



DWSP Newsletter

Saugeen, Grey Sauble, Northern Bruce Peninsula Source Protection Region Source Protection Committee Approves First Progress Report

On March 29, 2019, the Source Protection Committee (SPC) approved the source protection region's first annual progress report, which was submitted to the Province of Ontario on May 1st, 2019. This progress report documents the achievements we have made together to implement source protection plan policies that add protection to local municipal drinking water sources. You may download this report at home.waterprotection.ca

Preparations Underway for Section 36 Amendments

Section 36 of the *Clean Water Act, 2006* sets out the process to develop a workplan for Source Protection Plan amendments. Consultations started with municipalities between May and September 2018 and has continued into May and June 2019 to seek input on Source Protection Plan policy implementation. Feedback from municipalities on how implementation of the Source Protection Plan policies has progressed well so far and suggested improvements to make policies more effective for protection of the Region's drinking water sources are being compiled. Changes to technical rules and implications for policies to address threats is being reviewed with municipalities for their input. A Section 36 Workplan will be prepared, consulted upon and submitted to MECP by November 30, 2019 identifying future changes for Minister review and approval.

Drinking Water Source Protection Committee New Members

The SPC oversees the planning process to establish programs and policies to protect municipal drinking water sources in this region, as called for under the *Clean Water Act, 2006*, and its regulations. Profiles for all sector representatives can be found at <http://home.waterprotection.ca/source-protection-committee/source-protection-committee-members/>

New and renewed Source Protection Committee Members in 2019 include Dennis Kefalas, Mitch Twolan, John Fruin, Jim Uram, Les Nichols and Dick Hibma. Photos below are of new members.



Photos of new members: Jim Uram, Dennis Kefalas, John Fruin, Dick Hibma

2019 Grey Bruce Children's Water Festival

Approximately 1500 Grades 4 and 5 students from across Grey and Bruce Counties attended the fabulous 19th Annual Grey Bruce Children's Water Festival in Chesley from May 14th – May 16th, 2019. Grey Sauble and Saugeen Conservation Authority staff organized and provided volunteer support for activities.

Photo: Students learning how the Augmented Reality Sandbox works at the Feel the Flow activity built by Grey Sauble Conservation Authority



Conservation Ontario - Guidance for Implementation of Regulatory Changes to the Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002 and Clean Water Act, 2006: July 4, 2018

The *Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002*, and the *Clean Water Act, 2006* were amended to incorporate source protection planning early in the municipal residential drinking water supply process.



Effective **July 1, 2018**, a system owner cannot: (a) apply for a drinking water works permit or license without a Notice from a SPA under subsection 48(1.1) of O.Reg. 287/07, and (b) supply treated water to the public until the updated source protection plan (SPP) is approved by the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP).

The overall goal of the regulatory changes is to ensure that municipal residential drinking water systems are protected before water is provided to the public.

Official Plan Updates and By-laws and Annual Reporting by Municipalities

In the Source Protection Plan, there are policies that apply to municipalities that relate to Official Plan Updates and Zoning By-laws. When working on Municipal Official Plan updates it is important to keep in mind municipal requirements as they apply to this program. Sample wording for official plan updates are available from this office, please speak with Carl Seider. In Bruce County, the Planning Department is currently working with a few municipalities to complete this task and ensure that source protection requirements are addressed.

The applicable policies from the Source Protection Plan fall under G-04:

G-04 Amend Official Plan and Zoning By-law

The municipality shall amend its official plan and zoning by-law to include:

1. mapping that identifies vulnerable areas where activities would be significant threats (future activities); and
2. text that identifies that policies within the Source Protection Plan may apply to activities in these mapped areas.

This policy applies to all land use designations and zones described in the municipality's official plan and zoning by-law, as amended from time to time.

The Municipality shall:

- A. Adopt the official plan, or official plan amendment as the case may be, and:

- i. submit the plan to the appropriate approval authority; or
 - ii. give a notice of adoption; and
- B. Adopt the zoning by-law, or zoning by-law amendment as the case may be, and give a notice of adoption.

For Section 40(2) of the *Clean Water Act*, the official plan and zoning by-law must be amended within five years of the effective date of the Source Protection Plan or at the time of the next official plan and zoning by-law conformity exercise as per Section 26 of the *Planning Act*.

Drinking Water Source Protection Website

New link added to the website at <http://home.waterprotection.ca/about-our-region/links/>

The following is an excerpt from this website, that might help clarify guidelines and rules to follow for Private Fuel Outlets (PFO). A PFO refers to any premise where gasoline or an associated product is put into the fuel tanks of motor vehicles or into portable containers. This definition excludes retail outlets, marinas, and bulk plants.

Examples of PFOs:

- Municipalities that fill their own fire trucks
- Farms and other agricultural operations that have fueling facilities
- Courier companies that fuel their own fleet of delivery vehicles
- Car rental agencies with fueling facilities
- Any other company with fueling facilities for its fleet vehicles
- Campgrounds, rental cottages or fishing camps where fuel is provided as part of the rental agreement for boats (via portable containers), ATV's or snowmobiles. (Note: if the fuel is being dispensed directly into the fuel tank of a boat, this is a marina, not a PFO, and requires an annual license.)



Not a PFO:

- A logging or mining company that provides fuel to private contractors and then deducts the cost of fuel from the contractors would require a license for selling fuel

The link can also be accessed directly at this address: <https://www.tssa.org/en/fuels/private-fuel-outlets.aspx>

News from Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

Taking Care of Your Drinking Water: A Guide for Members of Municipal Councils

A guide for municipal councillors to help them understand their responsibilities under the Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002 and provide them with information on how Ontario's drinking water is safeguarded has recently be updated. Three things to remember as a municipal Councillor:

One: It's Your Duty. The Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002 includes a statutory standard of care for individuals who have decision-making authority over municipal drinking water systems or who oversee the operating authority of the system. There are legal consequences for not acting as required by the standard of care, including possible fines or imprisonment.

Two: Be Informed. Ask questions and get answers. You don't have to be an expert in drinking water operations, but you do need to be informed about them. Your decisions can have an impact on public health. Seek advice from those with expertise and act prudently on that advice.

Three: Be Vigilant. Complacency can pose one of the greatest risks to drinking water systems. It is critical you never take drinking water safety for granted or assume all is well with drinking water systems under your care and direction. The health of your community depends on your diligent and prudent oversight of its drinking water.

The link to the website to review this document is <https://www.ontario.ca/page/taking-care-your-drinking-water-guide-members-municipal-councils>

Infographics

Infographics similar to this one can be used in tax statements, mailings and on municipal social media and websites. Contact Karen Gillan if you would like this graphic. Others will be featured in future newsletters and on the Drinking Water Source Protection website, Facebook and Twitter feeds.



Next Source Protection Committee Meeting

July 26, 2019 – Source Protection Committee Meeting
1:00PM Saugeen Valley Conservation office in Formosa



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