



KITSAP COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

614 DIVISION STREET MS-36, PORT ORCHARD WASHINGTON 98366-4682 **Kamuron D. Gurol, Director**
(360) 337-7181 FAX (360) 337-4925 HOME PAGE - www.kitsapgov.com/nr/

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Critical Aquifer Recharge Areas – Potential Next Steps

As Kitsap County reviews and updates its Critical Aquifer Recharge Area standards there are several potential steps to be taken:

Classifying/designating recharge areas

- a. Make no changes in the methodology of identifying as Category 1 and 2 Critical Aquifer Areas but update map with revised soils data and WDOH wellhead data.
- b. Use DRASTIC or some other index-based modeling effort to refine where CARAs exist.
- c. Determine aquifer vulnerability based on actual data similar to the USGS Nitrate study.
- d. Utilize the existing detailed maps (e.g. USGS Bangor Study, UW/USGS quad mapping) to identify CARAs within those study areas.
- e. In addition to addressing groundwater quality concerns, designate CARAs based upon groundwater quantity concerns.
- f. Use density of septic systems as a factor in identifying CARAs.

Regulating land use activity within identified CARAs.

- a. Retain existing list of operations that potentially threaten groundwater.
- b. Update the list of operations that potentially threaten groundwater using the latest EPA list modified for our area.
- c. Continue to allow any activity based on results of a geohydrologic report.
- d. Prohibit certain activities outright (e.g. landfills, mining, wood treatment facilities) within CARAs.
- e. In addition to regulating land use for groundwater quality concerns, regulate land use within CARAs for groundwater quantity concerns.
- f. Regulate land use to achieve an acceptable density of septic systems.

Site Specific Evaluation

- a. Maintain existing hydrogeologic reports.
- b. Modify hydrogeologic report to facilitate entering information into a regional database (such a database does not currently exist).