

May 1, 2022

2022 Annual Report of local drinking water source protection activities is now available!

The Saugeen, Grey Sauble, Northern Bruce Peninsula Source Protection Committee (SPC) has approved the 2022 Annual Progress Report to be submitted to the Province of Ontario. This progress report documents the achievements made together to implement local source protection plan policies that add protection to local municipal drinking water sources. You may view or download this report at home.waterprotection.ca from the Resources Tab.

On November 7, 2022, we received Minister's Approval on the Section 36 Source Protection Plan amendments in accordance with the Section 36 Order issued when the initial plan was approved. These Plan amendments addressed recently updated 2021 Technical Rule changes and were in line with previous consultations with municipalities, Risk Management Officials and other key stakeholder groups.

While the program has reached a major milestone whereby 100% of significant threat policies have been implemented, there is still a need to ensure that any outstanding municipal plan/by-law amendments or renewal of risk management plans are fully implemented as required under the plan.

Upon reviewing the Annual Report, the Source Protection Committee responded that we, "strongly advocate for continued provincial funding to protect current and future generations. Without the ongoing provision of financial resources, including annual cost of living increases, the significant progress achieved in the development and implementation of the source protection plan would be greatly diminished." Their passion and commitment to keeping drinking water source protection a priority for residents is as strong now as when the committee was assembled in 2007.

"Drinking Water Source Protection in Ontario - The Clean Water Act, 2006 is part of the multi-barrier approach to ensure clean, safe and sustainable drinking water for Ontarians, by protecting sources of municipal drinking water such as lakes, rivers and well water. Under this legislation, the Drinking Water Source Protection Program was established by the Government of Ontario. This resulted in the development of science-based assessment reports and local source protection plans by multi-stakeholder source protection committees, supported by Source Protection Authorities." Source: Conservation Ontario

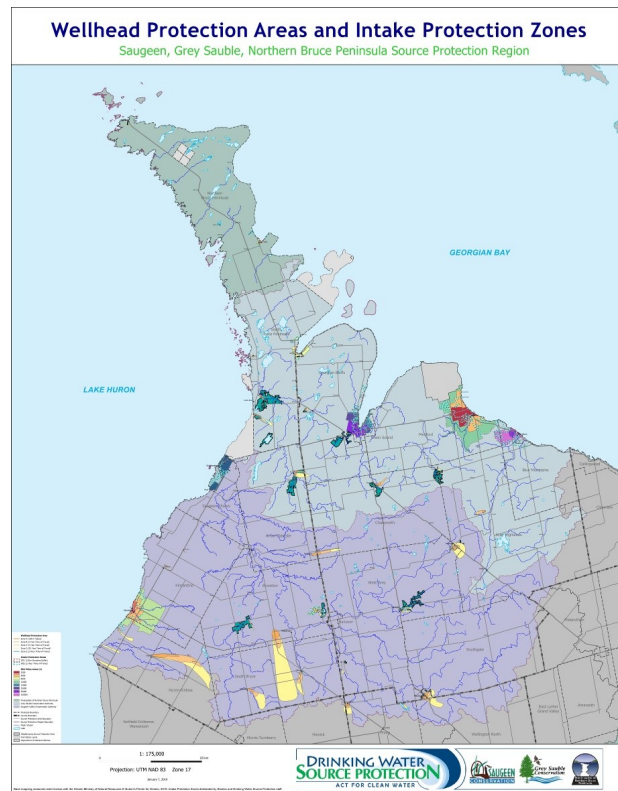
Part IV of the Clean Water Act provides municipalities with the authority to regulate threat activities that may pose a significant risk to drinking water. It is intended to address the gaps where significant drinking water threats cannot be addressed by other existing planning tools or regulatory instruments.

2022 Annual Progress Report

The Source Protection Committee (SPC) is required to conduct a formal review of the annual progress report and provide written comments regarding the extent to which the objectives set out in the Source Protection Plan are being achieved.

The following is a summary of the information included in the Annual Progress Report for 2022:

- To-date, 160 out of an estimated 164 Risk Management Plans have been completed across the Region.
- There have been 246 inspections carried out by Risk Management Inspectors for prohibited or regulated activities, with a 100% compliance rate
- All 21 upper/lower-tier municipalities across the Region have completed or are in the process of completing Official Plan/Zoning By-law updates. Nineteen have fully completed Official Plan updates. Given recent impacts affecting consultation processes due to the COVID-19 pandemic, a few municipalities have extended their Official Plan/ Zoning by-law amendments into 2023.
- 99% of septic inspections have been completed as required under the *Clean Water Act* and *Building Code Act* within vulnerable source protection areas, with an additional 84 septic inspections in 2022 as part of the 2nd round of septic inspections. An increasing number of inspections are scheduled for 2023 as part of the 2nd round.
- In 2022 detailed reviews were completed by Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks staff for one wastewater/sewage works approval and 1 fuel storage at a drinking water plant with a significant drinking water threat (SDWT) to be managed through an existing Prescribed Instrument. Furthermore, four hauled sewage permits were reviewed but determined to not be a SDWT.
- 100% of the significant drinking water threat policies have been implemented. Of these, 97% have been fully implemented and 3% require no further action.



CONTACT LOCAL OFFICE

To find out more, please visit your local source protection region website at: home.waterprotection.ca or phone Program Manager Carl Seider at 519-470-3000.