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# **Drinking Water Source Protection Program**

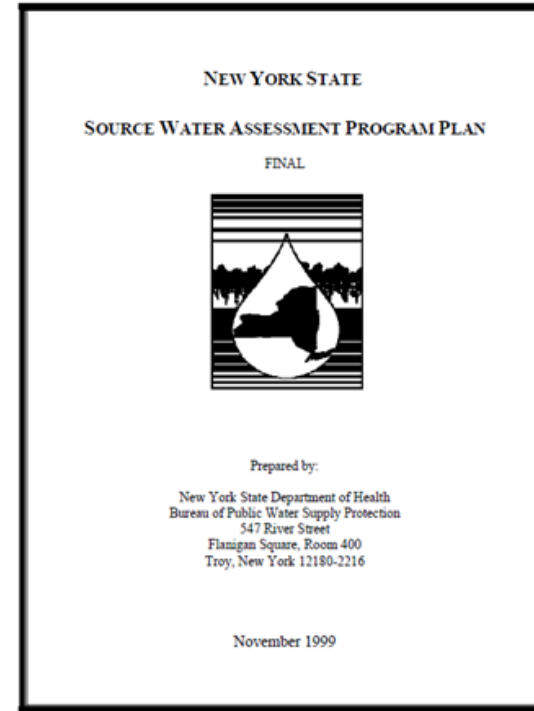
**Next-generation Focus on Protection**

# Source Water Assessment & Protection



# Background: Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP)

1996 Amendments to Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA)



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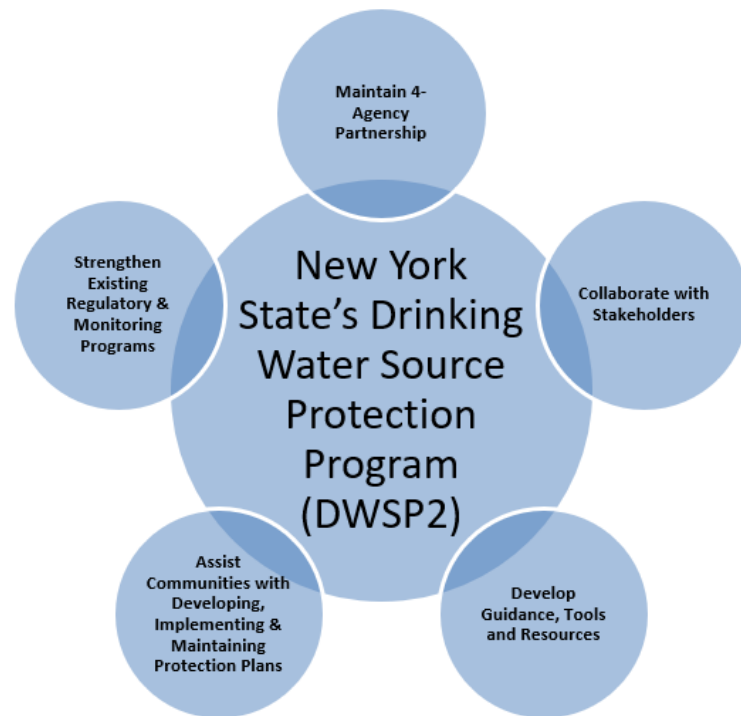
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# 2017 Clean Water Infrastructure Act

\$5 Billion in Overall State Water Funding and Record Funding for Environmental Protection Fund (EPF)



Source Water Collaborative



# Next Generation Focus: Assessment → Protection



# State-wide Drinking Water Source Protection Program

Community-Specific Source Water Protection Framework  
5-Pronged Approach to Assist Communities

State-hired  
Consultant

Regional  
NEIWPC Staff

New York Rural  
Water Association

Regional Planning  
Boards through  
DEC's 604(b)  
Program

Municipalities can  
develop plans  
independently

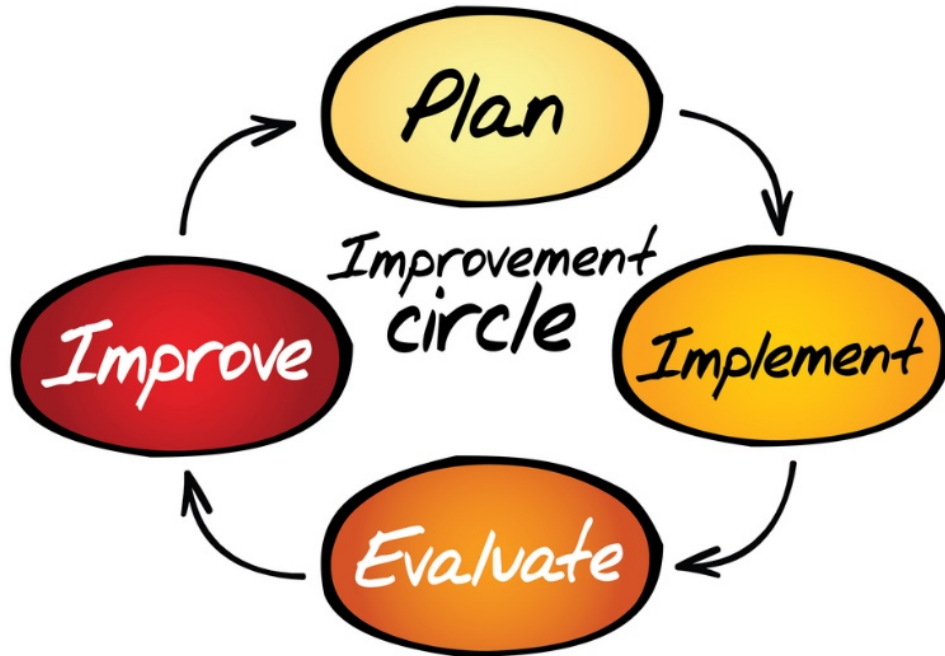


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# Make Protection Endure



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# Community-Specific Protection Plan Framework

## 1. Stakeholder Group

- 1.1 Form a Stakeholder Group
- 1.2 Establish Goals and Formulate a Vision

## 2. Drinking Water Source Assessment

- 2.1 Develop an Overview of the Water System
- 2.2 Prepare a Drinking Water Source Protection Map
- 2.3 Create a Potential Contaminant Source Inventory

## 3. Protection and Implementation Strategies

- 3.1 Identify Protection Methods
- 3.2 Develop an Implementation Timeline

## 4. Progression and Maintenance

- 4.1 Designate a Plan Management Team



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# 1.1 Form a Stakeholder Group

- Stakeholder Group will guide the Development and Implementation
- Stakeholder Group may be created from an existing board/commission or an entirely new group



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# 1.2 Establish Goals and Formulate a Vision

- Should aim to guide development and implementation
- The Vision should:
  1. Recognize that drinking water source protection is part of a multi-barrier approach.
  2. Include input from stakeholder group members.
  3. Declare intent to commit sufficient resources to drinking water source protection.
- A “Call to Action” from the community



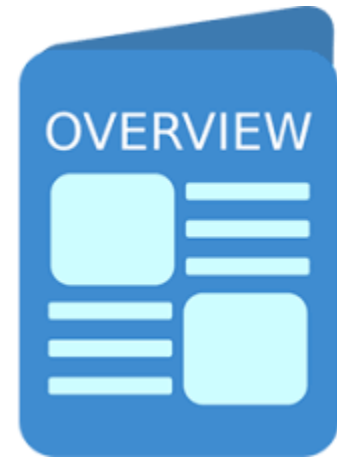
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## 2.1 Develop an Overview of the Water System

- A general water system overview
  - Water quality summary
  - Water quantity summary
- Used to select appropriate methods to delineate drink water source protection areas



## 2.2 Prepare the Drinking Water Source Protection Map

- Map the drinking water source
- Framework provides recommended protection areas and information on a variety of tools (simple to sophisticated) to delineate protection areas
- Populate map with potential contaminant sources
- Add the National Land Cover Dataset (NLCD)

## 2.3 Create a Potential Contaminant Source (PCS) Inventory

- Using the updated map, identify all PCS within the established protection areas
- Identify point and nonpoint sources
- Create inventory table of PCS with relevant information



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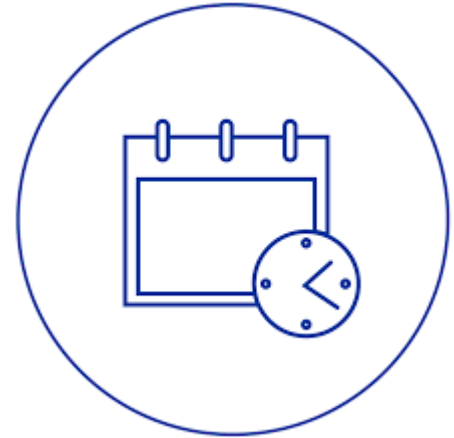
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## 3.1 Identify Protection Methods

- Use the framework to find specific protection methods for your PCS
- Methods can be used to manage existing and future PCS

## 3.2 Develop an Implementation Timeline

- Items to consider:
  - Priority Issue
  - Protection Method
  - Targeted Potential Contaminant Source(s)
  - Potential Funding Sources
  - Costs
  - Implementation Timing/Schedule



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## 4.1 Designate a Plan Management Team

- The community should designate a Plan Management Team
- The Plan Management team should:
  - Share progress reports
  - Review and share the plan
  - Create a revision schedule



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# Framework's Key Components

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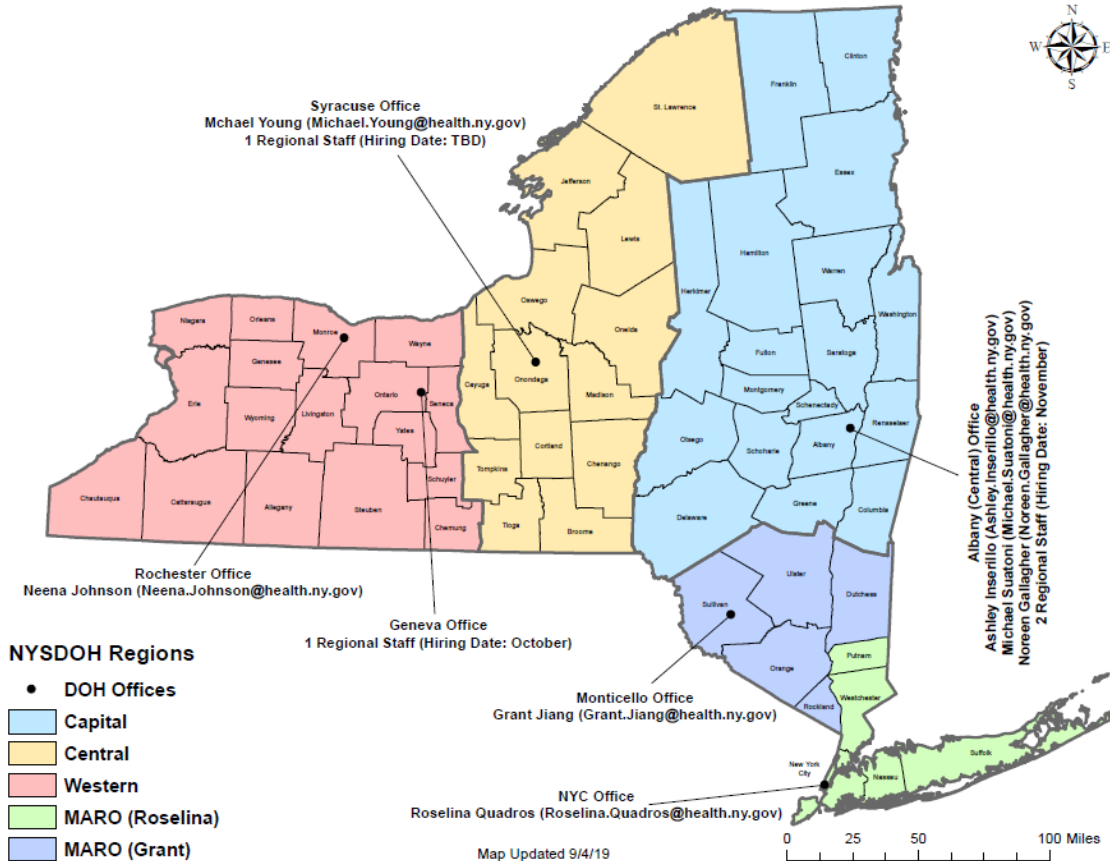


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# Next Steps



# NYSDOH NEIWPCC Staff



**Update:**  
**7 out of 11 staff hired**  
 1 Program Manager  
 2 Program Assistants  
 2 MARO staff  
 1 Central staff  
 1 Western staff

Later this fall: 1 more Western, 1 more Central staff and 2 Capital staff



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# Regional Planning Assistance

- Funding to assist municipalities with developing and implementing their source water protection program
- Awards made recently and working with Boards to develop their workplans.

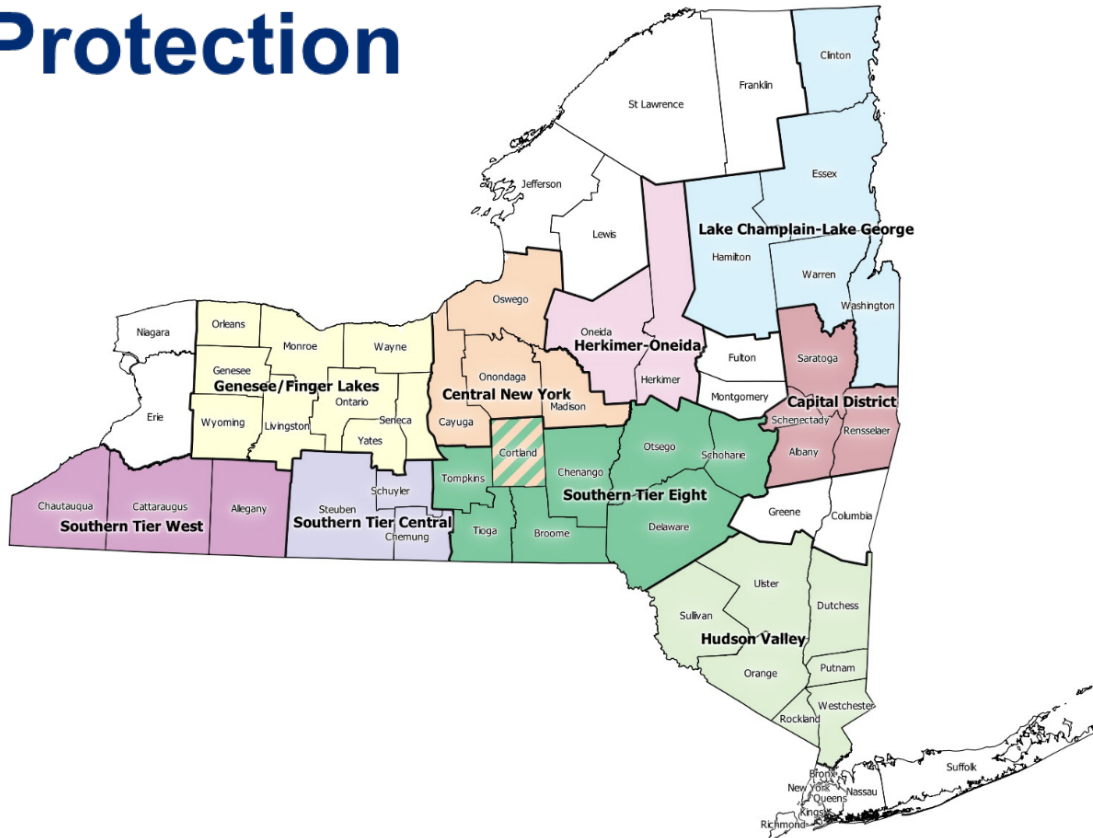


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# NYSARC Assistance for Source Water Protection



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# Funding for Land Acquisition to Protect Source Water

- DEC's Water Quality Improvement Project (WQIP) grant program provides funding for land acquisition that protect sources of public drinking water.
- Available for purchase of land and conservation easements.
- Two rounds funded so far, totaling 26 projects and awarded more than \$28 million.



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# Support for WQIP Grant Recipients

- WQIP Land Acquisition Toolkit.
  - Includes resources to aid awardees with the development of land acquisition documents.



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# Buffer Program for Source Water Protection

Source Water Buffer Program – Dept. of Ag & Markets

- Protects active sources of public drinking water through the purchase of conservation easements on agricultural lands.
- \$5,000,000 will be available for awards.
- Applicants: Soil and Water Conservation Districts. Can partner with municipalities or not-for-profits
- Continuous RFA, open for one year.



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# Thank You

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