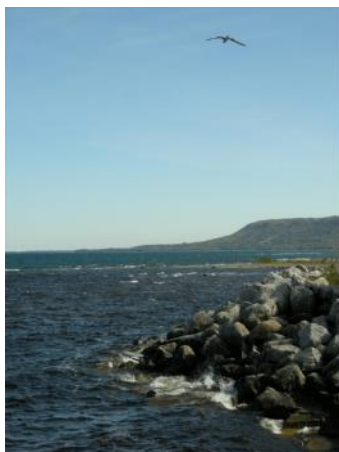


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Chapter 1

Background and Context



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1.0 Background and Context

1.1 Source Protection Plans

Source Protection Plans (SPP) enable Ontario communities to effectively protect their drinking water sources. The locally-developed plans are based on scientific studies and involve a collaborative approach with many opportunities for public input.

The Source Protection Plan contains a series of policies that address activities and land uses. The policies reduce or eliminate risks within designated zones around municipal water intakes or municipal wells that are the source water for local municipal drinking water systems.

1.2 Objectives

The objectives of the Source Protection Plan are:

- 1. To protect existing and future drinking water sources in the Source Protection Areas.*
- 2. To ensure that, for every area identified in an Assessment Report as an area where an activity is or would be a significant drinking water threat:*
 - i. the activity never becomes a significant drinking water threat, or*
 - ii. if the activity is occurring when the Source Protection Plan takes effect, the activity ceases to be a significant drinking water threat*

1.3 Clean Water Act

The *Clean Water Act* was passed by the Ontario Legislature on October 18, 2006, and lays out how drinking water source protection is to be conducted. In Ontario, a multi-barrier approach protects municipal drinking water from source to tap as part of an overall commitment to safeguard human health and the environment. The *Clean Water Act* helps provide the first barrier by stopping contaminants from entering sources of drinking water, which includes lakes, rivers and aquifers. A key focus of the legislation is the preparation of locally developed, science-based Assessment Reports and Source Protection Plans.

Ontario's *Clean Water Act*:

- requires that local communities, through local Source Protection Committees, assess existing and potential threats to their water, and that they set out and implement the actions needed to reduce or eliminate these threats
- empowers communities to take action to prevent threats from becoming significant

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- requires public participation on every local Source Protection Plan; the planning process for source protection is open to anyone in the community
- requires that all plans and actions are based on sound science

The *Clean Water Act* also introduces the Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Program, which offers financial assistance to farmers, landowners and small or medium businesses for activities that reduce threats to local drinking water sources.

1.4 Source Protection Committee

The Source Protection Committee for the Saugeen, Grey Sauble, Northern Bruce Peninsula Source Protection Region was appointed in October 2007. Committee members come from various stakeholder groups as shown in Table 1.4.1. The Committee has a total of fifteen representatives and the Chair, as specified by approved regulations. One-third of the representatives are from the municipal sector, one-third represent agriculture, industrial and commercial sectors, and one-third represent other interests. An additional two representatives may be nominated by First Nations communities.

Table 1.4.1 – Members of the Saugeen, Grey Sauble, Northern Bruce Peninsula Source Protection Committee

Chair	Mike Traynor (appointed by the Minister of the Environment and Climate Change)
Municipal	Kathie Hughes Group 1: Northern Bruce Peninsula, South Bruce Peninsula, Georgian Bluffs
	Mitch Twolan Group 2: Saugeen Shores, Kincardine, Huron-Kinloss
	Les Nichols Group 3: Arran-Elderslie, Brockton, South Bruce, Howick, Morris-Turnberry
	Ken Furlong Group 4: Chatsworth, West Grey, Hanover, Southgate, Wellington North, Minto
	Bill Twaddle Group 5: Owen Sound, Meaford, The Blue Mountains, Grey Highlands
Agricultural	Dr. David Biesenthal, Farmer - Brockton
	Robert Emerson, Farmer - Huron-Kinloss
	Brent Lanktree, Farmer - The Blue Mountains
Industrial	Carolyn Parker, Industrial sector
Commercial	Mark Kraemer, Business owner - Saugeen Shores
Environment	Vacant
	Vacant
Health	Andrew Barton, Georgian Bluffs resident
Public	Bruce Davidson, Brockton resident
	Carolyn Day, Saugeen Shores resident

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Past Source Protection Committee members include:

Howard Greig, 2007 – May 2009, representing Municipal sector Group 4

Sandy Gott, 2007 – December 2009, representing Industrial sector

Brad McRoberts, 2007 – February 2010, representing Municipal sector Group 1

Lou D’Alessandro, 2007 – March 2014, representing Health sector

Les MacKinnon, 2007 – May 2015, representing Environment sector

Dale Thompson, 2007 – May 2016, representing Environment sector

Carolyn Parker, 2010 – May 2016, representing Industrial sector

The Source Protection Committee, as stated in the *Clean Water Act*, is responsible for preparing the Terms of Reference, the Assessment Reports and the Source Protection Plan. Committee members attend scheduled meetings and participate in workshops and public meetings throughout the process to develop the Source Protection Plan. Source Protection Authorities provide assistance in terms of project management and staff resources. Regulations on the preparation of the Assessment Report and Source Protection Plan provide direction on how the Source Protection Committee, Conservation Authorities and municipalities work together to prepare these documents.

1.5 Saugeen, Grey Sauble, Northern Bruce Peninsula Source Protection Region

The Saugeen, Grey Sauble, Northern Bruce Peninsula Source Protection Region consists of three Source Protection Areas:

- Saugeen Valley Source Protection Area
- Grey Sauble Source Protection Area
- Northern Bruce Peninsula Source Protection Area

The Region contains almost the full extents of Grey County and Bruce County, as well as small portions of the Counties of Wellington and Huron. Twenty-one lower-tier municipalities are wholly or partially within the Region.

The Region also includes two First Nation communities: the Chippewas of Saugeen, and the Chippewas of Nawash.

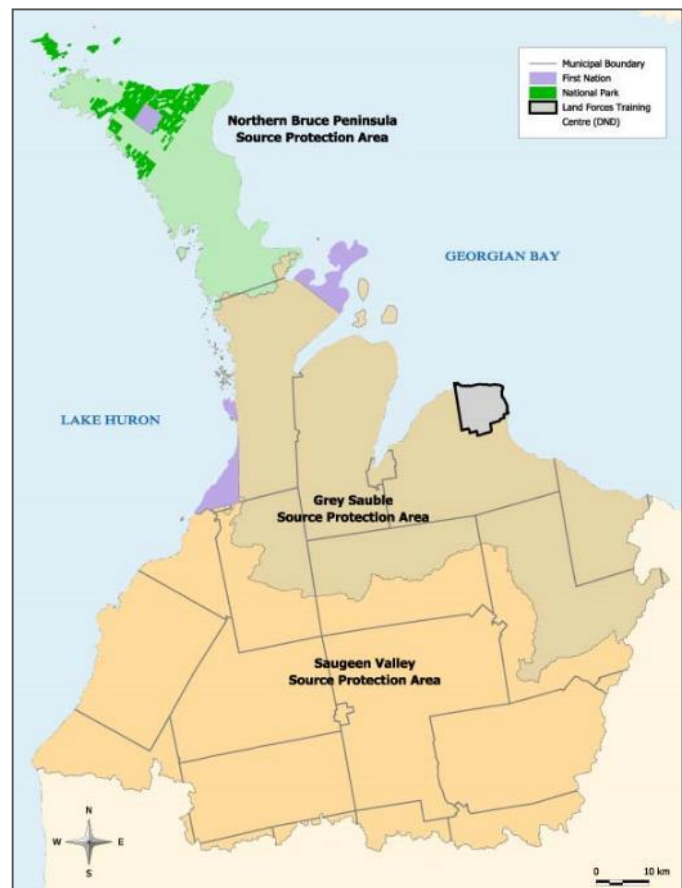


Figure 1.5.1 - Saugeen, Grey Sauble, Northern Bruce Peninsula Source Protection Region¹⁻³

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1.6 Timeline

All Source Protection Areas or Regions were required to undertake source protection plan development and submit their plans to the Ontario Minister of the Environment and Climate Change by August 2012. The Ministry reviewed the documents and provided comments. In the Saugeen, Grey Sauble Northern Bruce Peninsula Source Protection Region an Updated Proposed Source Protection Plan was developed to incorporate the Ministry's comments and reflect additional technical work that had been conducted since the Approved Assessments Reports.

Source Protection Timeline:

- 2007 - Chair Mike Traynor appointed
 - Source Protection Committee established
- 2008 - Terms of Reference preparation
 - Terms of Reference submission: August 2008
- 2009 - Terms of Reference approved by the Minister of the Environment and Climate Change: August 2009
 - Assessment Report preparation
- 2010 - Public Consultation on Proposed Assessment Reports
 - Submission of Proposed Assessment Reports: September 2010
- 2011 - Commencement of Source Protection Plan preparation
 - Public Consultation on Updated Proposed Assessment Reports: May 2011
 - Submission of Updated Proposed Assessment Reports: June 2011
 - Assessment Reports approved by the Director at Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change:
 - Northern Bruce Peninsula Assessment Report, September 23, 2011
 - Saugeen Valley Assessment Report, November 28, 2011
 - Grey Sauble Assessment Report, November 30, 2011
- 2012 - Public Consultation on Proposed Source Protection Plan
 - Submission of Proposed Source Protection Plan: August 2012
- 2015 - Public Consultation on Updated Proposed Source Protection Plan: February/March 2015
 - Public Consultation on Revised Assessment Report: February/March 2015
 - Submission of Updated Proposed Source Protection Plan: June 2015
 - Submission of Revised Assessment Report: June 2015
 - Anticipated approval of Source Protection Plan by the Minister of the Environment and Climate Change

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- 2016 - Public Consultation on Amended Source Protection Plan: January/February 2016
- Submission of Amended Source Protection Plan: March 2016
- Anticipated approval of Amended Source Protection Plan by the Minister of the Environment and Climate Change
- Implementation of Source Protection Plan commences: July 1, 2016

Once the Source Protection Plan is approved, municipalities and other implementing bodies will implement the Source Protection Plan throughout their own jurisdictions and within their own processes.