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Local Water Supplier Joins State Program to Protect Water Sources

The Deer Trail Water District (Public Water System #1700901) in Montgomery County has joined the state's Source Water Protection and Water Security (SWPWS) Program. This free program allows local water suppliers to partner with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to proactively protect their water supplies from potential sources of contamination.

The SWPWS Program provides water suppliers tools and information to help them work with their communities to protect their water sources. Keeping the Deer Trail Water District water sources clean is important for the system to continue meeting drinking water standards and provide high-quality water to the community.

As part of the SWPWS Program, engineers and geologists contracted by TCEQ will inventory the system's current sources of drinking water, such as groundwater wells. All water sources are vulnerable to contaminants, whether they are lakes, rivers, streams, or aquifers. Contaminants can come from a variety of businesses and everyday activities in the community.

During a site visit to the community, the team will identify potential sources of contamination, such as underground storage tanks or hazardous waste sites. The findings from the site visit will be shared with the Deer Trail Water District water system so that the community can take proactive steps to protect their drinking water, if needed.

After the inventory of sources and site visit findings are complete, a list of best management practices will be created to address the community's specific needs. Information on state and federal resources will also be provided, if needed, to improve the system's water supply.

By participating in the Texas' SWPWS program, the Deer Trail Water District joins more than 1,000 other water systems statewide that have taken proactive steps to protect their water supply since 1996! More information on the program is available at www.TexasSWP.org.