Did you know?

- 94% of Anoka County residents depend on private and city wells that tap into groundwater to supply their water needs.
- Deep Anoka County groundwater aquifers filled with pristine glacial meltwater thousands of years ago.
- Groundwater connects to our lakes and rivers, and keeps them full and flowing even when it doesn’t rain.
- Groundwater in Anoka County exists in tiny spaces between soil particles.
- Anoka County’s high water table, sandy soils, and high population make our groundwater vulnerable to overuse and contamination.

How to be groundwater-savvy

- **Properly dispose of hazardous household waste** - Things like paint, pharmaceuticals, and car fluids can pollute groundwater if improperly disposed.
- **Test your well** - Private well water testing is the homeowner’s responsibility. Test at least once for arsenic, and every six months for bacteria and nitrate. 8.2% of private well tests in Anoka County show unsafe arsenic levels.
- **Know your water softener** - Salt from your water softener permanently pollutes groundwater. Calibrate your water softener or update to a high-efficiency model to limit chloride pollution in groundwater.
- **Manage and maintain septic systems** - All of the water that goes into your septic system soaks into the ground, so be careful what goes down the drain. A malfunctioning septic system can pollute groundwater.
- **Practice smart lawn care** - By only mowing down to three inches and mulch mowing your lawn clippings, you can significantly reduce your lawn’s irrigation and fertilizing needs.