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Follow the Signs to Protect your Drinking Water

**WATER SUPPLY
AREA
NEXT 15 MILES**

**SPILL RESPONSE
DIAL 911**

*What does
this
sign mean?*

Water Supply Area Signs Alert Motorists

Lehigh County hosts six major highways that pass through areas that provide our drinking water. Stormwater from those highways and roads drain to the rivers and creeks within our watershed.

When a spill occurs, it could enter the storm drains and go into the drinking water supply. It is essential for emergency personnel to respond quickly to a spill event.



In a joint effort between the City of Allentown and Lehigh County Authority, Water Supply Area signs have been installed in key locations on the area's major highways and heavily used local roads. Posting Water Supply Area signs is one of the steps the City of Allentown and Lehigh County Authority are taking to raise awareness about protecting our drinking water. The signs alert motorists to the presence of the drinking water supply area. Motorists can help by quickly reporting spills along the roadways to 911.

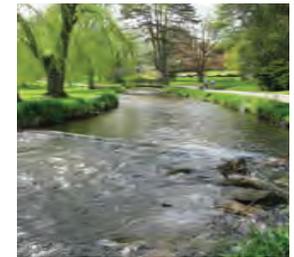
What Can You Do To Help Keep Drinking Water Clean & Safe?

- Call 911 immediately if you see an accident or a spill on a roadway. Let them know if there is a spill involved.
- Never pour oil on the ground or in a storm drain on the street. Dispose of used motor oil at a garage that will recycle it. Check your vehicle regularly for fluid leaks and make repairs as needed.
- Properly dispose of household items such as cleaning agents, batteries, paints, pesticides and herbicides. Visit www.earth911.com or call 1-800-CLEANUP to find local locations that accept your recyclables.
- Call the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection at 866-255-5158 immediately if you observe a chemical spill.



Who To Call

You see a spill on a roadway	911
You need to dispose of chemicals, batteries, etc.	1-800-CLEANUP or visit www.earth911.com
You see a chemical spill anywhere	PA Department of Environmental Protection 866-255-5158



The red dots on the map show the locations of the Water Supply Area signs. The Little Lehigh Creek and its tributaries are shown in blue.

