

Special Issue

Advances in Source Water Protection and Sustainability

Message from the Guest Editors

Protecting water at the source is of critical importance for sustainable, safe drinking water supply and reducing adverse impacts on the environment. Source water includes groundwater, springs, lakes, and rivers from which drinking water is obtained. It is less expensive, more socially responsible, and better for the natural environment to safeguard these drinking water sources before they are over-exploited or contaminated. This Special Issue will focus on technical advances in source water protection (SWP) for both surface water and groundwater. Under various policy frameworks, much progress has been made worldwide for protecting drinking water sources. However, knowledge gaps persist surrounding protecting water sources in complex environments. Particular challenges exist for marginalized communities susceptible to unique threats and pressures that impact their SWP. Water-stressed basins need to be protected from adverse anthropogenic impacts that deteriorate water quality and lead to water quantity stress and over-exploitation. Moreover, climate change will impact protection of water sources through modifications in water quantity and water quality.

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