

# Questions you may have

## about source protection plan policy development

What does a 'drinking water threat' mean?

### Is there an immediate threat to my water?

No – there is no immediate threat to your drinking water.

A drinking water threat, in this case, is not a threat to water on your property. This refers to a land use activity which could take place there and which could, if not properly managed, contaminate a municipal drinking water supply.



The local source protection committee, for Maitland Valley and Ausable Bayfield areas, has the job to make policies to reduce risk of water contamination or depletion.

They are starting that work now, and they

### What are examples of threats?

Fuel, like home heating oil, is an example of a drinking water threat. A septic system is another.

These threats have been assessed as significant on parts of some properties in some of the most vulnerable areas near municipal wells.

The Province of Ontario has identified 21 main activities that could harm, or have the potential to harm, the quality or quantity of drinking water sources such as a municipal well or surface water intake for a pipeline.

welcome your comments.

Your municipal drinking water already benefits from protective barriers of treatment, testing, training, monitoring, and distribution.

Drinking water source protection, under Ontario's *Clean Water Act, 2006*, reduces risk even more by adding a first barrier of protection – at the source. Plans take effect in 2012.

Your location in a vulnerable area near a municipal well or intake means your positive actions greatly help to protect the municipal water supply.

What if a drinking water threat has been assessed on my property ...

### How will source protection plans affect me?

The local source protection committee has a job to prevent threats from becoming significant. That's why they are writing planning policies this year.

Could their source protection planning policies affect you next year? Yes. Source protection planning policies will apply to some properties in the most vulnerable areas near municipal wells and intakes. Source protection plans will especially apply to properties where threats have been assessed as potentially significant.

The committee could recommend education and outreach to you and other property owners, or recommend financial incentives for your positive projects. The committee could also recommend



changes to municipal planning to increase protection for drinking water.

The committee could also, in some cases, decide to negotiate risk management plans with you or other property owners. The committee could also, in some cases, decide upon restrictions on a property, or prohibit certain activities on fragments of that property. The committee will use those stronger policies only as needed.

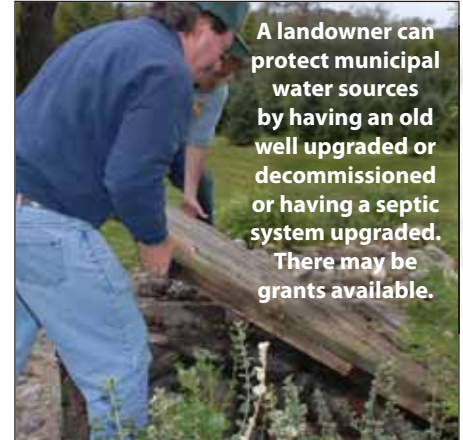
We invite you to review policies, as the committee develops them, and offer your comments.

## Are there grants to help ... ... my projects to protect drinking water?

Grants may be available now to help you and other eligible property owners complete voluntary projects on your property to protect municipal drinking water sources. Financial incentives are available through the Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Program and other programs. Eligible projects may include:

- Well upgrades or decommissioning
- Septic system upgrades, inspections, or decommissioning
- Runoff and erosion control projects, Best Management Practices (BMPs)
- Fuel storage management projects
- Spill prevention projects for dense non-aqueous phase liquids
- Confidential, fully-funded pollution prevention reviews for business

Visit [sourcewaterinfo.on.ca](http://sourcewaterinfo.on.ca) or [sourceprotectionstewardship.on.ca](http://sourceprotectionstewardship.on.ca) or contact us for grant rates and other information.



### Events

#### Open Well Open House

*Find out where your water comes from*

Saturday, May 7, 2011

9 – 11 a.m.

Century Heights Well, Saltford

#### Planning Workshop

*We want your ideas on draft planning policies*

Wednesday, September 21, 2011

3 – 7 p.m.

REACH Centre in Clinton, 169 Beech Street  
(Regional Equine and Agricultural Centre of Huron)

*Please register in advance for this workshop  
by contacting us at contact information below.*

### Copies available

Copies of most materials are available online at [sourcewaterinfo.on.ca](http://sourcewaterinfo.on.ca) and at the Maitland Valley and Ausable Bayfield source protection authority (conservation authority) offices.

We are also happy to provide printed copies of most materials for you, if you prefer. Let us know what materials you would like at our contact information below.

Information materials include:

- Proposed Assessment Reports (online or on CD)
- Fact sheet on dense non-aqueous phase liquids
- Source protection fact sheet for farmers
- Protecting Our Water Together newsletters
- Watershed Description brochure series
- Water Budget, Vulnerable Areas fact sheets
- Other fact sheets, bulletins, and documents

### For more information

For more information please visit the Drinking Water Ontario web site at:

[http://www.ene.gov.on.ca/environment/en/legislation/clean\\_water\\_act/index.htm](http://www.ene.gov.on.ca/environment/en/legislation/clean_water_act/index.htm)

or Conservation Ontario at:

[http://www.conservation-ontario.on.ca/source\\_protection/protection.html](http://www.conservation-ontario.on.ca/source_protection/protection.html)

or contact us at: **Ausable Bayfield Maitland Valley Source Protection Region**

**Mail us at:**

c/o Ausable Bayfield Source Protection Authority,  
71108 Morrison Line,  
RR 3 Exeter, ON N0M 1S5

**Phone us at:**

Ausable Bayfield Source Protection Authority:

**519-235-2610**

Maitland Valley Source Protection Authority:

**519-335-3557**

Toll-free:

**1-888-286-2610**

**Visit us online at:**

[sourcewaterinfo.on.ca](http://sourcewaterinfo.on.ca) • [sourceprotectionstewardship.on.ca](http://sourceprotectionstewardship.on.ca)

**E-mail us at:**

[info@sourcewaterinfo.on.ca](mailto:info@sourcewaterinfo.on.ca)

