



Region 2 Water

Serving New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico, US Virgin Islands and 8 Tribal Nations

Contact Us Search: All EPA This Area

You are here: EPA Home » Region 2 » Water » Aquifers

Sole Source Aquifers

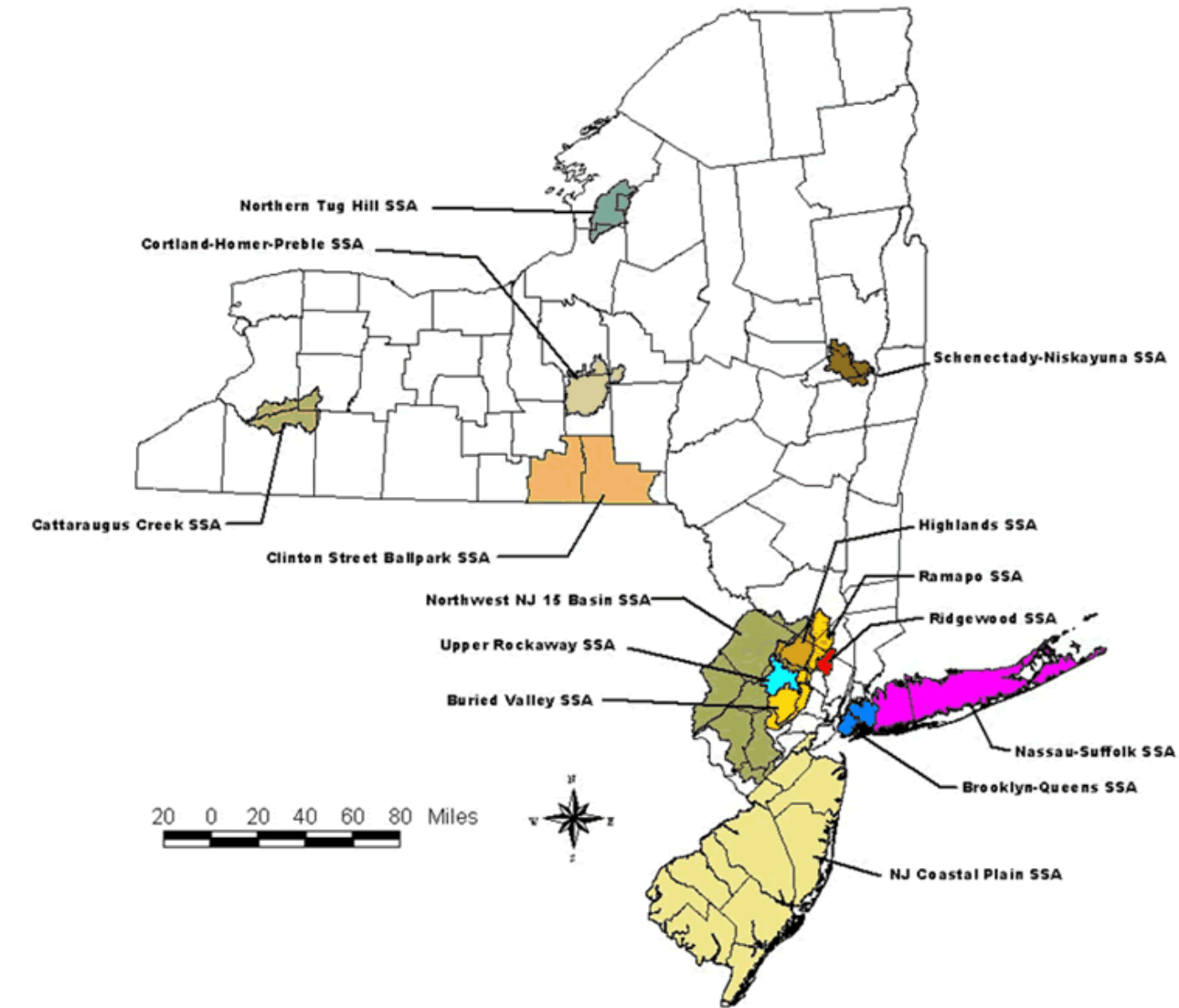
Sole Source Aquifer designation is one tool to protect drinking water supplies in areas with few or no alternative sources to the ground water resource, and where if contamination occurred, using an alternative source would be extremely expensive. The designation protects an area's ground water resource by requiring EPA to review all proposed projects within the designated area that will receive federal financial assistance. All proposed projects receiving federal funds are subject to review to ensure they do not endanger the ground water source.

EPA defines a sole or principal source aquifer as one which supplies at least fifty percent (50%) of the drinking water consumed in the area overlying the aquifer. These areas can have no alternative drinking water source(s) which could physically, legally, and economically supply all those who depend upon the aquifer for drinking water. For convenience, all designated sole or principal source aquifers are referred to as "sole source aquifers" (SSA).

If you are interested in petitioning the EPA to make a designation, please consult the [Sole Source Aquifer Program Petitioner's Guidance](#) or contact EPA for assistance.

Related Information

- Sole Source Aquifer Program
- Petitioner Guidance
- FAQs [PDF 14 KB, 2 pp]
- 40 CFR 149
- Section 1424(e) and NEPA



DESIGNATED SOLE SOURCE AQUIFERS

State	Name	Federal Register	Date	GIS Map	Information

NJ	Buried Valley Aquifers, Central Basin, Essex and Morris Counties	45 FR 30537	05/08/80	Yes	Yes
NJ	Upper Rockaway River Basin	49 FR 2946	01/24/84	Yes	Yes
NJ	Ridgewood Area Aquifers	49 FR 2943	01/24/84	Yes	Yes
NJ/NY	Highlands Aquifer System Passaic,Morris & Essex Co's NJ; Orange Co. NY	52 FR 37213	10/05/87	Yes	Yes
NJ/DE/PA	New Jersey Coastal Plain Aquifer System	53 FR 23791	06/24/88	Yes	Yes
NJ/NY	New Jersey Fifteen Basin Aquifers	53 FR 23685	06/23/88	Yes	Yes
NJ/NY	Ramapo River Basin Aquifer Systems	57 FR 39201	08/28/92	Yes	Yes
NY	Nassau/Suffolk Co., Long Island	43 FR 26611	06/21/78	Yes	Yes
NY	Kings/Queens Counties	49 FR 2950	01/24/84	Yes	Yes
NY	Schenectady/Niskayuna	50 FR 2022	01/14/85	Yes	Yes
NY	Clinton Street-Ballpark Valley Aquifer System, Broome and Tioga Co's	50 FR 2025	01/14/85	Yes	Yes
NY	Cattaraugus Creek Basin Aquifer, WY & Allegany Cos.	52 FR 36100	09/25/87	Yes	Yes
NY	Cortland-Homer-Preble Aquifer System	53 FR 22045	06/13/88	Yes	Yes
NY	Northern Tug Hill Glacial Aquifer	71 FR 64524	11/02/06	Yes	Yes

[EPA Home](#) | [Privacy and Security Notice](#) | [Contact Us](#)

<http://www.epa.gov/region02/water/aquifer/>
[Print As-Is](#)

Last updated on Tuesday, October 05, 2010