

Chapter 7

WATER RESOURCES AND UTILITIES

“Water is the most critical resource issue of our lifetime and our children’s lifetime. The health of our waters is the principal measure of how we live on the land”. - Luna Leopold

What This Element Will Do

Water resources are essential to community health, quality of life, and economic prosperity. Surface waters and wetlands provide wildlife habitat, community character, and contribute positively to environmental health. Ground water provides for drinking water needs. This water resources plan element defines and communicates the City of Belle Plaine’s approach to water resources preservation and protection. This plan includes strategies for use, management, and improvement of Belle Plaine’s water supply, wastewater, and surface water systems.

What Drives This Element

This purpose of this plan element is to:

- Ensure that existing drinking water and wastewater infrastructure capacity is adequate to accommodate projected growth through 2040.
- Identify infrastructure concerns that may impact water resources and best practices to remedy said concerns.
- Protect the Lower Minnesota River Watershed and sub-watersheds, the Minnesota River, wetlands, protected streams, and the larger water bodies these flow into from stormwater impacts.

Sections:

Water Supply Plan

Sanitary Sewer Plan

Storm Water Management Plan