

System Name: Town of South Bruce Peninsula  
Municipality: Town of South Bruce Peninsula  
Drinking Water System Category: Large Municipal Residential

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The Town of South Bruce Peninsula is a lower-tier municipality in the County of Bruce located in the southern portion of the Bruce Peninsula. To the west, Lake Huron confines the Town of South Bruce Peninsula. To the northeast, the Town is bordered by Georgian Bay and to the southeast by the Township of Georgian Bluffs. In January 1999, the Town of Wiarton was amalgamated with the surrounding Townships of Albemarle and Amabel and the Village of Hepworth to form this municipality.

The majority of the Town of South Bruce Peninsula lies within the Grey Sauble Source Protection Area. A small northerly portion of the municipality lies in the Northern Bruce Peninsula Source Protection Area, and a small southerly portion lies within the Saugeen Valley Source Protection Area. In 2011, the population was 8,413, which was a 0% change from 2006. The main towns are Wiarton (population 2,291), Sauble Beach (population 2,000 permanent, plus thousands seasonally) and Hepworth. Smaller settlement areas are Colpoys Bay, Oliphant and Allenford. The Town of South Bruce Peninsula has a strong tourism sector along the Lake Huron shoreline in the summer and cross country skiing in the winter. The second largest sector is agriculture, with livestock and crop production comprising the main farming activities. The quality gravel deposits throughout the region have also ensured a thriving aggregate industry.

The Town of South Bruce Peninsula previously operated eleven separate municipal water supply systems, ten of which were groundwater-based and one that was surface water based (Wiarion). In 2008, these systems were rearranged into five groundwater systems: Foreman Water Works at Chesley Lake, Huron Woods Water Supply Works south of Silver Lake, Winburk Subdivision Well Supply and the new Amabel-Sauble Water Treatment and Distribution System in the northern end of Sauble Beach, and Oliphant Water System in Oliphant, which was previously called Fiddlehead.

Six of the groundwater systems within the central portion of Sauble Beach area were scheduled for decommissioning and were tied into a newly developed groundwater system at the Amabel-Sauble School in May 2009. It should be noted that all of these systems were listed as potential GUDI\* wells and a number of them had problems with fluoride, iron, turbidity, bacteria, and sodium. The well for the Winburk Subdivision Well Supply will be maintained as a backup well to the new Amabel-Sauble system. This new system is tied into the six former distribution systems (Winburk/Fedy, Thompson, Gremik, Trask, Forbes, and Robins) that were located in the central portion of Sauble Beach area.

Two groundwater systems to the south, Foreman Water Works and Huron Woods Water Supply Works, remain separate and operational. Two former systems to the north were decommissioned: the Fiddlehead Water Plant on January 23, 2009 and Cammidge & Collins Water Works on April 22, 2009. The area is now tied into a newly developed system at the Fiddlehead location, referred to as the Oliphant Water System. The two wells at Amabel-Sauble School and one well at Oliphant are new wells and were not studied under the 2003 Grey Sauble Conservation groundwater studies program.

\*Well water or groundwater under the direct influence of surface water (GUDI) refers to groundwater supply sources that are hydraulically connected to nearby surface waters, and are thus vulnerable to contamination by pathogens.



*Amabel- Sauble System*



*Foreman Water Works*



*Huron Woods Well*



*Oliphant/Fiddlehead*



*Wiarion Intake*



*Wiarion Water Treatment Building*