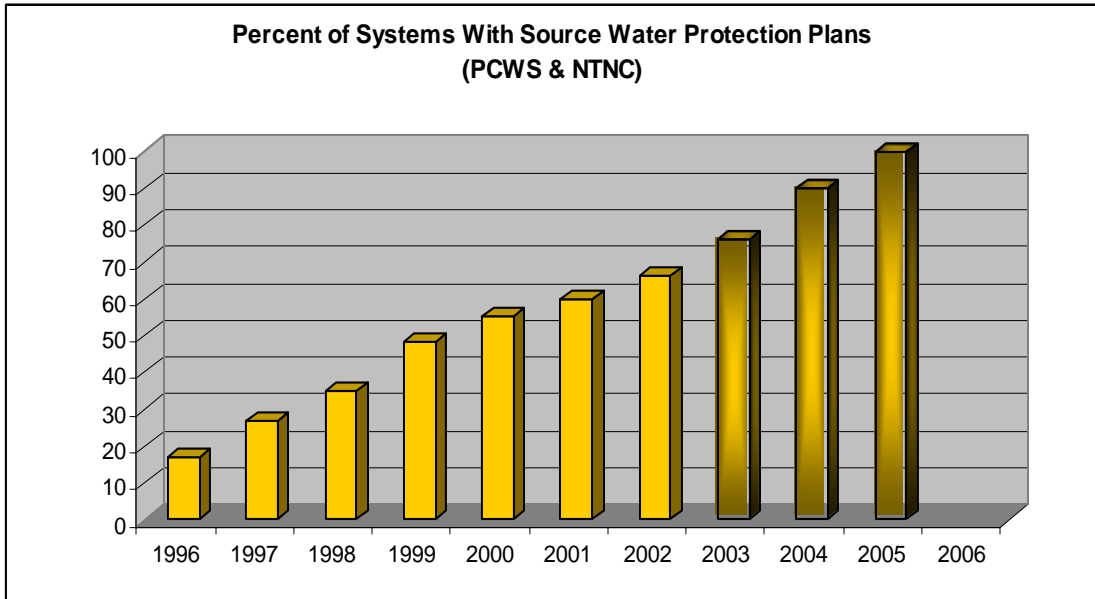


**Results**

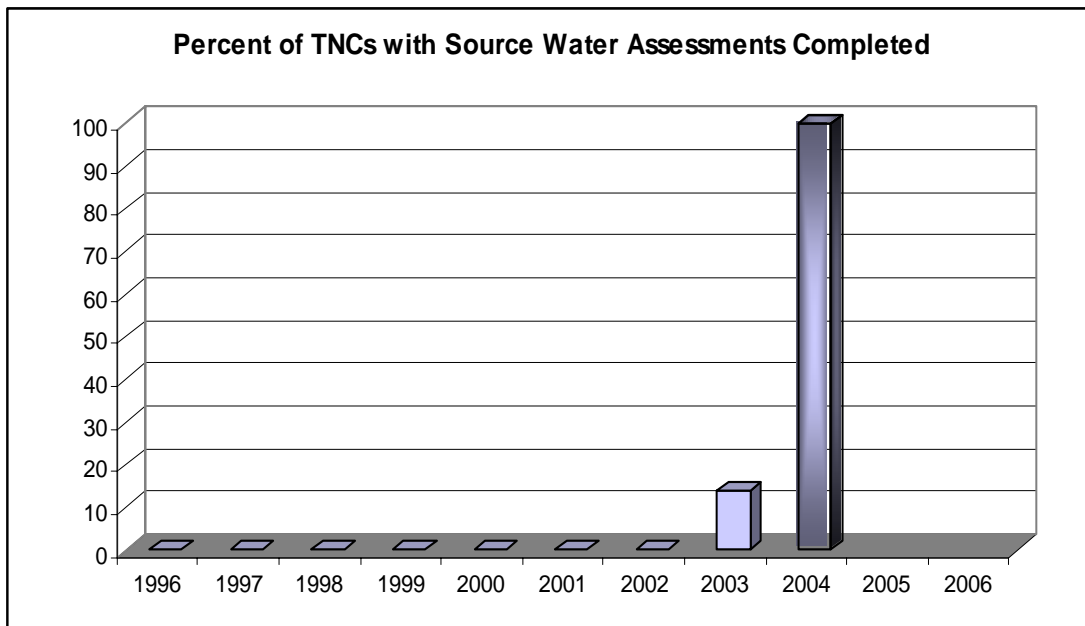
Increased protection and development of safe drinking water sources through outreach, permitting, and investigation of the resource.

**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.

## **Strategies**

### **Education and Technical Assistance**

*2004-2006*

Field visits, toll-free telephone number, site 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, and general outreach.

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

For optimal Source Protection Plan effectiveness assistance will continue to be provided beyond the completion of the initial program. Source Protection Plan updates will be 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.

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.

*2005-2006*

Provide technical assistance for implementation of the Federal Groundwater Rule.

## Grants and Loans

*2004-2006*

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

## Regulation, Compliance Assistance, and Enforcement

*2004-2006*

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 potable 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.

*2005-2006*

Federal Groundwater Rule implementation.

## Monitoring, Assessment and Direct Services

*2004*

Provide improved Source Protection Area delineations for sources with a default radius, and develop Source Protection Areas and 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 are expected to be hired to assist with this effort in 2004.

*2004-2006*

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
Number of Source Protection Plans Approved	Projected	60	60	92	92	92	92	92	92	65	14	14
	Actual	64	54	92	43	37	43	66	94			
Number of Groundwater Committee Meetings	Projected									10	10	10
	Actual	11	11	7	6	5	6	7	7			
Number of Source Permits Issued	Projected		25	25	20	20	20	20	20	15	12	12
	Actual	13	22	15	16	14	7	8	19			
% of Source Permits meeting PEP	Projected								50%	60%	70%	98%
	Actual		92%	69%	67%	100%	86%	40%				

### 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.

*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.