This map depicts the statewide pollution sensitivity of the near-surface materials for Minnesota. The sensitivity to pollution of near-surface materials is an estimate of the time it takes for water to infiltrate the land surface to a depth of 10 feet. It is intended to estimate the time of travel through the unsaturated zone to reach the water table, which is assumed to be 10 feet below land surface everywhere for the purposes of this method.

Sensitivity varies across Minnesota. Generally, areas of coarse-grained material are modeled as higher sensitivity to pollution compared to areas of fine-grained material. Exceptions occur where special conditions exist.

This atlas includes a corresponding report and GIS file:
Pollution Sensitivity of Near-Surface Materials
http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/waters/programs/gw_section/mapping/pollution_sensitivity_near_surface.html

Related atlases are found in the County Geologic Atlas Series:
http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/waters/groundwater_section/mapping/status.html