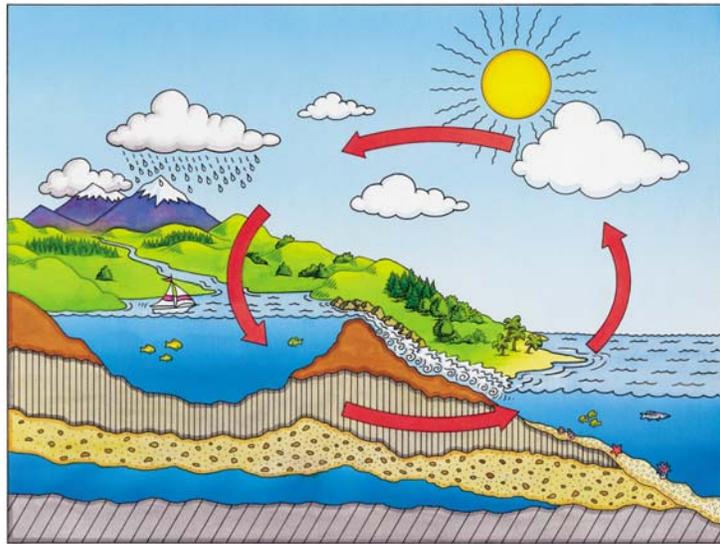


Drinking Water 101

Your drinking water comes from an underground layer of gravel deposits and bedrock fractures. Lake Arrowhead Community, Inc. owns, operates and maintains two wells which tap these water-bearing geologic formations to provide you with drinking water. Water found beneath the ground is called groundwater. It is recharged by rain and melting snow, which soak into the ground. Groundwater is part of a larger process known as the hydrologic or water cycle, which describes the cyclic nature of water in our environment.

The Hydrologic Cycle (Water Cycle)



Groundwater Contamination

Groundwater contamination can come from many sources. In some areas, naturally occurring elements such as iron, manganese, arsenic, chloride, and radon can contaminate groundwater. There are also naturally occurring bacteria which can be present in groundwater, most of which are harmless. Groundwater contamination can also be caused by humans. Human-caused pollutants can come from sources such as petroleum product use and storage, misuse and improper disposal of household chemicals, malfunctioning septic systems, animal wastes and road salt use and storage.

Drinking contaminated water can have serious health and economic impacts. It can cause health problems including nervous system and organ disorders, and cancer. Cleaning contaminated groundwater can

be very expensive. In some cases, the water will not be usable again as a drinking water supply. Property values in the affected area may fall sharply. It is significantly more effective and less expensive to protect groundwater from becoming contaminated than it is to clean it up once contaminated.

Future newsletters will feature articles with more information about your drinking water and ways you can help keep your drinking water clean and pure. Here at Lake Arrowhead, we are committed to providing you with clean, safe and secure drinking water. Please call us at 247-5239 or stop by the office at 206 Old Portland Road if we can answer any questions about your water service.

