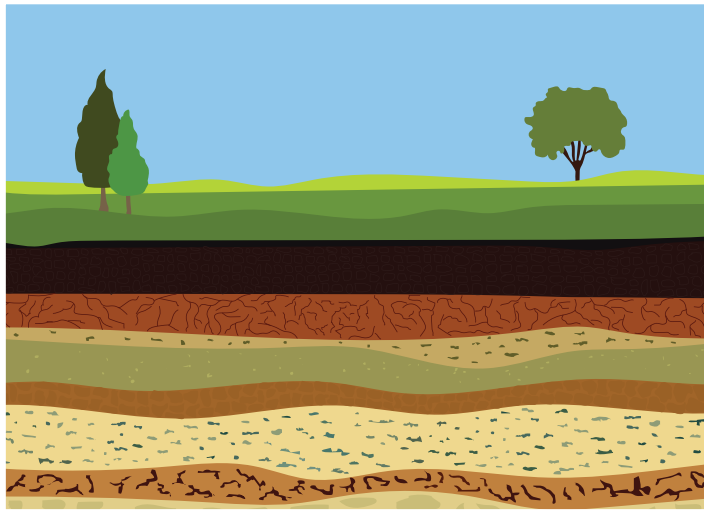


# Water Quantity Threats and Source Water Protection

Taking too much water from a surface water body or aquifer, can result in the water source becoming stressed. This may develop into a water quantity issue if more water is taken from a source than can be naturally replenished.



There are two types of water quantity threats under the Clean Water Act, 2006:

- 1) An activity that takes water from an aquifer or a surface water body without returning the water taken to the same aquifer or surface water body.
- 2) An activity that reduces the recharge of an aquifer.

Some ways to help conserve water around the house include:

- Get a rain barrel to capture, store and use rainwater around the yard
- During low waters, let your lawn stay dormant until it rains
- Consider irrigating at different times - for example, later in the day
- Get leaks fixed in your plumbing at home and work

Some common reasons for taking water are:

- Municipal water taken for domestic, industrial, commercial and industrial use
- Agricultural water use
- Private wells (domestic water use)
- Industrial operations, such as mining or forestry
- Recreational uses, such as golf course maintenance

Water quantity stresses can lead to water quality issues as too little water in a source can mean contaminants are more concentrated and therefore, may be above acceptable levels.