



LEWIS & CLARK CITY-COUNTY  
**Health Department**

1930 Ninth Avenue  
Helena, MT 59601  
PH: 406.4HEALTH or 406.443.2584  
Fax: 406.457.8990

**Press Release**  
**For Immediate Release:**  
**May 7, 2009**

Contact: Jennifer McBroom, Community Outreach & Watershed Coordinator for the Lewis & Clark County Water Quality Protection District, 457-8584, Jmcbroom@co.lewis-clark.mt.us

**Free Workshop May 13, 2009**  
**"Know Your Responsibilities:**  
**A Septic and Well Water Workshop for Landowners."**

**Helena** – Lewis and Clark City-County Health Department and the Department of Environmental Quality's Source Water Protection Program are offering a **free workshop on May 13, 2009 at Rossiter School from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.** This workshop will provide instruction to landowners on the necessary actions needed to maintain their septic system as well as testing and inspecting their water wells.

Landowners have the responsibility to ensure that their drinking water is safe to drink and their septic systems are maintained on a regular basis. When not properly constructed or maintained, water wells and septic systems have the potential to contaminate groundwater. In Lewis & Clark County, over 50 percent of drinking water comes from groundwater.

Non-point source pollution, water conservation will be addressed along with how the actions and abilities of the individual landowners can affect their own water quality and quantity. According to Beth Norberg, registered sanitarian with the Lewis and Clark City-County Health Department, "Regular maintenance of your septic system prevents system malfunction and ensures maximum system longevity. This results in less cost to the homeowner."

Employees of the Lewis & Clark City-County Health Department and the Department of Environmental Quality's Source Water Protection Program will lead the workshop. Those in attendance have the chance to win a free septic system pumping, receive an update on the Septic Maintenance District, and participate in a reduced-rate water quality sampling program.

For more information, please call Jennifer McBroom, the community outreach & watershed coordinator for the Lewis & Clark County Water Quality Protection District, at 457-8584.

#####

*The Lewis & Clark City-County Health Department's mission is to improve and protect the health of all Lewis & Clark County residents.*