

Groundwater Specialist

"Anoka Conservation District will take measureable steps to conserve and enhance the quantity and quality of Anoka County's groundwater."

- 2021-2030 Comprehensive Natural Resources Stewardship Plan



ACD Keystone Groundwater Endeavors:

Provide Leadership & Coordination

Elevate groundwater to an active management status

Reduce Use

1 campus groundwater conservation plan/yr.

Increase Recharge

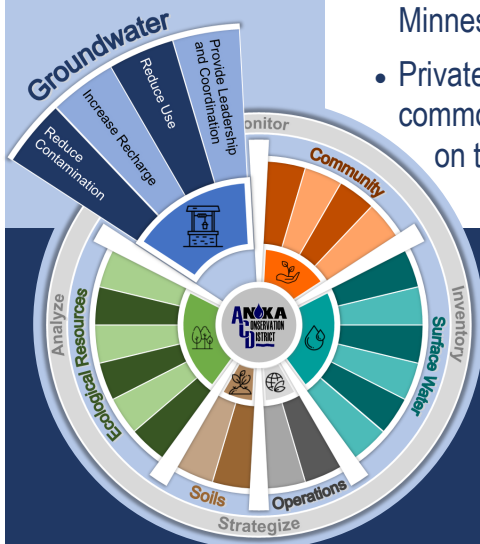
5 projects/yr. average

Reduce Contamination

25 projects/yr. average

Outreach & Engagement

Promote practices that primarily benefit groundwater



Anoka Conservation District is requesting funding from Anoka County to add a **Groundwater Specialist** to our staff in 2024. Groundwater is arguably the most critical natural resource in Anoka County. **94% of Anoka County residents drink groundwater**, whether through private wells or municipal water supplies drawn from groundwater. Anoka County currently doesn't have a public employee dedicated full-time to being the 'go to' person for groundwater. We'd like to change. **Although groundwater is out of sight, it shouldn't be out of mind.**

GROUNDWATER CONCERNS IN RECENT NEWS

- Drinking water contamination in Andover neighborhoods near the closed landfill.
- Nearly 50 private wells in Blaine and Ham Lake went dry due to interference from municipal well pumping in the City of Blaine.
- "Forever chemicals" (PFAs) are showing up in groundwater across Minnesota, especially in Anoka County.
- Drought led to record low water levels in Anoka County, compromising water supply, recreation, and habitat.
- Multiple train derailments across the country exposed the vulnerability of groundwater to contamination by spills.
- Companies continue to pursue permits to withdraw Minnesota groundwater and ship it out of state.
- Private wells exceeding contaminant thresholds for common pollutants such as nitrates and bacteria is on the rise.

WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

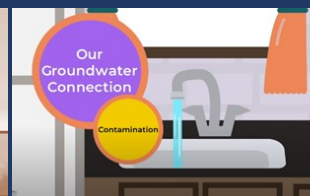
A Groundwater Specialist could help fulfill Anoka County Water Resources Management Taskforce recommendations listed in the 2020 Anoka County Water Resources Report:

- Continue coordinated water management programs
- Continue county-wide water education programs
- Source water protection
- Drinking water protection

TAXPAYER COST (ANNUAL)

\$84,438, \$0.23/per capita equates to 27% of ACD's request to Anoka County and 2.6% of ACD's total budget.

For more information on groundwater, follow the links below to our videos and brochure.



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