

**WAC 173-200-010 Introduction.** (1) This chapter implements chapter 90.48 RCW, the Water Pollution Control Act and chapter 90.54 RCW, the Water Resources Act of 1971.

(2) This chapter applies to all groundwaters of the state that occur in a saturated zone or stratum beneath the surface of land or below a surface water body.

(3) This chapter shall not apply to:

(a) Contaminant concentrations found in saturated soils where those contaminants are chemicals or nutrients that have been applied at agronomic rates for agricultural purpose if those contaminants will not cause pollution of any groundwaters below the root zone.

(b) Contaminant concentrations found in saturated soils where those contaminants are constituents that have been applied at approved rates and under approved methods of land treatment if those contaminants will not cause pollution of any groundwaters below the root zone.

(c) Clean up actions approved by the department under the Model Toxics Control Act, chapter 70.105D RCW, or approved by the United States Environmental Protection Agency under the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act, 42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq. Groundwater cleanup standards for such sites shall be developed under WAC 173-340-720.

(4) The goal of this chapter is to maintain the highest quality of the state's groundwaters and protect existing and future beneficial uses of the groundwater through the reduction or elimination of the discharge of contaminants to the state's groundwaters.

(5) To implement this goal, this chapter establishes groundwater quality standards which, together with the state's technology-based treatment requirements, provide for the protection of the environment and human health and protection of existing and future beneficial uses of groundwaters.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 90.48.035. WSR 90-22-023, § 173-200-010, filed 10/31/90, effective 12/1/90.]