Background

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.

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

They are appearing across Ontario to raise awareness about our drinking water sources and to protect our health.

The road signs will alert citizens that their actions in these zones can have an impact on a municipal drinking water source. They will also alert first responders of the need to quickly inform the appropriate authorities so action can be taken to help keep contaminants out of the public water treatment and distribution system.
Keep your eyes open for the ‘NEW’ Drinking Water Protection Zone signs!

- You will see the signs as you drive through a drinking water protection zone. Placement of the signs depends on where drinking water sources are most vulnerable in that area.
- These signs show where pollution spills could have a significant impact on municipal drinking water sources.
- Contact your local municipality or the Drinking Water Source Protection office for more information about Drinking Water Protection Zone Signs near you.

Share the Sign in your area through social media with the hashtag #SourceWaterON and #SV_GS_NBP

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

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 at 1-800-268-6060
- contain the accidental spill so clean up and remediation can occur

*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.

Approved Source Protection Plan - Effective July 1, 2016

The Plan for the Saugeen, Grey Sauble, Northern Bruce Peninsula Source Protection Region contains policies designed to keep accidental spills and other pollutants out of our shared drinking water sources. For more information:

www.waterprotection.ca