

INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT



The purpose of the Integrated Water Resources Management Program (IWRMP) is to look at all of Medway's water resources holistically and determine how to manage Medway's drinking water, wastewater, stormwater and surface water needs in a balanced way that protects the environment and allows for sustainable growth.

What are your Local Water Resources?



Choate Pond

Surface Water

All of Medway is located within the Charles River Basin. The Charles River forms $\frac{2}{3}$ of Medway's southern border with Franklin. Like Choate Pond, many of Medway's surface waters provide important wildlife habitat and popular recreational areas for residents. Wetland areas throughout Town also provide essential flood protection.

Groundwater

Medway residents receive their water supply from ground water sources. The Town's four supply wells draw their water from the underground sand and gravel aquifer of the Charles River basin.



Highland Street Water Tank

Get Involved!

Participate in neighborhood cleanups and the annual Medway Clean Sweep & Pride Day events.

Watch for notices about IWRMP upcoming meetings.



How Can You Help?

Simple Steps You Can Take to Help Protect Medway's Water Resources!

- ✓ Limit the use of pesticides and fertilizers containing phosphorus – use natural or organic lawn care methods
- ✓ Compost your yard waste
- ✓ Have your septic tank pumped and system inspected regularly
- ✓ Practice Water Conservation
- ✓ Never dump anything down storm drains or in streams & take unwanted household chemicals to hazardous-waste collection centers
- ✓ Direct downspouts away from paved surfaces
- ✓ Pick up after your pet
- ✓ Use low-phosphate or phosphate-free detergents



Charles River



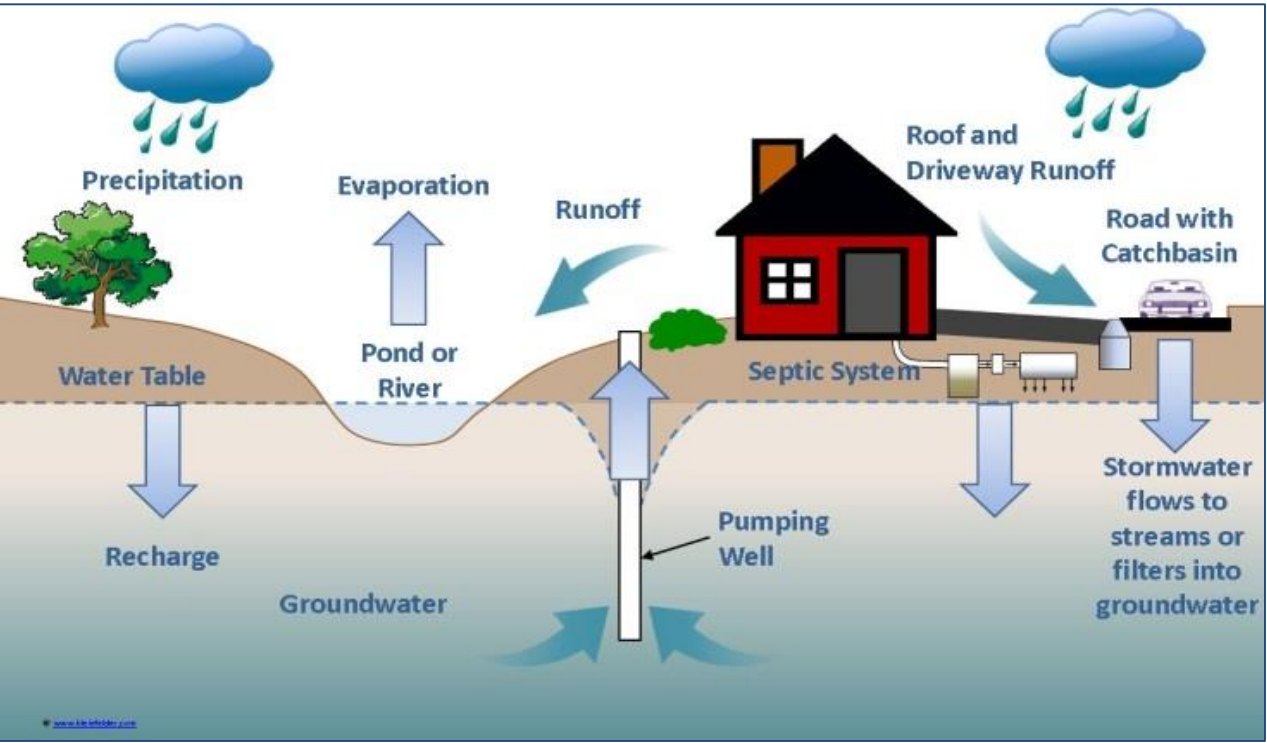
Choate Park



Choate Pond

How are Our Water Resources Connected?

Through the elements of the water cycle, our actions have a direct impact on surface waters and ground water sources.



- ~ Excess chemicals applied to lawns, oil and debris found on paved surfaces, and even animal waste become sources of pollution when they are carried to receiving waters or infiltrated into the ground by stormwater.
- ~ Extra pumping of groundwater in the summer to supply water for lawns and gardens lowers the level of the water table and can dry up streams.
- ~ A failing septic system can release bacteria and nutrients into the water cycle, contaminating nearby surface waters and ground water.
- ~ Stormwater and ground water can enter aging sanitary sewer infrastructure, overloading it and potentially resulting in sanitary sewer overflows to the environment.

