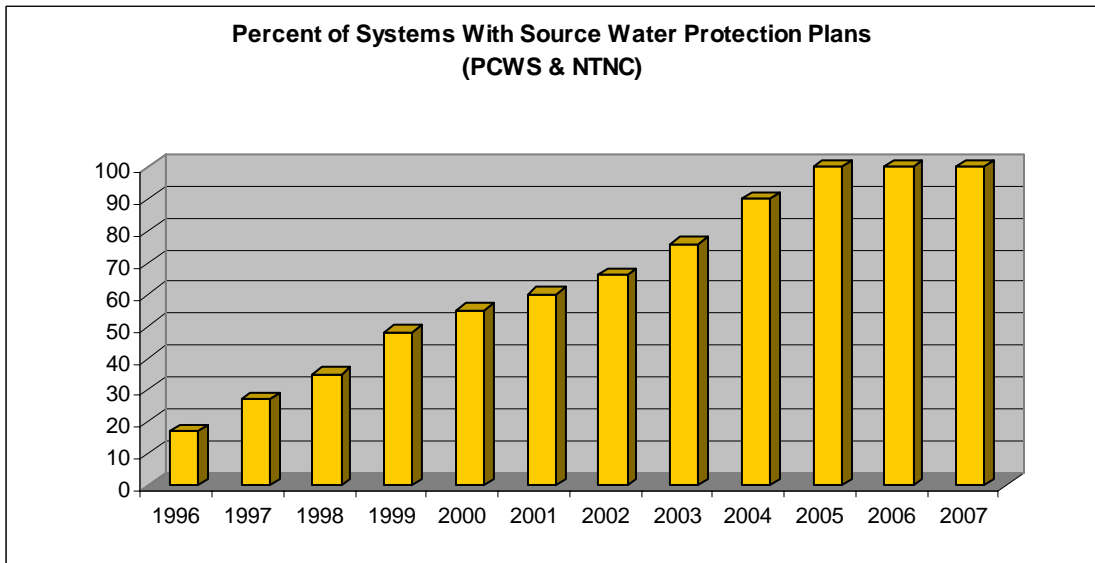


Results

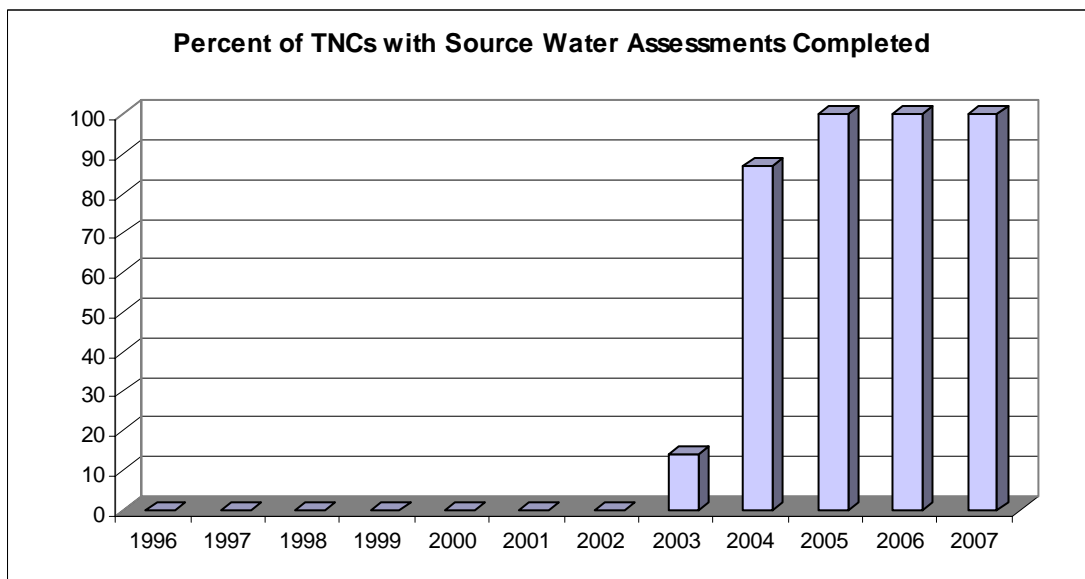
Increased protection and development of safe drinking water sources through outreach, permitting, and investigation of the resource.

Key Indicators

Percent of Systems with Source Water Protection Plans.



Number of TNCs with Source Water Assessments Completed.



Story Behind the Baseline Performance

Vermont has had a long-standing program for the protection and development of drinking water sources. This includes a source permitting program, a wellhead and source protection program, an active interagency groundwater coordination committee, and a well driller licensing program. The program faces challenges in the lack of broad studies on groundwater characteristics, naturally occurring contaminants, and aquifer mapping. The program is considered a national leader on source water protection. Based on higher priority needs the Source Water Protection program will lose two staff to other water supply programs in calendar year 2005.

Strategies

Education and Technical Assistance

2005-2007

Provide field visits, toll-free telephone number, planning meetings, educational brochures, and website information. Provide evaluation of potential sources of contamination for their potential to impact public water supplies for projects requiring state permits. A database of over 90,000 water well locations in GIS linked to well completion reports provides contaminant investigators, home owners, realtors, and many others, with critical subsurface information. Provide GIS maps of source protection areas and major sources of potential contamination to project developers and reviewers. Serve as a resource on groundwater protection issues, groundwater education, drought issues, water conservation, and general outreach.

Assist municipalities to develop Groundwater Protection Ordinances for existing and future potential source protection areas and for significant aquifers.

For optimal Source Protection Plan effectiveness assistance will continue to be provided beyond the completion of the initial program. Source Protection Plan updates are required and reviewed on a three year cycle.

Provide coordination, facilitation, administration, and technical support for the Groundwater Coordination Committee, particularly for groundwater reclassifications and updates to the Groundwater Protection Rule and Strategy

Review Act 250 applications for groundwater and drinking water protection issues and provide appropriate comment.

Attend and participate in the Groundwater Managers Workshop Meetings sponsored by the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission. Attend and participate in Groundwater Protection Council meetings and conferences.

Participate as a member of the On-Site Technical Advisory Committee regarding issues of on-site septic waste disposal, groundwater protection, and potable water supply development.

Provide technical assistance for implementation of the Federal Groundwater Rule.

Grants and Loans

2005-2007

The Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) provides loans for purchase of land and/or conservation easements for source protection, construction of sources, and source improvements.

The Water Supply Division will continue to partner with technical service providers (such as Northeast Rural Water Association) to provide direct assistance to public water systems.

Regulation, Compliance Assistance, and Enforcement

2005-2007

Water Supply Rule, Chapter 21; Groundwater Protection Rule and Strategy; Well Driller Licensing Rule; Wastewater and Potable Water Supply Rule.

Issue State Permits for new proposed or existing modified public water sources and pursue enforcement for failure to obtain a permit.

Prioritize enforcement efforts for Public Community and Non-Transient, Non-Community water systems that have not complied with Groundwater Under the Direct Influence of Surface Water determinations.

Implementation of the Federal Groundwater Rule.

Monitoring, Assessment and Direct Services

2005

Provide improved Source Protection Area delineations for sources with a default radius, and finish development of Source Protection Plans for water systems using Lake Champlain as a drinking water source.

Water Supply Division staff will perform site visits to make the GWUDI and SWAP determination for Transient, Non-Community water systems. Two temporary staff were employed in 2004 to complete this work. However one fulltime staff and one temporary resigned in this time frame and were not replaced. A temporary staff person to assist with completing this effort in 2005 is expected.

2005-2007

Provide direct assistance through the Groundwater Coordinating Committee for Groundwater reclassification.

Performance Measures

<u>Performance Measures</u>		1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Number of Source Protection Plans Approved	Projected	60	60	92	92	92	92	92	92	65	40	40	10
	Actual	64	54	92	43	37	43	66	94	29			
Number of Groundwater Committee Meetings	Projected									10	10	10	10
	Actual	11	11	7	6	5	6	7	7	10			
Number of Source Permits Issued	Projected		25	25	20	20	20	20	20	15	15	15	15
	Actual	13	22	15	16	14	7	8	19	11			
% of Source Permits meeting PEP	Projected								50%	60%	98%	98%	98%
	Actual		92%	69%	67%	100%	86%	40%	71%				

Proposed Accomplishments

Source Protection Plans – The Water Resources Management Section has set a goal to complete source protection plans for 98% of all public community and non-transient non-community public water systems by 2004. Through loss of critical staff this goal will be delayed until 2005.

Source Water Assessments and Ground Water Under Direct Influence (GWUDI) determinations – The Water Resources Management Section has set a goal to complete all TNC source water assessments and GWUDI determinations by December 2004. To meet this goal, 85% will be completed over the next year, with the remaining 15% needing to complete additional source testing in 2005 in order to make a final determination. Through loss of critical staff this goal will be delayed until 2005.

Source Water Permits – The Water Supply Division will assume responsibility for issuing all Non-Transient, Non-Community public water source and construction permits. These permits were previously issued by the DEC Regional Offices of the Wastewater Management Division. This change was implemented to enhance communications with the permittee and for permit issuing consistency.