

Date: _____

Dear Parents,

In science class, students have been studying Ozark caves, springs, losing streams, and sinkholes. We have discussed how Ozark groundwater is vulnerable to nonpoint source water pollution coming from the surface in various ways. The students have read related websites with scientific background information related to this topic.

Attached is a take-home assignment, which is a home and property checklist. It is designed to help students better understand how they can help manage the systems around their homes and property to prevent groundwater pollution – both now and in the future.

Students may need help with items on the checklist, since some of these items might be unfamiliar to them. You can probably help them answer the questions.

Please understand that students will be graded only on whether or not they complete the assignment. The points are for participation only. In addition, many students will answer NA for “does not apply” on some sections, depending on individual circumstances. No student will be graded down if their checklist results suggest that some home practices could be improved. It is expected that everyone will have some area or another where there are opportunities to better protect groundwater quality. In fact, the point of the exercise is to provide ideas to students on how they can help keep everybody’s ground and surface water safe for us all.

I also want you to be assured that your student’s checklist will be treated as private information. Your son’s or daughter’s results will not be individually identified to other students, and we certainly aren’t going to share any information with the public or outside organizations. This is really a self-awareness exercise only.

Thank you in advance for taking some time to help your student with this checklist. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely, _____

Science Teacher

Contact me at: _____