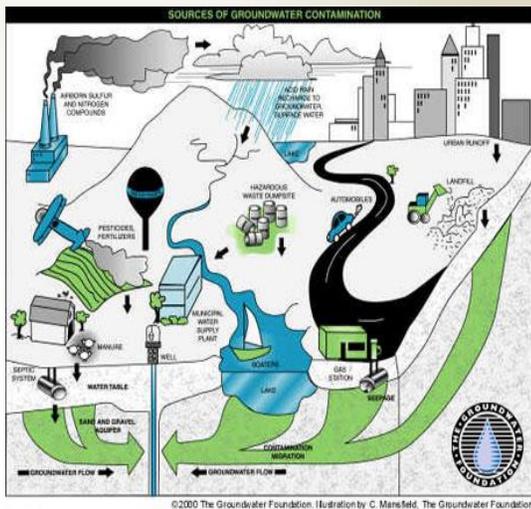


Groundwater Aquifer Recap

- LUS draws the drinking water for Lafayette from the Chicot Aquifer.
- Groundwater is water that exists in the space between soil particles beneath the Earth's surface.
- Groundwater starts as rainfall and then moves through the soil into the groundwater system.
- Groundwater can become polluted from leaking fuel tanks or when chemicals such as oils, solvents, fuels, etc. are leaked, spilled, or dumped where the material can move through the soil and to the groundwater aquifer.



©2000 The Groundwater Foundation. Illustration by C. Mansfield, The Groundwater Foundation

Picture from the following web site: groundwater.org

Lafayette Airport
Commission

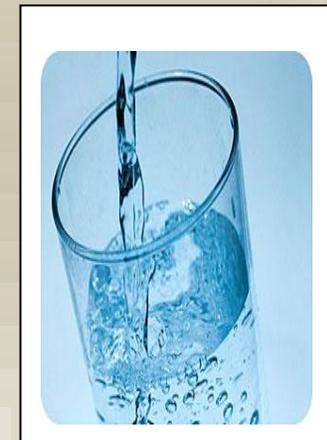
222 Jet Ranger X Drive
Lafayette, LA 70508
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Fax: 337-266-4410

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Protecting the Vermillion River: Your Recreational Area

Part 11 – Groundwater Aquifer

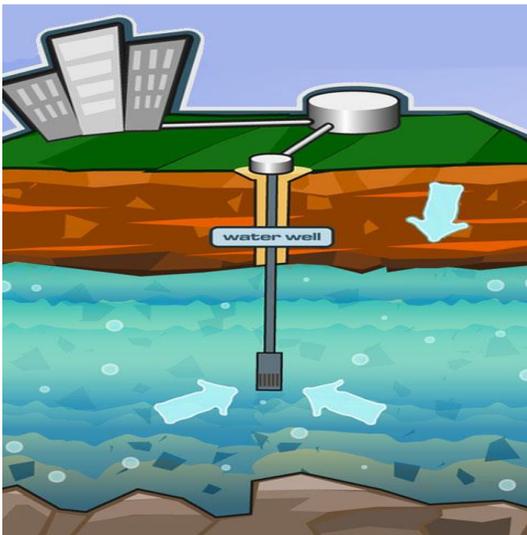
Lafayette Airport Commission
Lafayette Regional Airport



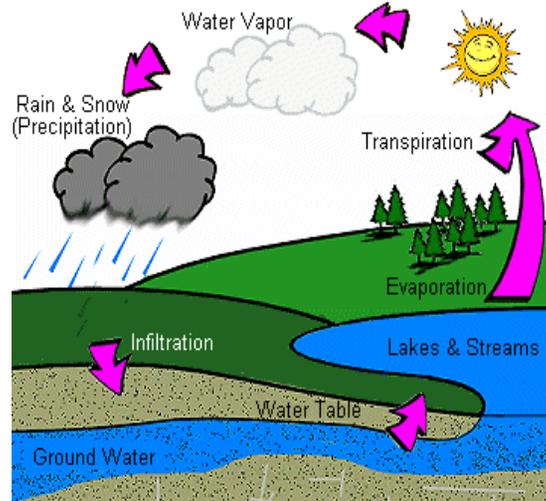
Picture from the following web site: caslab.com

Where does our Drinking water come from?

Lafayette Utilities System (LUS) draws the drinking water for Lafayette from the Chicot Aquifer, which is a large natural underground lake. Its boundaries are roughly the triangle formed by Lafayette, Alexandria and Lake Charles, covering a 15-parish area in southwest Louisiana. LUS has 18 deep water wells ranging in depth from 400 feet to 650 feet that individually produce up to 2,800 gallons per minute of water for treatment and distribution to LUS customers.



Picture from the following website: <http://www.groundwater.org/kc/whatis.html>



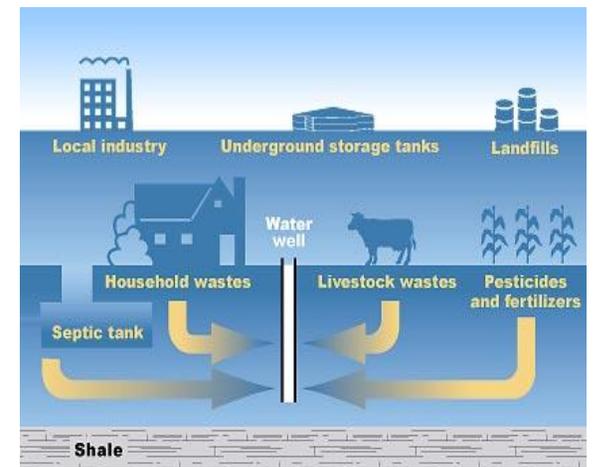
Picture from the following website: Dnr.wi.gov

What is a groundwater aquifer?

Groundwater is water that exists in the space between soil particles in the soil beneath the Earth's surface. It originates as rainfall or snow, and then moves through the soil into the groundwater system, where it eventually makes its way back to surface streams, lakes, or oceans. An area that holds a lot of water, which can be pumped up with a well, is called an aquifer. Wells pump groundwater from the aquifer and then pipes deliver the water to cities, houses in the country, or to crops.

Is groundwater clean?

Most groundwater is clean, but it can become polluted, or contaminated. It can become polluted from leaking underground fuel tanks, leaking landfills, or when too much fertilizer or pesticides are applied on fields or lawns. Groundwater can also become impacted when chemicals such as oils, solvents, fuels, etc. are leaked, spilled, or dumped on the ground or in waterways where the material can move through the soil and enter the groundwater aquifer. Because the aquifer is deep in the ground, groundwater pollution is generally difficult and expensive to clean up.



Information for this brochure is from www.groundwater.org/kc/whatis.html, LUS.org, and energycouncil.org