About the Plan

Your community can take a proactive approach to protect its drinking water sources. Source Water Protection Plans are meant to prevent contamination of your drinking water source in order to avoid putting the health of your family in serious jeopardy.

Drinking water source protection not only protects the health of residents, it saves your city money. The Source Water
Protection Plan includes maintenance and upkeep measures for your municipal water system. The creation of a Source Water Protection Plan is based on the concept that *prevention* always costs less than *treatment*.

You Can Help

Get actively involved in your community's drinking water protection.

- **Don't dump** old lawn chemicals, gas, or oil on the ground
- **Don't Over Fertilize** your lawn with harmful chemicals
- **Be a watch dog** and report any suspicious activity harming your water
- **Teach your children** where your family's water comes from

Contact

- **Your City Hall**
- **Your Public Works Department**
- **Your County Commissioner**

For more information on your community's plan, kids' activities, and community resources, contact:

Idaho Rural Water Association
(208) 343-7001
www.idahoruralwater.com

Safe, clean drinking water: it's everyone's responsibility.

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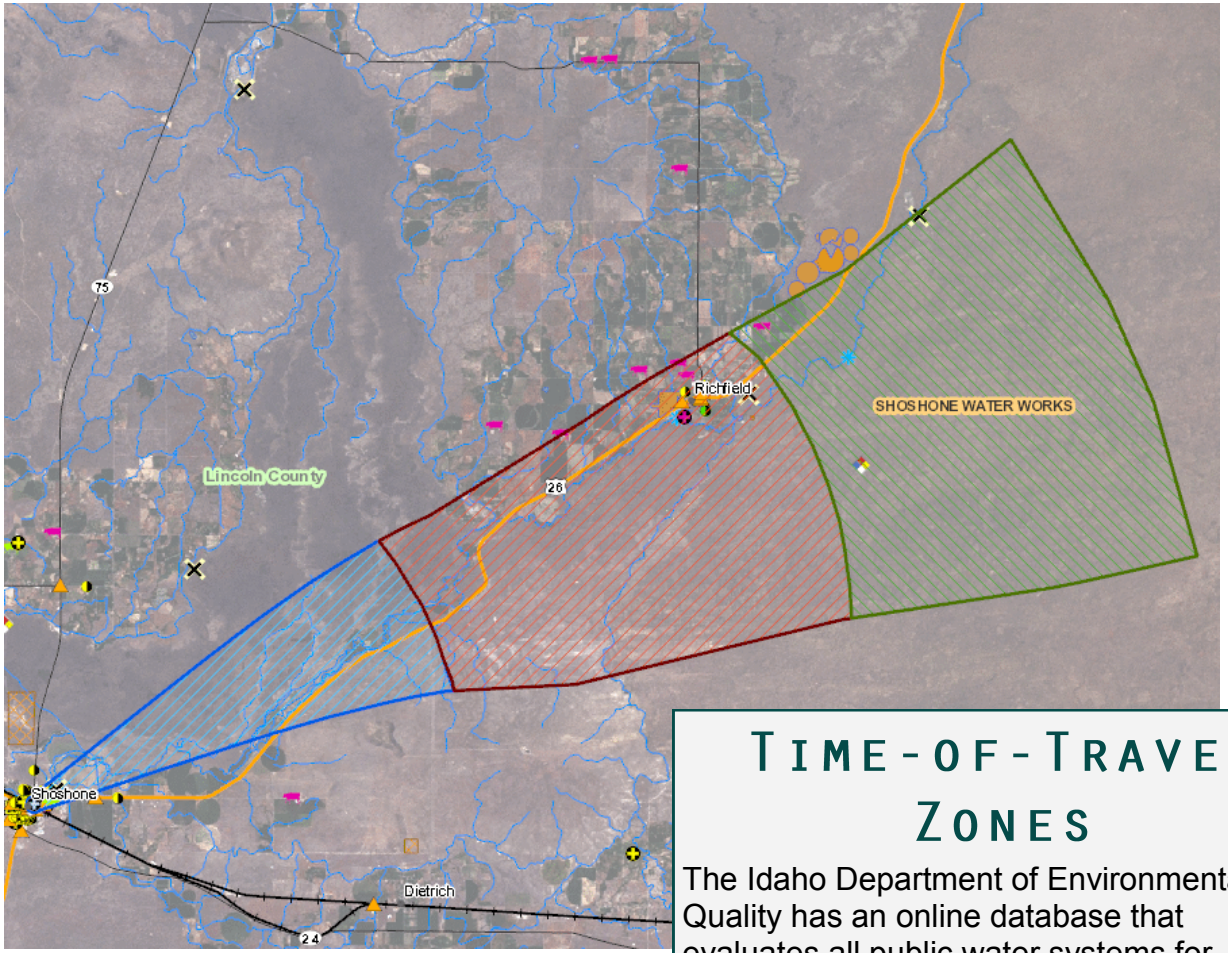
Your Community

Your Source Water Protection Plan

What is Source Water?

Source water is untreated water from surface and ground sources. Groundwater is water from rain or snow that seeps below the ground and pools in cracks and spaces beneath the earth's surface. It is a valuable resource as it makes up for over 95% of Idaho's drinking water. Groundwater supplies are not endless and can be depleted. Human activities can pollute groundwater so severely that the damage may be very difficult and costly to clean up.



This map is taken from the DEQ's online source water assessment for the City of Shoshone.. Visit the online source water assessment database to view susceptibility and time-of-travel information for your system. ***http://www.deq.idaho.gov/water/swaOnline***

Time-of-Travel Zones

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality has an online database that evaluates all public water systems for susceptibility to contamination. This database includes maps that shows how your drinking water moves to your municipal distribution. Water movement is divided into "time of travel zones." The zones of water movement serve as the basis for your protection area.

What is Source Water Protection?

Source Water Protection is simply protecting your source of drinking water from contamination or over use. To ensure water quality and quantity is maintained, managing various influences should be made a priority. Potential negative influences on your drinking water source include natural and human activities.

Most source water protection efforts can be done at little to no cost. The investment generates economic vitality and growth. Communities with safe and adequate water sources attract settlement, development and business.

What will Protection Do?

- Ensure that enough safe, clean drinking water is available for our communities.
- Protect current and future sources of Municipal drinking water.
- Safeguard our health and the health of our families.
- Prevent costly remediation efforts to your utility system and increases in utility bills.