



# The Water Underground

Stretching Supplies

**Carrie Jennings, Research and Policy Director**

 FRESHWATER SOCIETY

# Reduce, Reuse, Recharge

1. Provide groundwater trends to cities
2. Reduce barriers for reuse & recharge
3. Use CW Funds and leverage Federal \$

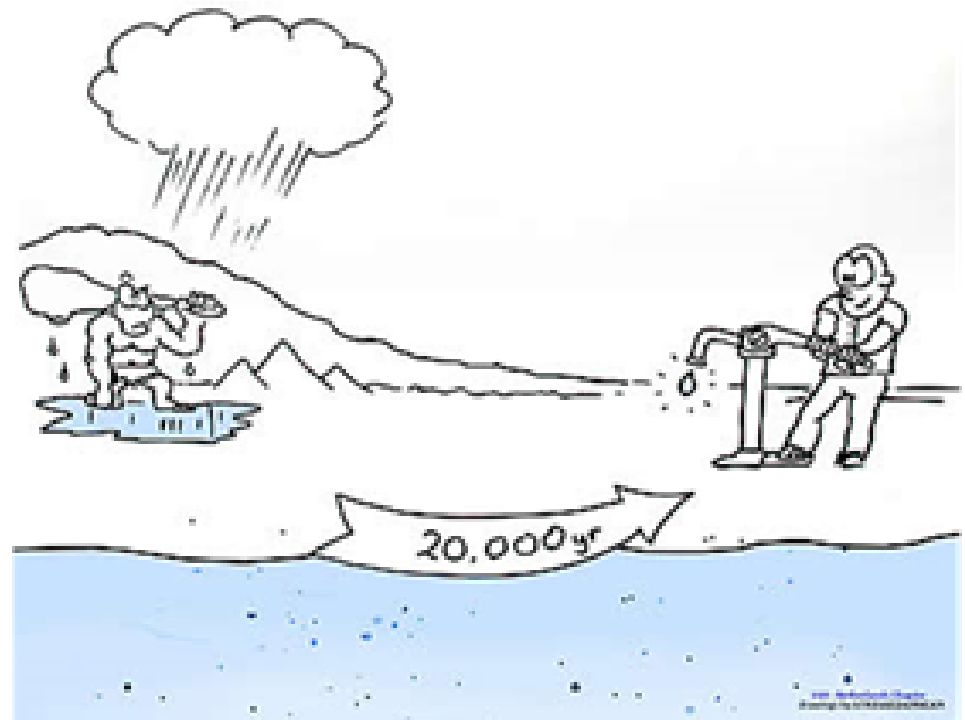
What are *you*  
drinking?



eleven

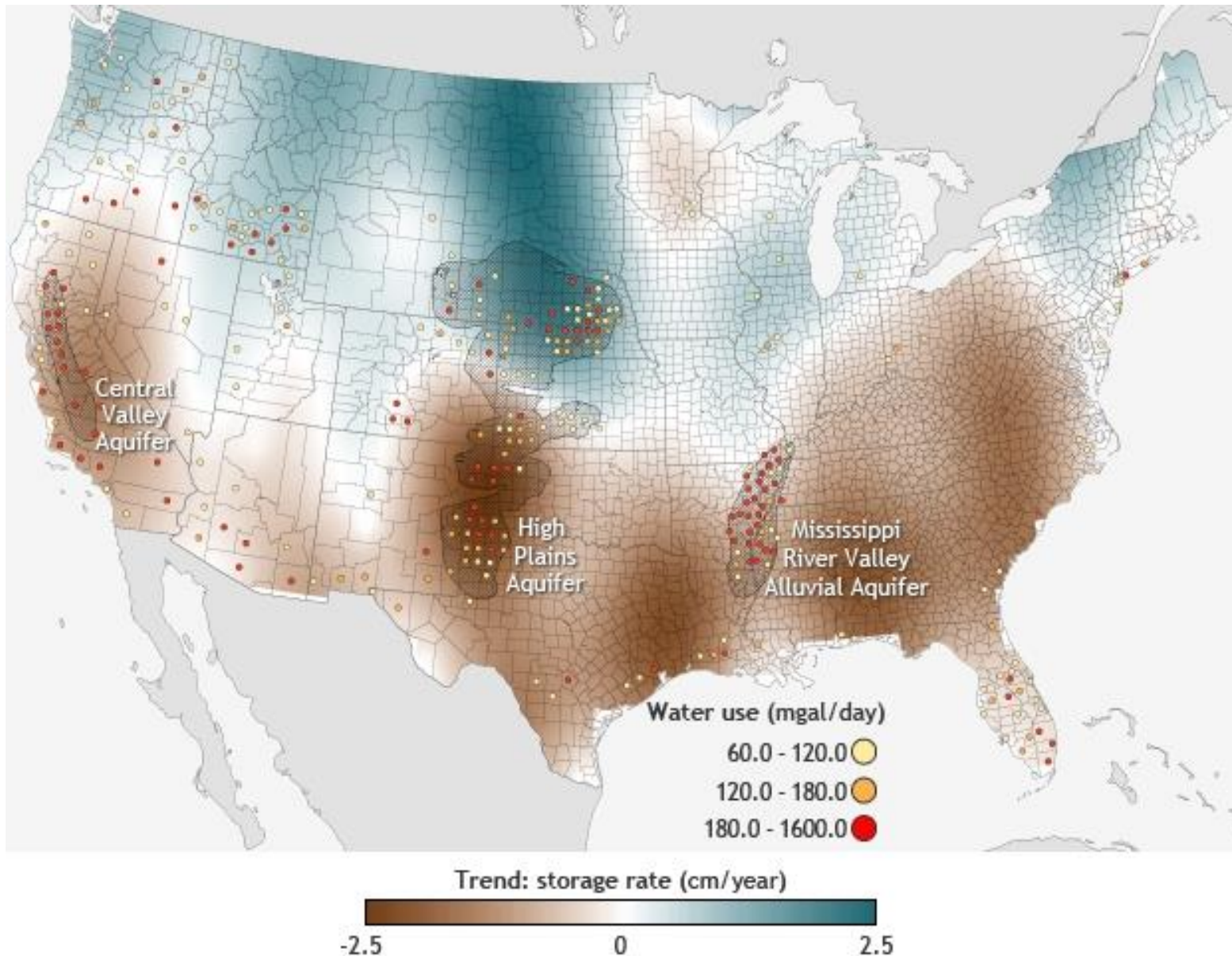
# Is your groundwater:

- Old?
- Young?
- Being replenished?
- Diminishing?

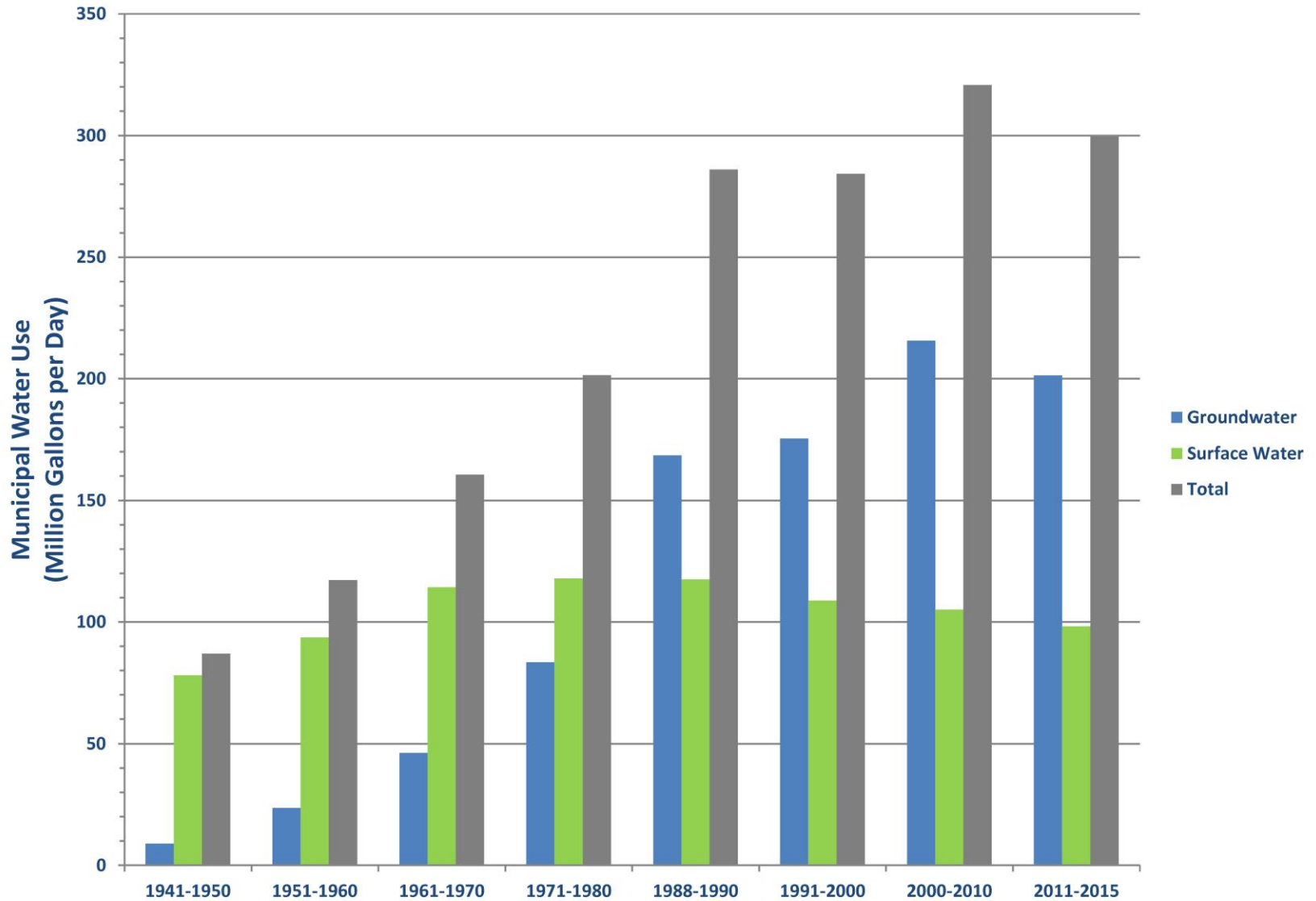


*It took over 20,000 years for some of our groundwater to accumulate drop by drop.*  
<http://www.hydrology.nl/iahpublications/201-groundwater-cartoons.html>

# What are Minnesota's trends?



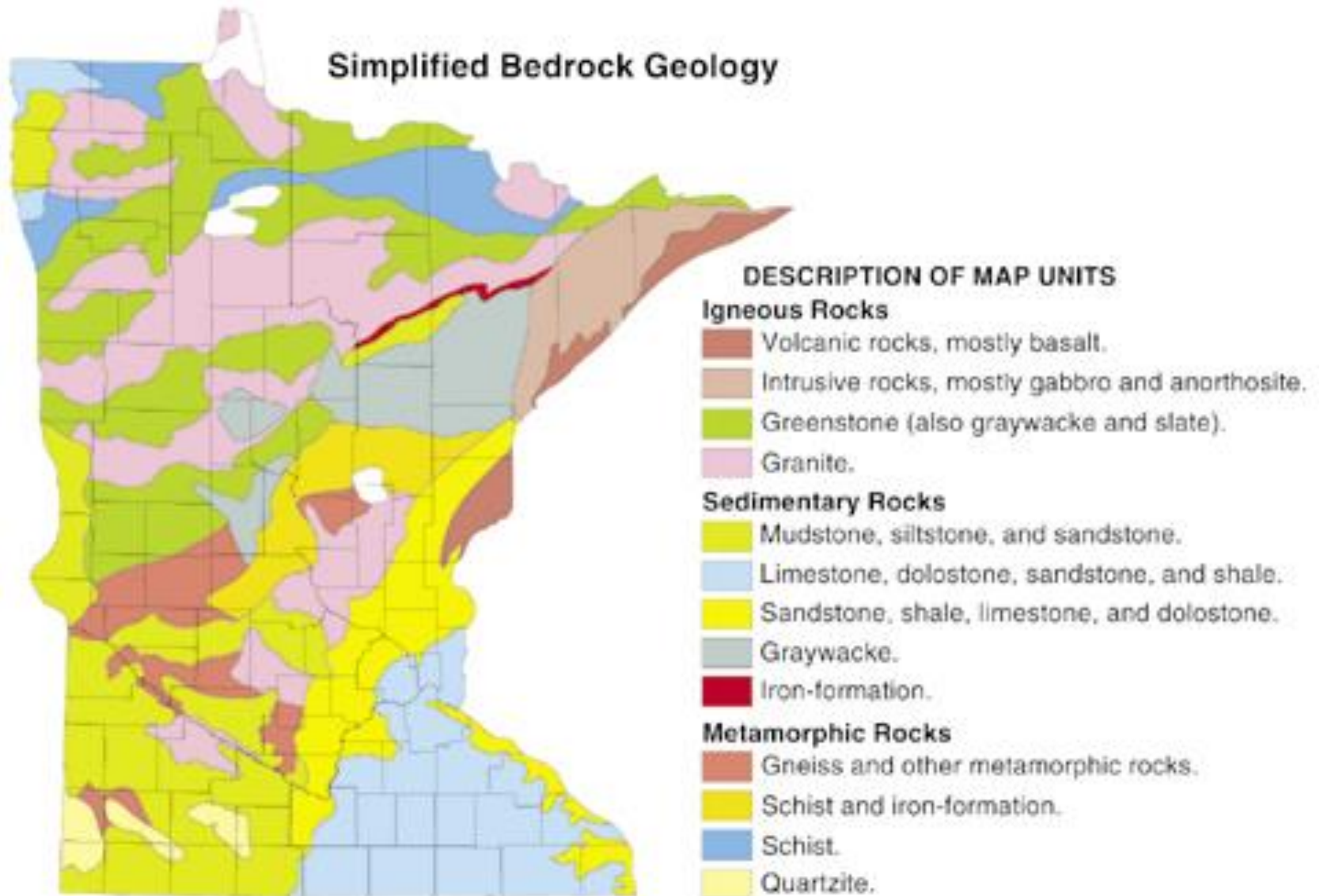
## Municipal Water Use in the 7-County Metro Area



**Who else do you share your water with?**

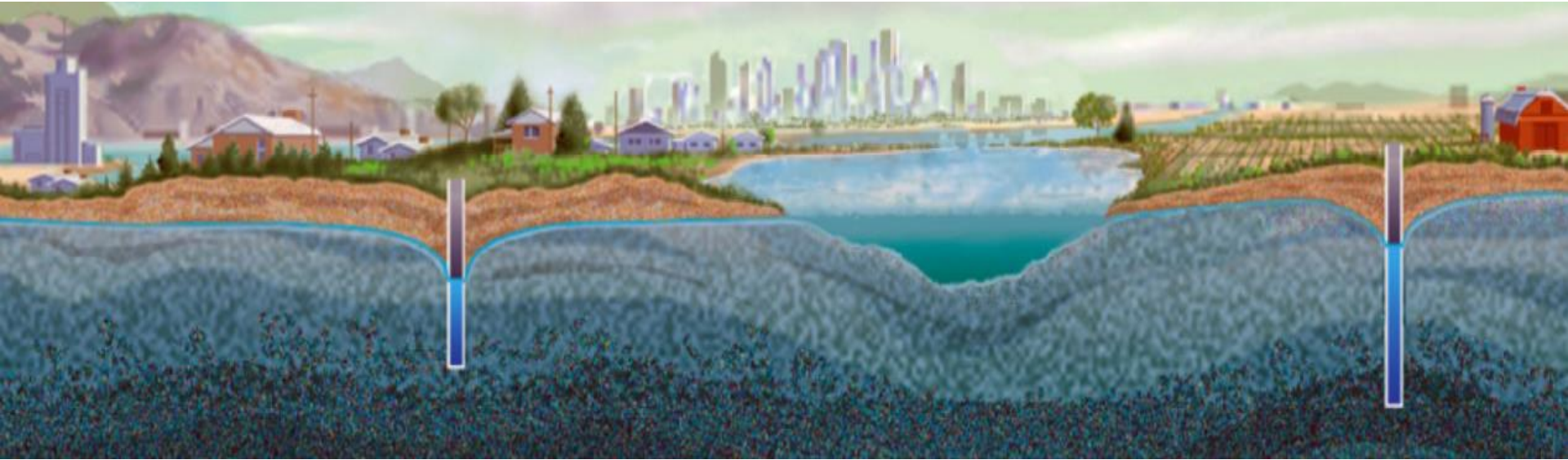


# Who else do you share your water with?





***What else do you share your water with?***



# Who needs groundwater?



# Why throw money down the drain? Reduce, Reuse and Recharge





MPCA

DNR and MDH

DNR, MDH and DU

MPCA and DNR

# Current Regulations

		Roles of Regulatory Agencies in a Reuse System				
		Source	Storage	Treatment	Distribution	End Use
Sources of Reuse Water	Rainwater	<i>Not explicitly regulated</i>	DLI regulates the drainage or collection of rainwater from roofs and gutters, and the installation of rainwater harvesting systems.	MDH has broad authority over drinking water quality and public health but nothing specific about evaluating the safety of reuse systems.  DLI has water quality treatment requirements for rainwater.	DLI regulates the installation of rainwater harvesting and drainage systems.  DNR regulates if volumes collected/used >10,000 gallons per year (some residential exceptions).	MDH regulates injection wells, has controls on infiltration in vulnerable areas (DWSMAs, ERAs, and some WHPAs).  DLI requires backflow preventers to day or one million gallons per year to prevent cross-contamination with other water sources.
	Graywater	DLI regulates the collection, distribution, and use of graywater as well as the installation of graywater systems. DLI issues permits for graywater systems up to 10,000 gal/day.	MPCA regulates the disposal of graywater, including technical requirements for septic tanks, pumps, trenches, seepage basins, and at-grade systems.  DLI mandates that public sewerage and water be used if available, requiring a variance for graywater projects.	<i>Lack of standardized treatment, though DLI can set treatment requirements through variance.</i>	MDH requires graywater disposal to be certain distances from wells.  DLI requires graywater and backup systems to be separated through plumbing code for piping, make-up water, backflow provisions, cross connections, testing requirements, and setbacks.	MDH regulates injection wells and vulnerable areas (DWSMAs, ERAs, and some WHPAs).  DLI requires backflow preventers to be installed on all injection wells with MDH well code to prevent cross-contamination.  DLI issues permits for stormwater reuse within buildings and infiltration.
	Stormwater	<i>Not explicitly regulated</i>	MPCA provides guidance in capture and storage of stormwater in the Stormwater Manual.	MDH regulates the safety of commercial and residential stormwater installation.	DLI regulates use within buildings (and has broad authority to regulate stormwater conveyance systems, but does not regulate stormwater conveyance systems unless combined with other uses for indoor use).  DNR regulates if volumes collected/used >10,000 gallons per year (some residential exceptions).	MDH regulates injection wells and vulnerable areas (DWSMAs, ERAs, and some WHPAs).  DLI requires backflow preventers to be installed on all injection wells with MDH well code to prevent cross-contamination.  DLI issues permits for stormwater reuse within buildings and infiltration.
	Wastewater	MPCA regulates the collection and disposal of industrial and commercial wastewater.  County or City regulates the collection and disposal for volumes < 10,000 gallons per day.  DLI would require a permit for all wastewater systems.	MPCA regulates the disposal of wastewater including specific technical requirements for septic tanks, pumps and trenches, seepage basins, or at-grade disposal.  DLI regulates the installation of public sewer systems.	<i>Lack of standardized treatment, though DLI can set treatment requirements through variance.</i>	MPCA regulates the collection and disposal of industrial and commercial wastewater, subsurface injection, and discharge to surface waters, subject to DNR approval.  Metro regulates the collection and disposal of wastewater by city districts.  DLI regulates the installation of wastewater piping and property lines.	MDH applies drinking water standards to potable end uses; a variance would be needed for aquifer injection.  DLI requires a variance for use in buildings, and upholds MPCA design requirements.  USEPA involved in aquifer injection.

**How can you help?**



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3. Prioritize CW Funds & leverage Fdl \$\$



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