

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH INDICATORS

		Greene County 2003	5 -Year Mean	Trend	
<u>WATER</u>	Greene County Private Well Testing (% testing safe)	58	58	NC	
	E. Coli Testing in Streams and Rivers (% testing safe)	23	NA	NA	
	Range of Well Water Levels Below the Surface				
	Springfield Lake	390-416 ft	NA	NA	
	McDaniel Lake	133-188 ft	NA	NA	
	Community Well Chemistry (nitrates mg/l)	0.19	0.12	Up	
	Boil Orders Issued in Community/Public Wells (governed by MDNR)	0	3.4	Down	
<u>COMMUNITY HEALTH</u>	Greene County Giardiasis Cases	23	9.4	Up	
	Elevated Blood Lead (% of total tested <age 6)	4.0	2.4	Up	
	Food Service Inspections (% citing no critical violation)	54.7	NA	NA	
	Animal Bite Rate (per 100,000 population)	132.3	123.0	Up	
	Miles of Trail Added	7	NA	NA	
	Urban Ecosystem Analysis (trees added)	229	NA	NA	
	Park Land Added (acres)	28.67	NA	NA	
<u>SOLID WASTE/ RECYCLING</u>	Household Hazardous Waste (HHW Total Lbs. Disposed of/Recycled, est.)	3,801	3,423	Up	
	Percent of HHW recycled (est.)	83.0	82.6	NC	
	Recycled Material at City Collection Sites (tons)	93,364	87,972	Up	
<u>AIR QUALITY</u>	Carbon Monoxide (ppm)				
	2nd Max 1-hr	EPA Standards 35	4	5	Down
	2nd Max 8-hr	9	2.0	3.1	Down
	Nitrogen Dioxide (ppm)				
	Annual Mean	0.053	0.011	0.012	NC
	PM10 (ug/m3)				
	2nd Max 24-hr	150	39	38	NC
	Annual Mean	50	17	18	NC
	PM2.5 (ug/m3)				
	24-hr Max	65	31.1	35.1	NC
	Annual Mean	15	11.7	12.2	NC
	Sulfur Dioxide (ppm)				
	2nd Max 24-hr	0.14	0.028	0.045	Down
	Annual Mean	0.03	0.003	0.004	Down
Ozone					
2nd Max 1-hr	0.12	0.091	0.092	NC	
<u>POPULATION</u>	Greene County Population Projections	245,765	242,037	NC	
	Greene County Single Family Housing Permits Issued	1,254	980	Up	

**NA - Not Available
NC - No Change**

“When the well is dry, we learn the worth of water.”

-Benjamin Franklin

***“Throughout the history of literature, the guy who poisons the well
has been the worst of all villains...”***

-Author Unknown

Greene County has historically been rich in water resources. Just hearing the names of some of its cities and towns conjures up visions of crystal clear springs and groves of trees fed by sparkling underground aquifers. But are water resources something that Greene County residents take for granted? Is something that has always been here in abundance in danger of becoming a threatened resource? If we are not vigilant, this could certainly be the case.

Water quality has long been a concern in southwest Missouri. Significant strides have been made in sustaining and improving the quality of our water. The City of Springfield has aggressively pursued phosphorous and nitrogen reduction technologies in both of its wastewater treatment plants. Both Springfield and Greene County have received storm water permits from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, requiring them to develop comprehensive storm water management programs.

These efforts should yield positive results, but individual citizens also have responsibilities for protecting water quality. There are numerous water quality best management practices (BMPs) that can be employed by individuals and businesses, such as diverting gutter downspouts to grassy areas instead of pavement to slow and filter runoff, having soil tested to see how much fertilizer it actually needs, and properly disposing of pet wastes.

Water quantity (availability) is another problem looming for some Ozark communities. Depleted water reserves have traditionally been an issue in western states, but regional drought combined with growing demand have increasingly brought water supply questions to the forefront in the Ozarks. The solution to this problem will not be easy. It will require a collaborative effort uniting both the public and private sectors.

A local effort aimed at addressing both water quality and quantity concerns recently concluded through the Vision 20/20 planning process. The recommendations arising from this process, if fully implemented, will go a long way toward addressing local water quality and quantity concerns. Such efforts are necessary to guarantee sufficient amounts of high quality water resources for future generations in Greene County.

For More Information:

http://www.ci.springfield.mo.us/egov/publicworks/storm_water/prevention.html