

P3A – Environmental Concerns



LAKE MICHIGAN FEDERATION

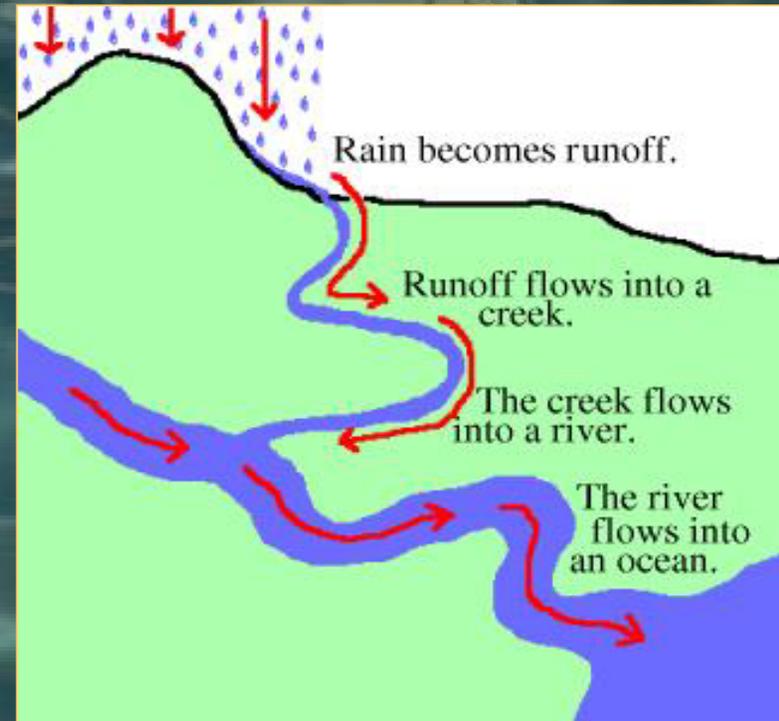
How Development Impacts Water Resources In Our Communities

Development and Stormwater

Runoff

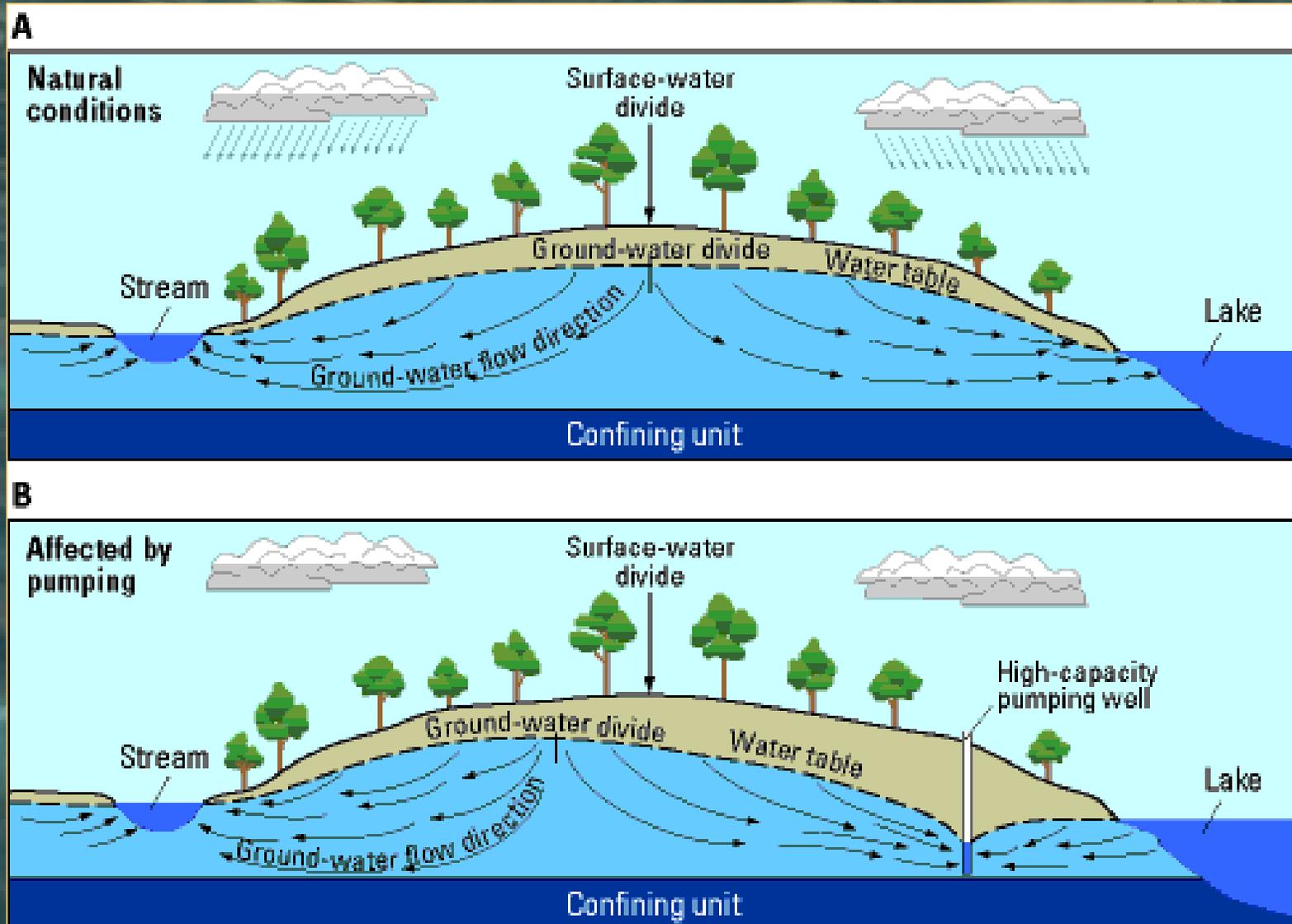
Negative effects on people, fish, animals and plants.

- Sediment impedes aquatic plant growth
- Excess nutrients cause algae blooms



- Bacteria and pathogens
- Trash disable or kills aquatic life
- Household hazardous wastes can poison aquatic life

The Water Cycle and How We Manipulate It



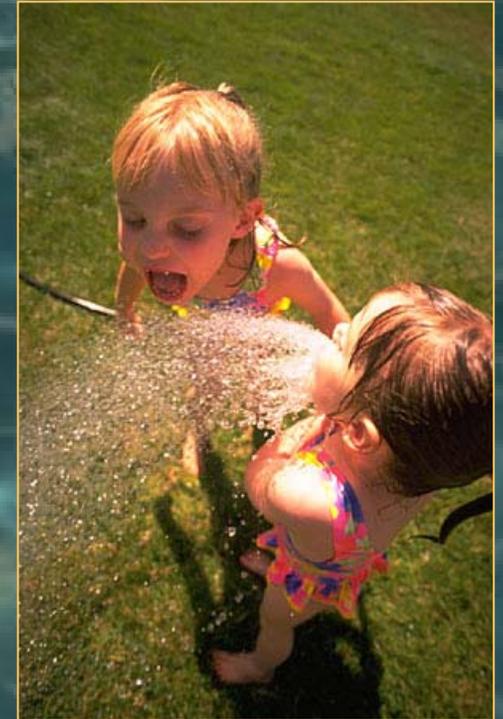
The Water Cycle and How We Manipulate It

Impervious surfaces prevent groundwater recharge



Development and Groundwater

- Loss of Drinking Water Supplies
 - Preventing seepage of precipitation
 - Unsustainable withdrawals
- Contamination



Development and Surface Water



- Reduced flows
- Concentration of pollutants
- Loss of fish and other aquatic life

Instream Flow Requirements

Minimum amount of flow required to support specific aquatic species

–Some states have taken the lead in establishing mechanisms to protect river flows.



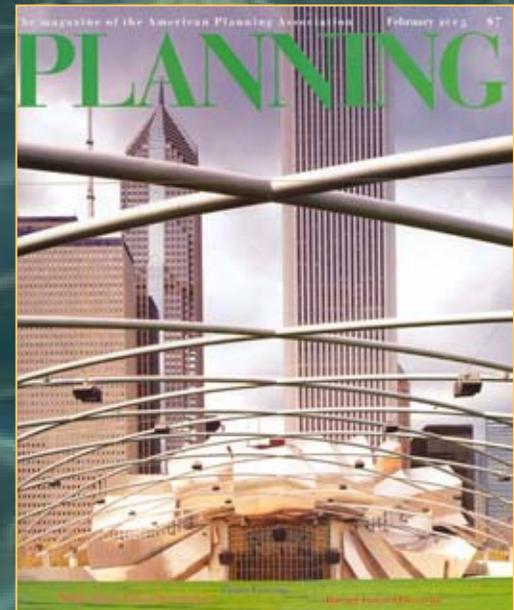
Development and Flooding

- Erosion
- Habitat loss
- Pollute groundwater
- Financial losses
 - In 2001 there was \$7.1 billion in losses



Planning to Protect Lake Michigan: An Evaluation of Land Use Efforts

- Few communities are actually practicing watershed planning
- Groundwater received the least protection
- Runoff and nonpoint source pollution are being addressed, but few communities are taking proactive strategies aimed at root causes, such as reducing impervious surfaces



What can be done?

- Leave large areas of native vegetation and small streams intact.
- Encourage replacement of lawns with native vegetation,, and collection rainwater for irrigation
- Promote cluster development
- Incorporate watershed planning into land use plans or ordinances





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