

SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE MEETING 35

– December 8, 2010 at Havelock Community Centre

Welcome to Havelock

Ron Gerow, Reeve of Havelock-Belmont-Methuen, welcomed the Committee to the community. He acknowledged the huge challenge the Committee has in the development of source protection plans. His municipality has recognized the importance of good clean water and has committed to doing its part with the investment of \$10 million in water within the community over the past decade.

Source Protection Plan Policy

Ontario Regulation 287/07 outlines the mandatory and optional content of source protection plans to protect existing and future sources of drinking water. The plan must ensure that activities identified as significant drinking water threats either never become a threat or, if the activity is already taking place, the activity ceases to be a significant threat. Inclusion of policies to address activities and conditions identified as moderate and low threats is optional.

Owing to the magnitude of significant threats within the planning region requiring policies, the Committee agreed to concentrate on the mandatory content required for source protection plans. The Committee agreed to also have regard to moderate and low threats when developing policies.

Nutrient Management/Environmental Farm Planning

Jim McComb, of The Farmer's Edge Agri-Coaching/AgriTrend, provided an overview of nutrient management and environmental farm planning in Ontario.

The purpose of the *Nutrient Management Act* is to reduce environmental impact of livestock operations through improved storage, handling and application of nutrient containing products. The Act applies to farm operations with 300+ Nutrient Units (NU). Many municipalities also require a Nutrient Management Plan for operations with 5 to 300 NU when applying for a building permit for new development.

He also provided some background on the Environmental Farm Plan which provides 30 to 50 % funding for storage and application equipment.

On-site Sewage Systems

Tom Cathcart, of the Peterborough County-City Health Unit, provided an overview on how septic systems operate and the importance of proper maintenance. He provided some insights on how various scenarios may be of interest to the Committee as policies are developed.

He also provided background on new legislation under the Ontario Building Code for the inspection of septic systems for compliance with maintenance and operational standards. The intent of the legislation is to:

- identify systems which are already a problem
- prevent damage
- prevent over-use, over-development

He reminded the Committee that sewage systems should be considered a tool to protect water quality.

Source Protection Planning Workplan

Jennifer Stephens outlined the timelines for reviewing policies by the Committee and the municipal working groups. Staff will be providing the working groups with draft policies to begin the discussion. She noted that the municipal working groups consist only of municipal representatives. If other Committee members wish to attend these meetings, they would be welcome to attend.

Chair's Quarterly Report

The Source Protection Committee accepted the Chair's Quarterly Report. It is available at www.trentsourceprotection.on.ca -- under Source Protection Committee tab.

Updates on Public Engagement/Conferences

- Chair Hunt reported that Wayne Stiver is seeking one of the American Water Works Association (AWWA) vice-president positions. The election will take place in San Antonio, Texas on January 22-23, 2011. The Source Protection Committee wished good luck to Wayne.

Next Meeting:

- The next meeting will be held on January 14, 2011 at the Holiday Inn – Waterfront, Peterborough.

Future meetings in 2011 have been set for March 11, April 8, May 9 and June 10