



# Current Status and Projects of the Drinking Water Protection (DWP) Program

## DWP Background



- **Drinking Water Protection (DWP) is a voluntary, non-regulatory program at KDHE**
- **Helps Small communities in KS to prevent nitrate contamination in respective Public Water Supply (PWS)**

## Nitrate and Human Health

- 10 mg/L Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) is set for Methemoglobinemia or “Blue Baby Syndrome”
- High concentrations of nitrate in drinking water have been linked to other adverse health outcomes, such as:
  - Minor health ailments
  - Preterm birth issues
  - Birth defects
  - Pediatric Cancers
  - Adult Cancers



## Nitrate and Infrastructure

- Millions of dollars in mitigation of water contamination, i.e. tax increases
- Small communities disproportionately impacted

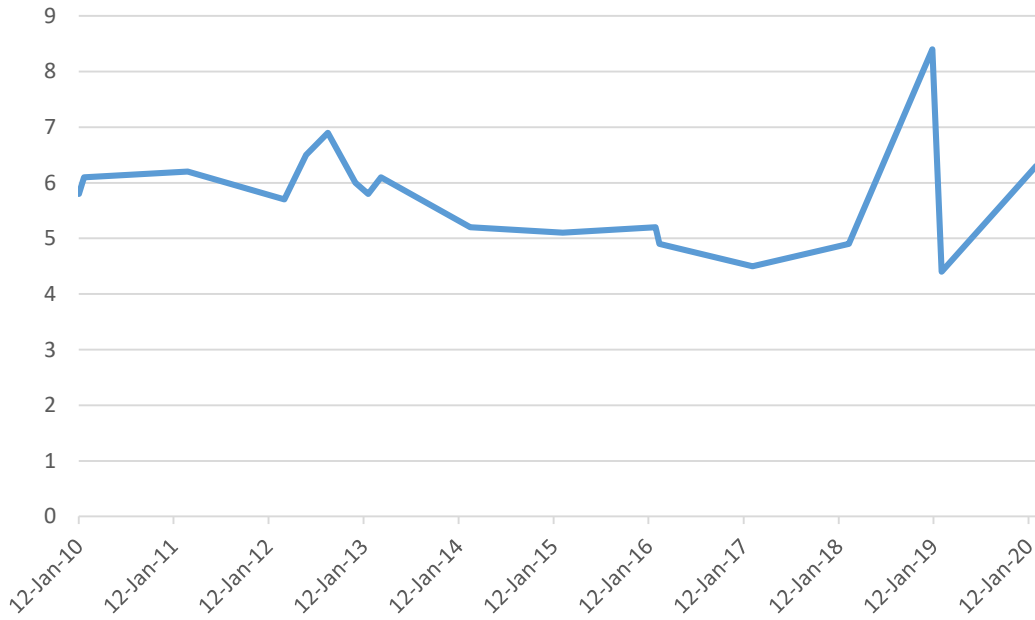


## How Communities Become Involved

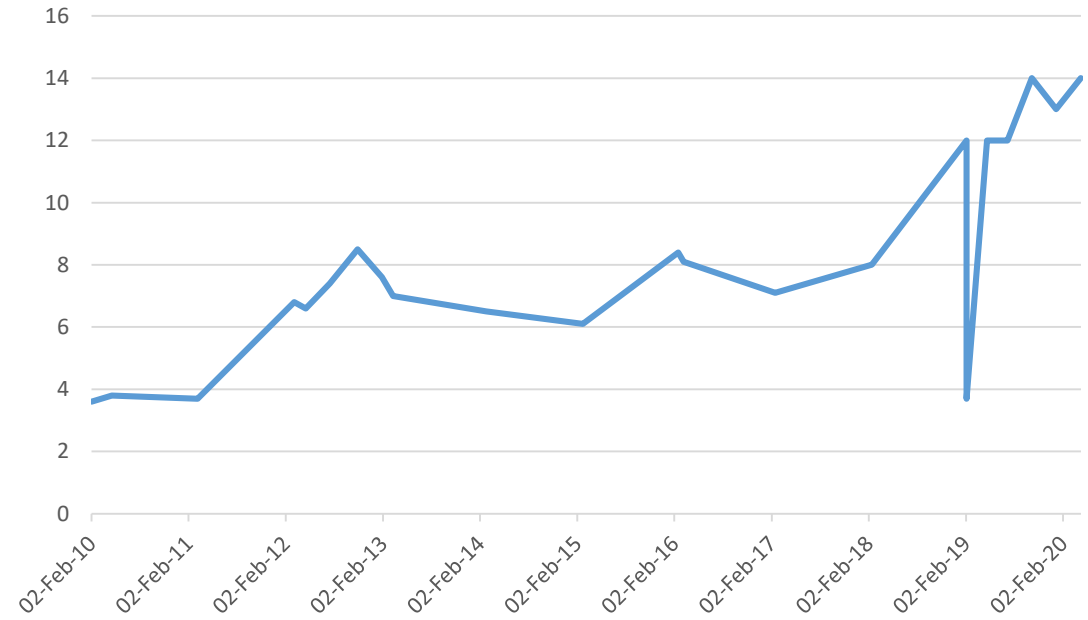
- **Behest of the Community**
  - **Concerned with rise in nitrate levels**
  - **Truly voluntary**
- **Consent Agreement**
  - **Through KDHE Public Water Supply**

# Innovative Ways to Protecting Drinking Water in Kansas

City of Dighton PWS - TP004

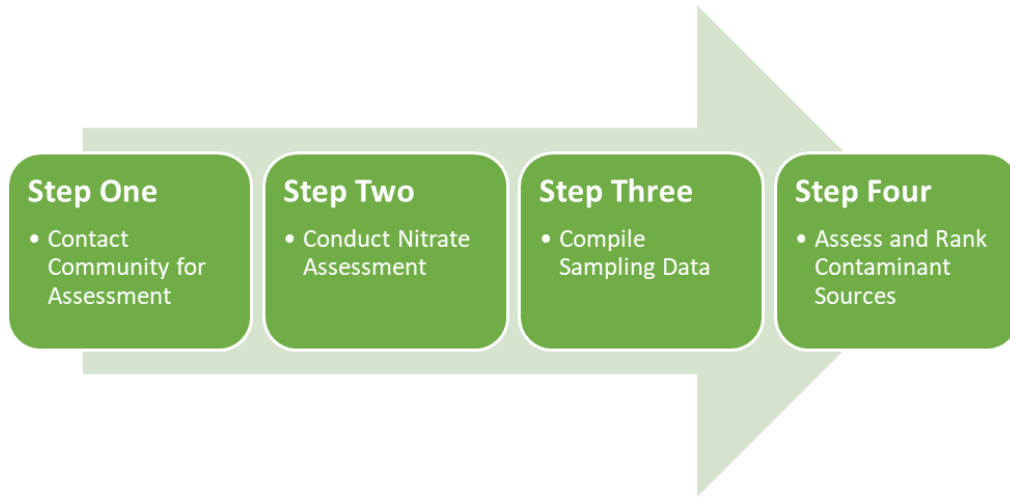


City of Copeland PWS - TP001



## DWP Process

### • Phase 1



### • Phase 2



## Assessment

- DWP hires third party contractor
- Collects nitrate samples from private water wells
- Compiles results into a Comprehensive Investigation Report
- Reviewed by DWP





## Commitment from Community

- DWP drafts Drinking Water Protection Report (DWPR) based on findings of assessment
- DWPR is presented to Community City Council
- City Council elects to continue with DWP
- Local Leadership Team (LLT)



## DWPP Developed

- Once LLT is formed, DWP drafts a Drinking Water Protection Plan (DWPP)
- DWPP outlines background, BMP Implementation, Implementation Cost, Funding Resources, Etc.
- DWPP will be approved by LLT and DWP



## Implementation

- Best Management Practices (BMPs)
  - Cropland
  - Rangeland/Grazing
  - Infrastructure
  - Wetland/Playa Restoration
- DWP provides Resources and Funding
- LLT helps gather I&E and gather community support

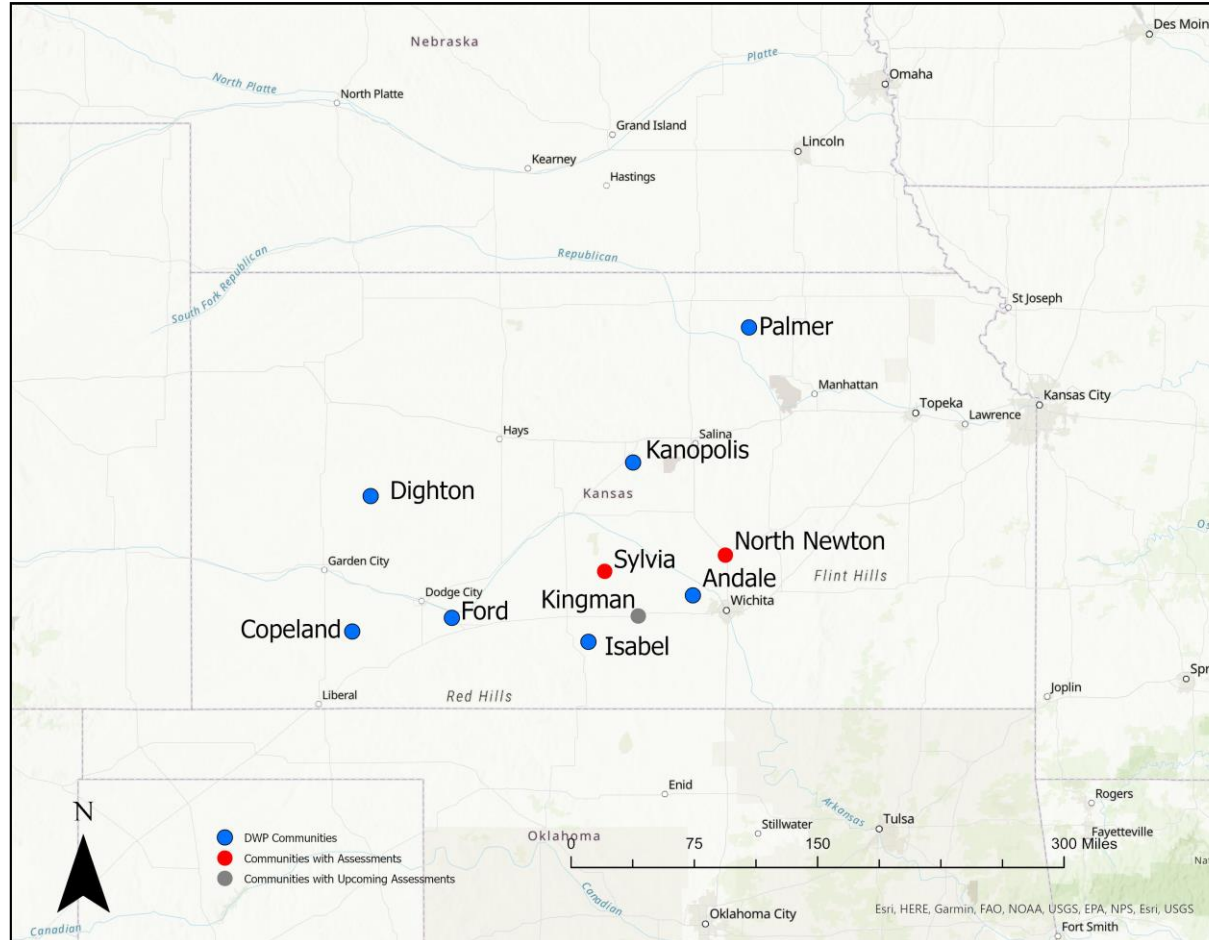


## Monitor, Evaluate, Update

- DWP will monitor PWS data
- Monitoring will allow DWP to test effectiveness of practices
- Reevaluate BMPs and target zones if needed



## DWP Communities



## Contact Info

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## Thank you!

