HOW YOU CAN HELP

Do your part to sustain the water supply through implementing water conservation practices such as:

HOME

- Repair leaks
- Install water-efficient appliances
- Minimize use of water-consuming appliances

LANDSCAPE AND OUTDOORS



- Water lawn when sun is low or down, winds are calm and temperatures are cool
- Don't over water
- Use native or drought tolerant plants in landscape design
- Apply mulch or other moisture retaining material around trees and shrubs





MORE INFORMATION

SEBGWMA

www.idwr.idaho.gov/WaterInformation/ GroundWaterManagement/SoutheastBoise/ seb_gwma.htm.

Idaho Department of Water Resources Western Region (208) 334-2190 • www.idwr.idaho.gov

City of Boise (208) 384-3901 • www.cityofboise.org

Ada County (208) 287-7900 • www.adaweb.net

REFERENCES FOR CONSERVATION PRACTICES

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality www.deq.idaho.gov

Environmental Protection Agency www.epa.gov/watersense

United Water Idaho www.unitedwater.com/conservation.aspx

City of Boise, Idaho www.boiseenvironmentaleducation.org

Groundwater Foundation www.groundwater.org

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SOUTHEAST BOISE GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT AREA

DOMESTIC WELLS



PROVIDED BY Southeast Boise GWMA Advisory Committee IN COOPERATION WITH Idaho Department of Water Resources

WHAT IS THE SOUTHEAST BOISE GWMA?

The Southeast Boise Ground Water Management Area (SEBGWMA) is:

- 17 square mile area at the head of the Boise River Valley along I-84.
- Designated a ground water management area by IDWR on October 14, 1994.
- A ground water management area (GWMA), defined in I.C. § 42-233b, is a ground water basin or part thereof that is approaching the conditions of a critical ground water area (CGWA). A CGWA, defined in I.C. § 42-233a, is a ground water basin or part thereof with insufficient ground water available to provide a reasonably safe supply for currently authorized uses.
- Established to preserve the Boise-Fan Aquifer with water table depths ranging from 300 ft. to 600 ft.
- Water levels in the area declined significantly by the late 1990's due to increased use of the aquifer and limited recharge due to subsurface hydrogeologic conditions.
- Millions of dollars have been spent on aquifer recharge efforts and to determine available water supply limits. Significant conservation measures and recharge projects have been implemented by water users.

WHY IT MATTERS TO YOU

As a potential well owner, you may be seeking water in an area of limited supply. Some things you should consider are:

- Water availability and sustainability inside and adjacent to this area is unknown.
- Construction and use of a domestic well establishes a beneficial use right to ground water with an associated priority date corresponding to the date the water was first put to use. Beneficial use rights are subject to Idaho's "first in time is first in right" water management doctrine. In other words, the last person to acquire water (junior right holder) is the first person required to cease use of that water if injury to an existing user (senior right holder) occurs.
- Domestic well use is limited by I.C. § 42-111. These limitations include in-house use and irrigation of up to ½ acre and the total use cannot exceed 13,000 gallons per day. For more information on I.C. § 42-111 visit: www.legislature.idaho.gov/idstat/Title42/ T42CH1SECT42-111.htm
- Construction of any new well requires submittal of a drilling permit application along with a drilling pro-

spectus (proposed well construction diagram) signed by the well owner prior to well construction.

• Relatively deep ground water and basalt flows in this area leads to increased well construction and pumping costs.

RECOMMENDED WELL CONSTRUCTION

While no specific well construction constraints beyond Well Construction Standards (IDAPA 37.03.09) have been adopted for this area, the following is a list of



construction recommendations for the SEBGWMA developed by hydrogeologists and other experts:

- Well depth should be at least 100 ft. below the water table to provide protection from future water level declines.
- Well casing wall thickness conforming to ANSI Schedule 40, aka standard well casing, (eg. 0.280" wall thickness for 6" diameter and 0.322" wall thickness for 8" diameter casing) as a minimum.
- Installation of a well screen to improve and maintain well efficiency.
- Limit well depths as appropriate to avoid drilling into Low Temperature Geothermal (ground water temperature > 85° F) zones located in deeper portions of the aquifer.

