

Management Strategies to Address Nitrate Issues

A primary goal of the Groundwater Management Area (GWMA) Committee is to strategize with state agencies in preparing an Action Plan, while providing input, review, and comment on all potential management options to reduce risks of groundwater contamination of nitrates. The State is not mandating any measures that must be taken to reduce nitrate contamination in the Valley; it is up to the local area to determine what actions are appropriate. One mechanism for creating broad-based options is through the work of the GWMA Committee and sub-committees. It is anticipated that we will have several sub-committees and/or focus groups centered around land use categories including but not necessarily limited to:

- Residential
- Agriculture
- Businesses
- Public water and wastewater systems

Each sub-committee, with the help of agency staff, will work through a process to identify broad goals, strategies, specific actions and monitoring steps focused on their area of interest. Strategies can consist of a variety of mechanisms such as education, voluntary actions, regulation, new standards, and conservation improvement practices. Following is a work sheet that will hopefully help the process. Also attached is a list of strategy ideas that might be considered within each land use group.

Strategy Work Sheet

Please compose your suggested strategy into the following format so that there is consistency among land use groups for strategies that get folded into the overall Action Plan.

Land use group (circle one) – residential, commercial/industrial, agriculture, public water/wastewater system, other (specify)

Strategy:

Goal the strategy is achieving:

Specific actions to fulfill strategy:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Timeline for strategy implementation:

Steps to evaluate the fulfillment/effectiveness of the strategy: