

Summary of the Trent and Ganaraska Source Protection Plan Amendments - Public Consultation

Introduction:

Since January 1, 2015 the Trent and Ganaraska Source Protection Plans have been in effect to protect sources of municipal drinking water in the Trent Conservation Coalition Source Protection Region.



These plans contain policies for activities that have been determined to be significant drinking water threats (as determined by the Technical Rules under the *Clean Water Act, 2006*) in areas near municipal groundwater wells and surface water intakes. The Source Protection Committee is proposing some amendments to the Source Protection Plans to improve the effectiveness of some policies and to address changes that were made to the Technical Rules.

Main Proposed Changes:

Above Grade Fuel Tanks more than 250 L

Above grade fuel tanks more than 250 litres, near municipal wells may need a risk management plan. A risk management plan will require regular inspections of the tanks and infrastructure. It may also include measures to protect the tank from damage from outdoor elements.

A **risk management plan** regulates activities that pose a significant threat to municipal drinking water sources.

The risk management plan includes best management practices designed to ensure that risks to the municipal drinking water source are reduced or eliminated. The plan is generally negotiated between the person doing the activity and a risk management official.



Above Grade Fuel Tanks more than 2,500 L

Large above grade fuel tanks near a municipal drinking water intake may need a risk management plan.



Fuel Handling and Storage: Anyone with an existing fuel risk management plan:

The policies requiring risk management plans for fuel are being amended to include a requirement to inspect fuel infrastructure, not just the tanks. Infrastructure relates to the equipment and systems needed to produce, distribute, store, monitor and dispense fuel.

Agriculture

Pesticides: In the original Source Protection Plan, policies requiring risk management plans and prohibition of pesticides were only applied to specific chemicals used as pesticide. The Technical Rules have changed so the policies are being amended. This will mean all pesticides in the most vulnerable areas will be prohibited when it is a new activity or require a risk management plan for existing activities.



Fertilizer (minor): The storage of fertilizer now applies to all fertilizers stored in any form.

Non Agricultural Source Material (minor): Definitions of significant threats were clarified in the Technical Rules so policies were amended to reflect the new rules.

Definition of existing activities (minor): The definition of an existing activity was corrected to include any farm activity that is part of the regular farm rotational activities and has occurred within the previous 10 years. This means that activities that are determined to be existing as part of the normal farm rotation, will not be prohibited.

Road Salt Storage

The policies are being amended to require municipalities to establish and enforce standards for any road salt storage over 100 kilograms. This means that road salt must be stored, so that it is not exposed to precipitation or runoff and to prevent it from contaminating drinking water sources.



Road Salt Application

The policies are being amended so that only parking lots with more than 50 parking spaces or greater than 1,500 square metres will require risk management plans.



Snow Storage

A new policy is being proposed to require risk management plans for snow storage on commercial and industrial parking lots or yards larger than 50 parking spaces or 1,500 square metres.



Dense Non Aqueous Phase Liquids (minor)

In the original Source Protection Plan, specific substances that were considered dense non-aqueous phase liquids required risk management plans for existing handling and storage and future activities were prohibited. The Technical Rules now provide a list of businesses that typically use dense non-aqueous phase liquids. The policies have not changed but risk management officials will be contacting businesses in vulnerable zones that are on the list to determine if a risk management plan is required for these substances. Small incidental amounts are exempt from the policies.

Dense non-aqueous phase liquids are chemicals that are denser than water. Even a small amount of these substances can cause a toxic level of contamination for human health and the environment.



Timing for Establishing Risk Management Plans (Minor)

The timeframe for amending or establishing a risk management plan will be shortened from 5 years to 2 years. It was 5 years in the original plan because risk management officials were starting from scratch and had to address all existing threats. Now that those risk management plans are in place, a 2 year timeframe is more appropriate.

For more information go to:

<https://trentsourceprotection.on.ca/>

Or Phone: 613-391-3915 Ext 246