

DRINKING WATER

SOURCE PROTECTION

Our Actions Matter

ROAD SIGNS

We all want clean, safe water for our future. Protecting our drinking water sources is the first step.

Our drinking water comes from water under the ground, called groundwater, or from water in lakes and rivers, called surface water.

Public water sources can be near major roadways, where accidents can and do happen.

New, provincially standard road signs mark locations where well-used roads cross into zones where municipal drinking water sources are the most vulnerable to contamination.

The road signs will alert first responders of the need to quickly inform the appropriate authorities so action can be taken to keep contaminants out of the public water treatment and distribution system.



Why Protect Sources of Drinking Water?



- to protect public health
- to avoid the cost and need to clean up contaminated water
- to reduce the cost of water treatment
- to eliminate the need to search for new drinking water sources when existing ones become contaminated or depleted
- to ensure a long-term supply of clean water
- to ensure an adequate water supply for economic growth

How do Drinking Water Protection Zone signs protect public health?

Emergency responders can help to protect drinking water sources. Under Ontario's Clean Water Act (2006) the Trent and Ganaraska Source Protection Plans were created by a local committee to protect public water sources. These provincially approved Plans contain various policies including one that calls for the road signs.

In the event of an accidental spill within a Drinking Water Protection Zone emergency responders can:

- notify the local drinking water treatment plant operator*
- notify the Spills Action Centre 1-800-268-6060
- contain the accidental spill so clean up and remediation can occur

And...

*The water treatment plant operator can shut off the raw water supply before contaminants (that can pose a danger to public health) enter the public water treatment and distribution system.



The Trent & Ganaraska Source Protection Plans contain policies designed to help keep accidental spills and other pollutants out of our drinking water sources.

For more information visit
www.trentsourceprotection.on.ca
or contact

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Trent Conservation Coalition Source Protection Region