



# **Source Water Protection Neglected Contamination Sites**

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# What is “Source Water”?

- Source water is water from rivers, lakes, etc. (surface water) or underground aquifers (groundwater) that is used to supply drinking water
- Source water protection refers to the policies and actions taken to protect water sources from contamination.



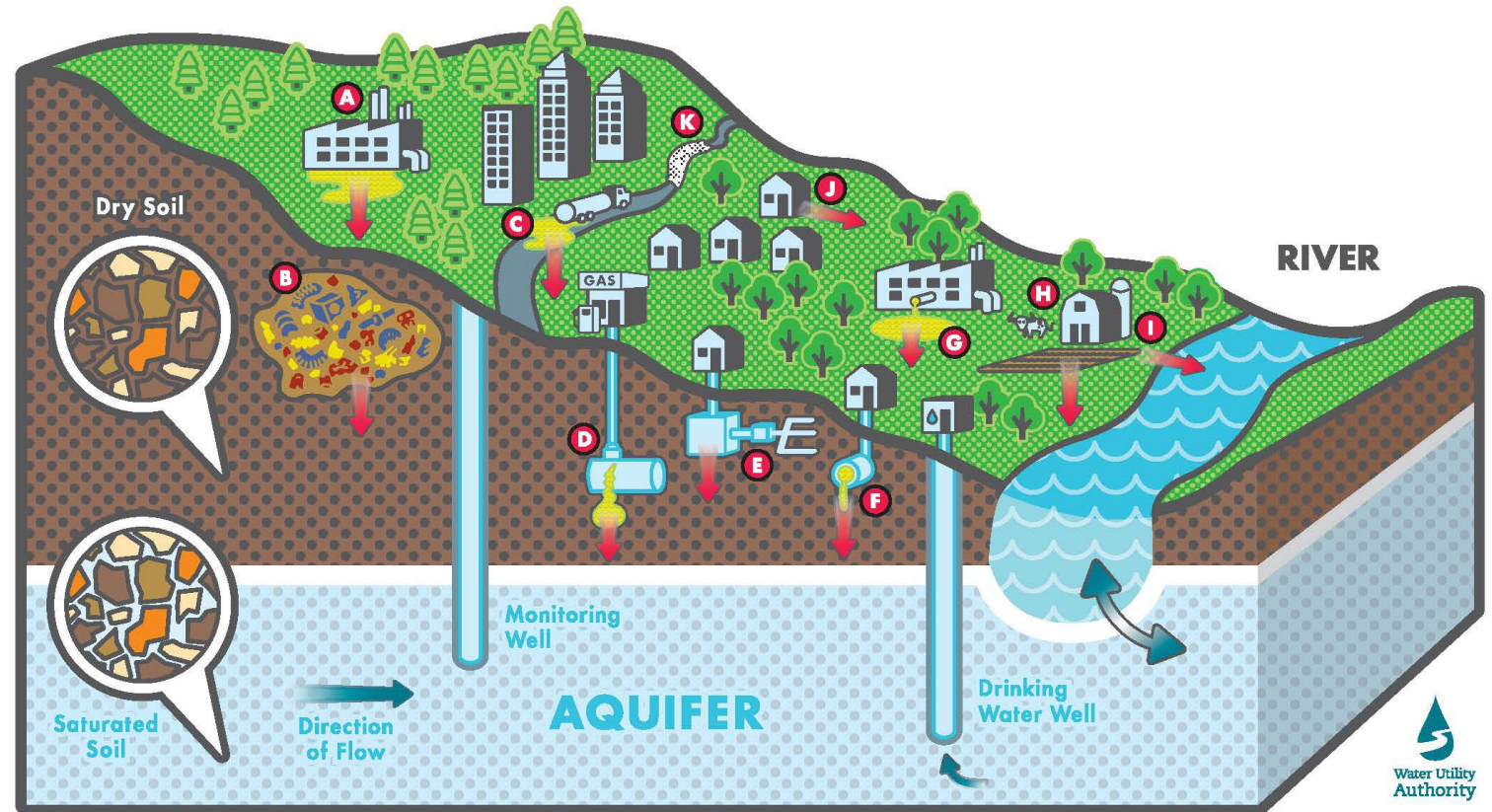
# Identify Risks to Source Water

Risk presented to source water depends on:

- Likelihood of occurrence
- Severity of impact

## POTENTIAL SOURCES OF GROUNDWATER CONTAMINATION

- |   |                                      |                                       |
|---|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>A</b> Commercial and Industrial Leaks and Spills | <b>E</b> Septic Tank and Drain Field | <b>I</b> Agricultural Runoff          |
| <b>B</b> Legacy Landfill                            | <b>F</b> Leaking Sewer               | <b>J</b> Urban Runoff                 |
| <b>C</b> Accidental Spills                          | <b>G</b> Industrial Waste Lagoon     | <b>K</b> Road Salt/De-icing Compounds |
| <b>D</b> Leaking Underground Storage Tank           | <b>H</b> Pesticides and Fertilizers  |                                       |





# Source Water Protection Plan



What are the threats to our source waters?



What protection measures can reduce/eliminate threats?



What agencies/entities are involved?



# Water Authority Site Engagement



## Typical Contamination Site

## Neglected Contamination Site



Identify regulatory authority and responsible party



Unable to identify a responsible party or regulatory authority



Use available site information to understand the nature and extent of contamination



Little to no information about site contamination



Assess threat to source water (groundwater and/or surface water)



Increased uncertainty in assessment of source water threats



Advocate for timely and complete cleanup



No mechanism for advocating for cleanup

# Carlisle Village Cleaners Site



Only emergency response authority is available

## Available Site Information



- Historic dry cleaner (1950's to 1970's)
- Released dry cleaning solvent into ground
- Created vapor plume and subsurface contamination

Not enough data to understand the nature and extent



Unable to fully assess threat to source water



Unable to advocate for timely cleanup because there is no funding source or regulatory authority

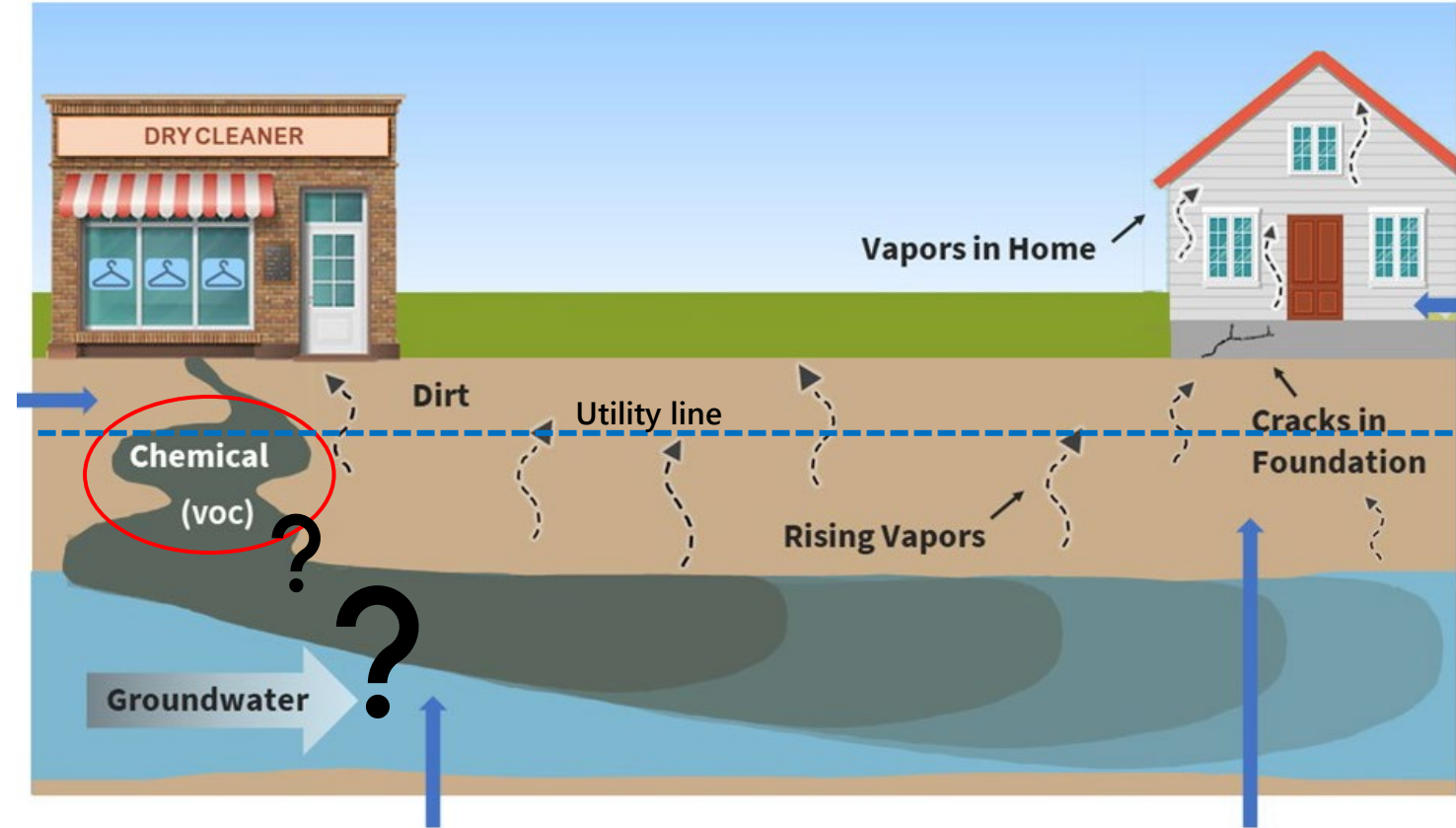


Image modified from California Department of Public Health ([Source](#))

# Neglected Contamination Sites at a Local Scale



50 out of the 300 potential sites (identified so far) are within Bernalillo County



Neglected contamination sites carry greater risk to source water because there is no mechanism to clean them up



A fully funded Neglected Contamination Site Program would allow the Water Authority to:

Better understand the risk to source water  
More effectively engage in progress towards cleanup



# Questions?

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