

- I Vadose zone—the impact of the vadose zone material is evaluated, based on the lithologic description of the material. Descriptions include sand and gravel, sandstone, and basalt, among others.
- C Hydraulic conductivity—this is a measure of the aquifers' ability to transmit water or other fluids. It is expressed in units of length per time, such as feet or meters per second. In the United States it is often expressed in units of gallons per day per square foot. Values range from 1 to greater than 2000 gal/day/ft².

Each DRASTIC parameter is assigned a weight ranging from 1 to 5. The weighting represents an attempt to define the relative importance of each factor in its ability to affect pollution transport to and within the aquifer. Each parameter rating is multiplied by the weighting to arrive at a value for the parameter. These values are then summed to arrive at the DRASTIC index number. Different weighting schemes are used for the general and agricultural DRASTIC maps, reflecting differences in the way various pollutants are affected by each factor.

The DRASTIC index number represents a relative measure of the ground water pollution potential of each hydrogeologic setting. Individual index numbers are not present here, due to the scale of the project. DRASTIC index values ranging from 81 to 190 were used to make this map. It has been color coded to represent groups of DRASTIC index numbers as described in the explanation; and to facilitate interpretation of the map. General comparisons can be made using the color scheme presented here. The cooler colors, blues and greens, represent areas of lesser relative pollution potential, while the yellow, orange and red represent areas of greater potential.

A complete list of references for the work which produced this map and accompanying text can be found as an appendix to Texas Water Commission Report 89-01, titled, Ground-Water Quality of Texas—An Overview of Natural and Man Affected Conditions. A detailed description of the methodology and results of this mapping project is also found in the report. The hydrogeologic setting boundaries were developed from the Land Resources of Texas Map and the Geologic Atlas of Texas Series Maps: created by the Bureau of Economic Geology, The University of Texas at Austin.