

Kawartha-Haliburton Source Protection Authority Meeting #2/2024 Thursday, April 25, 2024, 2:00 p.m. Kawartha Conservation, Boardroom 277 Kenrei Road, Lindsay, ON K9V 4R1 (Virtual access details to be provided for members unavailable to attend in-person)

## Agenda

We would like to acknowledge that many Indigenous Nations have longstanding relationships, both historic and modern, with the territories upon which we are located.

Today, this area is home to many Indigenous peoples from across Turtle Island. We acknowledge that our watershed forms a part of the treaty and traditional territory of the south-eastern Anishinaabeg.

It is on these ancestral and treaty lands that we live and work. To honour this legacy, we commit to being stewards of the natural environment and undertake to have a relationship of respect with our Treaty partners.

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	• SPA Meeting #1/2024 – March 28, 2024	
4)	Business Arising from the Minutes	
5)	Update on Trent Conservation Coalition Source Protection Committee	Page 7-13
	Activities	
6)	Trent Source Protection Plan Annual Progress Report	Page 14-61
7)	Correspondence - None	
8)	New Business	
9)	Next Meeting – TBD by call of the Chair	
10)	Adjournment	





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To: The Chair and Members of Kawartha-Haliburton Source Protection Authority Board of Directors

From: Mark Majchrowski, Chief Administrative Officer

Re: Approval of Minutes

#### KEY ISSUE:

To approve the minutes of Meeting #1/2024 (March 28, 2024).

#### **RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION:**

RESOLVED, THAT, the minutes of Meeting #1/2024 be adopted as circulated.

Minutes are attached for your review and approval.

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## Kawartha-Haliburton Source Protection Authority Minutes of Meeting SPA #1/24

Meeting #1/24 was held on Thursday, April 28, 2024, in person at the Kawartha Conservation Administration Centre. Chair Warren called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Present:	Pat Warren, Chair
	Tracy Richardson, Director
	Eric Smeaton, Director - Virtual
	Gerry Byrne, Director
	Cria Pettingill, Director
	Peter Franzen, Director
	Lloyd Rang, Director - Virtual
	Pam Sayne, Director
	Walt McKechnie, Director – Virtual
Regrets:	Harold Wright, Vice-Chair
C	Robert Rock, Director
	Cam McKenzie, Director
Vacant:	Director, Algonquin Highlands
	Director, Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nations
Staff:	Mark Majchrowski, CAO
	Jonathan Lucas, Director, Corporate Services
	Kristie Virgoe, Director, Stewardship and Conservation Lands
	Nancy Aspden, Acting Director, Integrated Watershed Management
	Matthew Mantle, Director, Planning and Development Services
	Melanie Dolamore, Corporate Services Assistant
	John Chambers, Marketing and Communications Specialist
	Jenna Stephens, RMO/Source Protection Technician
Guests:	None

#### FIRST NATIONS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair began meeting #1/24 with a First Nations Acknowledgement:

We would like to acknowledge that many Indigenous Nations have longstanding relationships, both historic and modern, with the territories upon which we are located.

Today, this area is home to many indigenous peoples from across Turtle Island. We acknowledge that our watershed forms a part of the treaty and traditional territory of the south-eastern Anishinaabeg.

It is on these ancestral and treaty lands that we live and work. To honour this legacy, we commit to being stewards of the natural environment and undertake to have a relationship of respect with our Treaty partners.

#### #1 - Adoption of Agenda

RESOLUTION #1/24

MOVED BY:	GERRY BYRNE
SECONDED BY:	PAM SAYNE

**RESOLVED, THAT**, the agenda for Meeting #1/2024 be adopted.

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#### #2 - Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

None.

#3 - Approval of Minutes

RESOLUTION #2/24

MOVED BY: GERRY BYRNE SECONDED BY: PETER FRANZEN

RESOLVED, THAT, the minutes of Meeting #2/2023, held April 20, 2023, be approved.

CARRIED

#### #4 - Business Arising from the Minutes

None.

**#5 - Update on Trent Source Protection Committee Activities** 

RESOLUTION #3/24

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**RESOLVED, THAT**, the update on Source Protection Committee activities be received.

CARRIED

Ms. Stephens provided an overview of the activities of the Source Protection Committee, providing details on source protection plan amendments, and responded to a question on the applicability of natural gas pipelines as related to source protection plan policies.

#6 – Annual Progress Report

RESOLUTION #4/24

**RESOLVED, THAT**, the Kawartha-Haliburton Source Protection Authority approve the grade of "P: Progressing Well/On Target" for the status of implementation within the watershed; AND,

**THAT**, the draft Kawartha-Haliburton Source Protection Authority annual progress report be endorsed and forwarded to the Source Protection Committee for comment in accordance with O. Reg. 287/07.

Director Richardson departed the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

**#7 – Source Protection Committee – Kawartha-Haliburton Source Protection Area Municipal Representative** 

RESOLUTION #5/24

**RESOLVED, THAT**, the update on the Kawartha-Haliburton Source Protection Area municipal member for the Source Protection Committee be received.

CARRIED

**#8 - Correspondence** 

RESOLUTION #6/24

MOVED BY: PETER FRANZEN SECONDED BY: CRIA PETTINGILL

GERRY BYRNE

PAM SAYNE

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MOVED BY: TRACY RICHARDSON SECONDED BY: GERRY BYRNE

CARRIED

MOVED BY: SECONDED BY:

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**RESOLVED, THAT**, the correspondence be received.

CARRIED

#9 - New Business

None.

#10 - Next Meeting

Thursday, April 25, 2024.

#### #11 - Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

**RESOLUTION #7/24** 

MOVED BY: GERRY BYRNE SECONDED BY: PAM SAYNE

**RESOLVED, THAT,** the Kawartha-Haliburton Source Protection Authority meeting #1/24 be adjourned.

CARRIED

Pat Warren Chair Mark Majchrowski CAO



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То:	The Chair and Members of Kawartha-Haliburton Source Protection Authority Board of Directors
From:	Mark Majchrowski, Chief Administrative Officer Jenna Stephens, Source Protection Technician
Re:	Update on Trent Conservation Coalition Source Protection Committee Activities

#### KEY ISSUE:

To provide an update on recent Source Protection Committee activities.

#### **RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION:**

RESOLVED, THAT, the update on Source Protection Committee activities be received.

Since our last Source Protection Authority (SPA) meeting held on March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024, the Source Protection Committee (SPC) met on March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024. This report summarizes the key topics discussed and outcomes of the meeting. The meeting summary produced for the SPC meeting is attached for information.

#### **Chair's Reports**

Chair Jim Hunt provided the Committee with information on an initiative of concern which would potentially see the public's access to free water sampling reduced as a result of the proposed closure of multiple public health laboratories. The Chair noted that the Ausable-Bayfield Maitland Valley Source Protection Committee sent a letter to the province speaking out against this and asked Program Coordinator Keith Taylor to draft a similar letter on behalf of the Trent Conservation Coalition Source Protection Committee (see letter attached). Economic development representative, Bob Lake, informed the Committee that he had communicated his concerns on this information with his MP and MPP and that he was informed that this recommendation came from the Auditor General's report and that the province has no intent on enacting it. Municipal representative, Bonnie Clark, informed the Committee that a letter with full Council support has been sent to the province from Peterborough County to ensure this recommendation is not followed through on.

#### Annual Report

Project Coordinator, Keith Taylor provided the Committee with a high-level summary of the Trent Annual Progress Report which rolls up the Annual Reports for the Kawartha-Haliburton, Otonabee-Peterborough, Crowe Valley, and Lower Trent Source Protection Area.

Municipal and approval authorities, septic inspections, Risk Management Plans, and Education and Outreach all received scores of "P: Progressing Well/On Target". An overall score of "P: Progressing Well/On Target" was recommended for the Trent Region, which was

For more information, please contact Jenna Stephens, extension 224.

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approved by the Committee. This is further detailed in a complementary report (item #6) in the agenda package.

Source Protection Technician Jessica Mueller of the Ganaraska Source Protection Area provided the Committee with a high-level summary of the Ganaraska Annual Progress Report which contains the progress of only the Ganaraska Region Source Protection Area. Municipal and approval authorities, septic inspections, Risk Management Plans, and Education and Outreach all received scores of "P: Progressing Well/On Target". An overall score of "P: Progressing Well/On Target" was recommended for the Ganaraska Region, which was approved by the Committee.

Committee members had questions about the Kawartha-Haliburton Source Protection Area municipalities having 67% of their Official Plans updated to meet the source water protection requirements. Staff explained that the percentage is misleading as 4/6 municipalities are complete, and the remaining 2 are waiting for Regional approval. The Committee also had questions about the maintenance contracts for advanced treatment systems and ensuring they meet the source water protection septic inspection requirements. Staff assured the Committee that these inspections are completed through the same tiered inspection protocol as the traditional septic systems.

Program Coordinator, Keith Taylor, noted that the Township of Minden Hills have not negotiated all of the required Risk Management Plans and as a result are behind on implementation goals. It was noted that they have had resourcing challenges within the municipality which have hampered progress. Kawartha-Haliburton Source Protection Authority staff are working with the municipality who have recently trained four (4) RMOs on staff and are exploring the option of hiring a consultant to meet risk management plan policies contained within the source protection plan.

#### Program Update

Program Coordinator, Keith Taylor, provided the Committee with an update from the Ministry who indicated that the Section 36 amendment package is still being reviewed and that the province are working with their program partners to understand implementation of the proposed Prescribed Instrument policy. This proposed policy requires the Ministry of Environment, Conservation, and Parks or the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Affairs to amend all existing Prescribed Instruments and all new Prescribed Instruments to include reference to the applicable source protection vulnerable area and emergency response protocols within 3 years of the approval of the amendment for agricultural, snow storage, and waste disposal site threats.

An overview of the progress associated with the 2024-2027 budget request was made by the Project Coordinator as well. This is the first time in the history of the program that the province has committed to a 3-year funding agreement. It was noted that Michael Halder has replaced Mary Wooding at the SPC Liaison Officer and the position is now referred to as the "Program Analyst".

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The Committee was informed that further effort will be put into Education and Outreach activity this year to complement changes in how road salt application, snow storage, pesticides, and Dense Non Aqueous Phase Liquids (DNAPLs) are treated in the source protection program. The Committee was also informed of specific areas of the Assessment Reports which will need amending either through future Section 34 or Section 36 amendments.

#### Leads Reports

At each Committee meeting, the Leads of each Source Protection Area give an update on the status of program implementation within their area. These reports help identify challenges or areas in which the Committee may support the Leads. These updates included details of the status of all remaining Risk Management Plans, current issues or challenges, status updates on any Section 34 amendments, positive progress or news, and the successes or challenges of the education and outreach efforts. The lead from the Kawartha-Haliburton Source Protection Area identified that the International Plowing Match is being held in Lindsay in October and work is well underway to ensure a source water protection presence at the event. These updates were received for information.

#### **Best Management Practices for Other Systems**

An update on best practices to protect source water for landowners, including work that has been done and future projects including a webinar program was provided to the Committee. The importance of continued access to free water testing was emphasized, and the Committee was informed that water testing kits are often provided at public events which are attended by regional staff.

#### Round Table Updates

Economic development representative, Bob Lake, expressed his support and encouragement of regional water/wastewater authorities and collaborations of municipalities of facilities for better economies of scale and shared staffing. Municipal Representative, Bonnie Clark, mentioned a successful example of this in Frontenac.

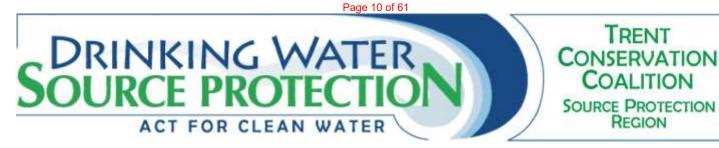
#### **Municipal Source Protection Committee Member Update**

The Kawartha-Haliburton Source Protection Authority currently has one vacant municipal representative seat on the Source Protection Committee. This seat has traditionally been held by a representative from the City of Kawartha Lakes. After the departure of Paul Pentikainen, Supervisor, Policy Planning, there has been a vacancy. Kawartha-Haliburton Source Protection Authority staff have been working with the City of Kawartha Lakes to select a replacement, and a staff member from the Planning Division has been identified, who will be moving through the nomination and appointment process shortly. Support resolutions will be required by all municipalities once the nomination is made and before they can become a representative on the Source Protection Committee.

### ATTACHMENT #1

TRENT

REGION



April 4, 2024

The Honourable Sylvia Jones Minister of Health 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, 777 Bay Street Toronto, Ontario M5G 2C8

#### Re: Public Health Ontario, Private Drinking Water Testing Program

Dear Minister Jones,

The Auditor General of Ontario Report (Value-for-Money Audit: Public Health Ontario) dated December 2023 references a Public Health Ontario plan to gradually discontinue the private drinking water testing program (page 22).

As Chair of the Trent Conservation Coalition Source Protection Committee, I have been asked by our Committee to contact you to relay our concerns with the idea of discontinuing this important program. We realize that this plan is not currently the position of your government but we want to express the importance of maintaining the testing program throughout the province.

The Trent Conservation Coalition Source Protection Region is the largest Source Protection Region in the province and there is a Source Protection Plan in place, that has been implemented since 2015, to protect municipal sources of drinking water. However, a large portion of our region is comprised of rural areas, resulting in over 50% of our residents getting their drinking water from private wells. The private drinking water testing program is a critical service for these people to help them determine the safety of their drinking water supply. I am sure you agree that everyone should have access to clean, safe drinking water, regardless of whether they get their water from municipal systems or private systems.

While we support looking for ways to make existing programs more efficient, we do not support any plan that would result in the discontinuation of the private drinking water testing program in Ontario. If anything, this program needs to be promoted more through education and outreach programs across the province.

Sincerely

Jim Hunt

Chair, Trent Conservation Coalition Source Protection Committee

Cc: Hon. Andrea Khanjin, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

> C/O LOWER TRENT CONSERVATION 714 Murray St, R.R. #1, Trenton, Ont. K8V 5P4



### SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE (SPC) MEETING SUMMARY MARCH 26, 2024– VIRTUAL MEETING

#### **CHAIRS REPORT**

- J. Hunt noted there was an initiative of concern from the provincial government that would reduce the public health's access to free water sampling and the closure of testing laboratories. J. Hunt referenced his comments in the Annual Progress Report and expressed that this is a backward step for the program. J. Hunt noted the Ausable-Bayfield Maitland Valley Source Protection Committee (SPC) sent a letter to the province speaking against this and encouraged K. Taylor to draft a similar letter on behalf of the Trent Conservation Coalition SPC.
  - B. Lake commented that the recommendation to reduce the number of testing laboratories and scale back free water testing is from an Auditor's General report and is not a government policy and that the government is not seriously considering the recommendation from this Auditor's General report.
  - J. Hunt still recommended sending a letter to confirm this.
  - B. Clark noted a letter with full council support has been sent from the County of Peterborough, and the province has ensured them they are not going through with this.
  - P. Niblett suggested making specific reference to the Auditor General's report in the letter and that we are aware of their comments.

#### **ANNUAL REPORT**

- TRENT SOURCE PROTECTION PLAN
- K. Taylor provided an overview of the Trent Source Protection Plan Annual Progress Report.
- For Policy Implementation, the recommended scoring was "Progressing Well / On Target".
- For Municipal Progress, regarding Official Plan and Zoning By-Law conformity, and Emergency Management Policies Implemented, the recommended scoring was: "Progressing Well / On Target"
- For Septic Inspections, the process is well in progress and K. Taylor noted all inspections were completed in the previous 5-year cycle, and there are standard operating procedures in all SPAs. The recommended scoring was "Progressing Well / On Target".
- For Risk Management Plans, K. Taylor reviewed with number of Risk Management Plans established and the number of threats remaining. K. Taylor noted Minden Hills is out of compliance with several Plans overdue but they have recently hired and trained new Risk Management Officials, and the Kawartha-Haliburton Source Protection Authority is working with them to remedy this. As a whole, the Source Protection Region is recommending a score of "Progressing Well / On Target."
- For Provincial Ministry Policy reporting, K. Taylor noted the Ministries have implemented 93% of the TCC policies, and the recommended scoring is "Progressing Well / On Target."

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- For Provincial Progress on the ground, regarding Prescribed Instruments, the recommended scoring is "Progressing Well / On Target."
- For Education and Outreach efforts, all SPAs have programs in place and the recommended scoring is "Progressing Well / On Target."
- Overall for the Annual Progress Report, the recommended scoring is "Progressing Well / On Target."
- GANARASKA SOURCE PROTECTION PLAN
- J. Mueller provided an overview of the Ganaraska Annual Progress Report.
- For Policy Implementation, the recommended scoring was "Progressing Well / On Target".
- For Municipal Progress, regarding Official Plan and Zoning By-Law conformity, and Emergency Management Policies Implemented, the recommended scoring was: "Progressing Well / On Target"
- For Risk Management Plans, J. Mueller reviewed the plans that have been established and the number of threats remaining, noting there is one plan outstanding in the Township of Hamilton, but the business is not currently in operation. The recommended scoring was: "Progressing Well / On Target."
- For Septic Inspections, the process is well in progress and J. Mueller noted all inspections were completed in the previous 5-year cycle, and there are standard operating procedures in all SPAs. The recommended scoring was "Progressing Well / On Target".
- Overall for the Annual Progress Report, the recommended scoring is "Progressing Well / On Target."

#### LEADS REPORT

- Each Source Protection Authority (SPA) Lead Staff member provided a verbal report on the status of their local source protection implementation, including:
  - a. Update on municipal working groups;
  - b. Potential updates or amendments to drinking water systems;
  - c. Update on risk management plans and RMO progress, managing new threats;
  - d. Current issues or challenges;
  - e. Progress on updating new municipal staff on the Source Protection Program;
  - f. Update on education and outreach efforts, events.
- Anne Anderson (Lower Trent Conservation) confirmed that Matthew Richmond is in the process of being approved as the new municipal representative for the Lower Trent Source Protection Area on the Source Protection Committee.

#### **PROGRAM UPDATE**

• K. Taylor provided a program update, reviewing some of the comments from Michael Halder regarding the Section 36 Amendment Submission, noting the Source Protection Branch is

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TRENT CONSERVATION COALITION SOURCE PROTECTION REGION Crowe Valley, Ganaraska Region, Kawartha-Haliburton, Lower Trent & Otonabee-Peterborough Source Protection Areas reviewing the submission for ministerial approval, and they are continuing to engage the MECP program partners to understand their needs to implement the proposed Prescribed Instrument minimum requirements.

- K. Taylor provided an overview of the process of the 2024-2027 budget request.
- K. Taylor noted Michael Halder has replaced Mary Wooding as the SPC liaison, and the title is now "program analyst" and that he'll be attending SPC meetings when possible.
- K. Taylor noted further effort will be put into Education and Outreach this year to develop specific needs such as road salt application, snow storage, pesticides and DNAPLs.
- Assessment Report Updates K. Taylor reviewed specific sections of the Assessment Reports that need reviewing, either for a future S.36 amendment or S.34 amendment.

#### **BEST PRACTICES FOR OTHER SYSTEMS**

• T. Bos provided a report on the Best Practices Program to the committee, including a summary of the webinar series to date, future plans, and reiterating the importance of access to free well water testing.

#### ROUNDTABLE

- B. Lake commented on his support and encouragement of regional water/wastewater authorities and facilities for collaborations of municipalities for better economies of scale and shared staffing. B. Clark spoke to a successful example of this in Frontenac.
- K. Taylor gave a presentation about his recent trip to Egypt.

#### **NEXT MEETING**

• K. Taylor noted there is no set date as of now.

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To:	The Chair and Members of Kawartha-Haliburton Source Protection Authority Board of Directors
From:	Mark Majchrowski, Chief Administrative Officer Jenna Stephens, Source Protection Technician
Re:	Trent Source Protection Plan Annual Progress Report

#### KEY ISSUE:

Annual progress reports from across the region have been received by the Source Protection Committee and collated into one regional annual report. This annual progress report needs to be submitted to the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks by the lead Source Protection Authority for the Trent Source Protection Region (Lower Trent Conservation Authority) by May 1, 2024.

#### **RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION:**

RESOLVED, THAT, the Trent Source Protection Plan Annual Progress Report be endorsed, AND,

THAT, the Trent Source Protection Plan Annual Progress Report be submitted to the Lower Trent Source Protection Authority (lead) for delivery to the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) as required by Section 46 of the *Clean Water Act* and Section 52 of *Ontario Regulation 287/07*.

#### BACKGROUND

The *Clean Water Act* and associated general regulation 287/07 identify reporting requirements specific to Source Protection Authorities (SPAs). There is a need to report to the Minister of the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) on progress related to source protection plan implementation.

Each Source Protection Region must submit one report per Source Protection Plan. The Kawartha-Haliburton SPA annual report was combined with information provided by the other SPAs within the Trent Source Protection Region to form the Trent Source Protection Plan Annual Progress Report. The annual progress report is due May 1, 2024.

#### ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT PROCESS

The information to be contained within the annual reports has been dictated by the MECP in two formats: a detailed "Supplemental Report", and a simpler "public-facing" document which rolls the information contained in the supplemental report into a more digestible format for general communication purposes.



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The Trent Source Protection Region (SPR) is using an online annual reporting tool which was developed by the MECP and Conservation Ontario. The Source Protection Plans (SPPs) created by the Source Protection Committee (SPC) contain several reporting policies that must be reported to the SPA annually by each of the implementing agencies. Detailed information provided by each of the implementing agencies has been collated and then broadly summarized, to form the general content of a public facing document for each Source Protection Area.

This report received general consent by the Kawartha-Haliburton Source Protection Authority Board of Directors (K-H SPA BOD) in March to distribute the report to the SPC. Following this, the annual progress report for this source protection area was rolled into a regional annual progress report which was presented to the SPC for comment and endorsement on March 26, 2023 (*Trent Annual Progress Report - 2023 – attached*).

This regional annual progress report is now submitted to the K-H SPA Board of Directors (BOD) for endorsement which will allow the lead Source Protection Authority, Lower Trent, to submit the annual progress report to the MECP.

#### ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT SUMMARY

The annual progress report for the Trent SPP has been completed using the public facing document template provided by the MECP and as prepared by the lead source protection authority. Within this document there are 6 sections which require a grade to be assigned to assess implementation progress and an overall implementation grade for the Trent SPP was assigned by the SPC. The scoring system below is used to assess the progress achieved from January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015, to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023, related to implementing policies in the Trent SPP:

- P: Progressing well / on target: Most of the source protection plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing according to the timelines in the source protection plan.
- S: Satisfactory: Some of the source protection plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing according to the timelines in the source protection plan.
- L: Limited progress made: A few source protection plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing according to the timelines in the source protection plan.



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#### **Source Protection Plan Policies**

#### P: Progressing Well/On Target

Across the Trent Source Protection Region, many of the policies (100%) that address significant drinking water threats are implemented, in progress or have been evaluated and determined to require no further action(s), as illustrated in the table below.

Source Protection Area	Percent Policies Implemented, in progress or evaluated as no further action required	Progress Score Assigned by SPA
Otonabee-Peterborough	100%	P: Progressing well / on target
Kawartha-Haliburton	100%	P: Progressing well / on target
Crowe Valley	100%	P: Progressing well / on target
Lower Trent	100%	P: Progressing well / on target

#### **Municipal Progress**

#### P: Progressing Well/On Target

Municipalities and Approval Authorities under the *Planning Act* are the Implementing Bodies for 56 policies in the Trent SPP. The jurisdictions of 43 municipalities lie within the Trent SPR, however of those, only 27 municipalities (22 lower tier and 5 upper tier) contain vulnerable areas where SPP polices apply. It is important to note that all municipalities are required to report implementation of policies in progress. A summary of key information and progress scores is as follows:

Source Protection Area	Municipalities with SOPs in place	% Official Plan and Zoning By- Law Policies Implemented	% Emergency Management Policies Implemented	Progress Score assigned by SPA
Otonabee- Peterborough	100%	95%	100%	P: Progressing well / on target
Kawartha- Haliburton	100%	71%	100%	P: Progressing well / on target
Crowe Valley	100%	100%	100%	P: Progressing well / on target
Lower Trent	100%	69%	100%	P: Progressing well / on target



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#### Septic Inspections

#### P: Progressing Well/On Target

While outside the scope of the *Clean Water Act,* The Ontario Building Code requires that septic system threats be subject to a mandatory inspection program. Based on the location of individual septic systems, the responsibility to undertake these inspections may be that of the local Health Unit/department, municipality, or Conservation Authority depending on which body is empowered by the principal authority (municipalities).

All identified septic systems were to be inspected within 5 years of the approval of the SPP and its posting on the environmental registry. The Trent SPP was posted on the Provincial Environmental Registry on November 3, 2014, and as such, November 3, 2019, marked the end of the first 5-year inspection cycle. All septics were inspected within this timeframe, and inspections for the second inspection period are now underway. The progress of septic inspections for the Trent SPP for this second inspection period as identified in the 2023 Annual Progress Report prepared by the lead source protection authority is as follows:

SPA	Inspection Agency(ies)	# Systems Requiring Inspections	# Inspections (this reporting period)	% Complete
Otonabee- Peterborough	Peterborough Public Health	194	8	90%
Kawartha- Haliburton	Municipal Building Inspectors	390	116	78%
Crowe Valley	Municipal Building Inspectors and Peterborough Public Health (Havelock)	45	1	31%
Lower Trent	Municipal Building Officials and Septic Inspectors	156	5	76%

#### **Risk Management Plans**

#### P: Progressing Well/On Target

Risk Management Officials are the Implementing Body for 39 policies in the Trent SPP and utilize the following tools which were established under Part IV of the Act, to manage threats: Prohibition (S.57); Risk Management Plans (S.58); and Restricted Land Uses (S.59). The progress of risk management plans for the Trent SPP in 2023 is as follows:



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Source Protection Area	# RMP's Established in Reporting Period	# Significant Threats Managed	# of Threats remaining to be managed	# Inspections
Otonabee- Peterborough	0	0	2	3
Kawartha- Haliburton	0	0	9	67
Crowe Valley	0	0	0	0
Lower Trent	5	6	0	24

#### Provincial Progress

#### P: Progressing Well/On Target

Four provincial ministries reported on the progress of 27 policies in our SPP. The ministries have implemented 90% of the TCC policies. The remaining 10% are reported to be in progress.

Policy Policy Policy Implementing Body Implementation Implementation Implementation (Provincial Ministry) Not in Progress Complete (%) In Progress (%) (%) Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and 100 0 0 Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) Ministry of the Environment and 100 0 0 Climate Change (MECP) Ministry of Natural Resources and 100 0 0 Forestry (MNRF) Ministry of Transportation (MTO) 60 40 0 Ministry of Municipal Affairs and 0 100 0 Housing

The table below summarizes the progress achieved for policy implementation as reported by each ministry:

#### Awareness and Changes in Behaviour

#### P: Progressing Well/On Target

Ten (10) policies in the Trent SPP utilize education and outreach to influence behavior and encourage the voluntary adoption of practices to better protect sources of municipal drinking water. Road signage was identified as an effective tool to raise awareness of the Drinking Water Source Protection Program and the importance of protecting sources of municipal drinking water. Drinking Water Protection Zone signs



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have been installed in vulnerable areas across the Trent Conservation Source Protection Region. To date, 255 Drinking Water Protection Zone signs have been installed in the four Source Protection Authorities.

Other successful education and outreach activities include, but are not limited to, the creation of a Salt Responsibility campaign focused on road salt storage boxes and application, providing education and outreach materials to local fuel suppliers, updating of information on Conservation Authority/Municipality websites, integration of messaging into education and outreach programs delivered virtually and in person, and direct mailouts to impacted landowners as part of the Section 36 amendment public consultation process.

Source Protection AreaProgress Score (Signage and E&O)Otonabee-PeterboroughP: Progressing well / on targetKawartha-HaliburtonP: Progressing well / on targetCrowe ValleyP: Progressing well / on targetLower TrentP: Progressing well / on target

The progress of awareness and changes in behaviour for the Trent SPP is as follows:

#### Trent Source Protection Region Annual Report Grade P: progressing Well/On Target

The SPC assigned the Trent SPP an implementation status of "Progressing Well/On Target". The SPC arrived at this through a consensus-based approach based on a summary of information provided by SPAs through the Annual Progress Report templates and review of a draft Annual Progress Report presented on March 30, 2023, at a Trent SPC meeting. The SPC reviewed the sections in the report, including a review of the scoring proposed by each SPA. The SPC then assessed the progress score by applying the criteria above. The committee settled on the progress score of "Progressing Well/On Target" because implementation of the Trent SPP policies was "mostly complete" across all four SPAs.

#### **SUMMARY**

All required annual reports have been received and all reporting requirements for 2015-2023 have been met. Annual reports from individual implementing bodies are available upon request.



K-H SPA Meeting #2/2024 April 25, 2024 Page 7 of 7

#### **Summary of Annual Report Progress**

Implementation Category	Suggested Grade	
Source Protection Plan Policies	Progressing Well/On Target	Р
Municipal Progress	Progressing Well/On Target	Р
Septic Inspections	Progressing Well/On Target	Р
Risk Management Plans	Progressing Well/On Target	Р
Provincial Progress	Progressing Well/On Target	Р
Awareness and Behavioural Change	Progressing Well/On Target	Р
Trent Source Protection Region Implementation	Progressing Well/On Target	Р

As illustrated in the summary table above, the overall suggested status of P: Progressing Well/On Target was approved for implementation within the Trent SPP.

Staff are recommending endorsement of the Trent Annual Progress Report for submission to the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks by the lead Source Protection Authority for the Trent Source Protection Region (Lower Trent) by May 1, 2024.

**ATTACHMENT #1** 

Drinking Water Protection Zone

# 2023 Annual Progress Report Trent Source Protection Plan

TRage 21 of 61

CONSERVATION

COALITION SOURCE PROTECTION

REGION

Eau potable Zone de protection

Prepared by:

DRINKING WATER

**SOURCE PROTECTION** 

**Our Actions Matter** 

Trent Conservation Coalition Source Protection Region



## Message from the Chair of the Trent Conservation <u>Page 22 of 61</u> <u>Page 22 of 61</u>



On behalf of the Trent Conversation Coalition Source Protection Committee, it is my pleasure to introduce the 2023 Annual Progress Report on the implementation of the Trent and Ganaraska Source Protection Plans. We have now completed 9 years of implementation and it is encouraging to see our Source Protection Plan Policies being implemented across our vast region.

It is hard to believe that we are approaching the 24th anniversary of the Walkerton water tragedy. As a result of that series of tragic events, we have learned lessons and we are now and better equipped to deal with potential future perils. The Source Protection Program in Ontario is a perfect example of how we can learn from adversity and reduce the risk of history repeating itself. But we must never become complacent. This Annual Report provides a snap shot of where we are in the program and details of how the Source Protection Plans are being implemented.

As always, our main objective is to protect sources of drinking water. This concept of source water protection was identified as the first barrier in a multi-barrier approach to safer drinking water by the Walkerton Commission. Our assessment reports and Source Protection Plans are science-based and as new science emerges our staff and committee will respond with appropriate amendments.

I am pleased to announce that in December, 2023, an extensive amendment package under section 36 of the Clean Water Act, 2006, was submitted to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks for approval. This effort was the culmination of 5 years of research and consultation to adapt to new Technical Rules and to address some policy changes. Our Source Protection Committee reviewed and approved all the amendments.

- (Continued on next page)

## Message from the Chair of the Trent Conservation <u>Page 23 of 61</u> <u>Coalition Source Protection Committee</u>

In 2023, our regional staff also continued to provide expertise to people who do not receive their water from municipal systems. Our stance has always been that everyone should have safe drinking water. We are working with other Source Protection Regions in Eastern Ontario to provide webinars that explain best practices to assist people with private drinking water systems. We hope to continue this program into the future.

Our Annual Report summarizes the achievements of the Risk Management Officials, the municipalities and the provincial ministries that are required to implement the many policies in our Source Protection Plan. Through this exercise the committee can judge the level of progress made and the effectiveness of the Source Protection Plan policies as well as identify any challenges with implementing the Plan.

Each year, as we prepare these Annual Reports, there is an opportunity to reflect on the magnitude and importance of the work we do to protect sources of municipal drinking water. I encourage you to read this report to follow our progress.

- Jim Hunt, Chair of the Trent Conservation Coalition Source Protection Committee.



## **1. INTRODUCTION**

The Trent Conservation Coalition Source Protection Region's sixth Annual Progress Report for the Trent Source Protection Plan (SPP) provides a status update of implementation since the SPP came into effect on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 through to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023.

This report is produced by the Trent Conservation Coalition (TCC) for:

- Residents and businesses within the watershed
- Trent Conservation Coalition Source Protection Committee (SPC), and
- Municipalities and other local stakeholders.

A separate Annual Progress Report for the Ganaraska Source Protection Plan is also available.

The format of this report is based on broad categories, identified by the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP), to facilitate legislative reporting and tracking of progress made towards the implementation of the Trent Source Protection Plan, and other source protection plans across the province.

## 1.1 CLEAN WATER ACT, 2006 25 of 61

In response to the *Report of the Walkerton Inquiry (The Honourable Dennis R. O'Connor, 2002)* and its recommendation for a multi-barrier approach to providing safe drinking water, the Ontario government passed the *Clean Water Act, 2006* (the *Act*). The purpose of the *Act* is to protect sources of municipal drinking water through collaborative, watershed-based source protection plans that are locally developed and based on science.

## How is it protected?

Under the *Clean Water Act*, local source protection plans are in place across Ontario.

More than

These plans protect municipal drinking water sources from contamination and overuse ...

million people are protected through the Ontario Drinking Water Source Protection Program

We all **play a role** in keeping our sources of drinking water clean and abundant

conservationontario.ca

<sup>1</sup>Statistics Canada, 2013

## **1.2 SOURCE PROTECTION PROGRAM**

The *Clean Water Act* led to the creation of the Drinking Water Source Protection (DWSP) program, which established 19 source protection regions and 38 source protection areas in Ontario. The DWSP program protects current and future municipal residential drinking water sources from contamination and overuse by developing collaborative watershed-based source protection plans. A source protection plan is the first barrier in a multi-barrier approach.

The Trent Source Protection Plan includes mandatory and strategic policies that have been developed by the Trent Conservation Coalition Source Protection Committee in consultation with provincial ministries, municipalities, businesses, landowners and other stakeholders. The plan identifies the party that is responsible for implementing a policy (implementing bodies). The implementing bodies are required by the *Clean Water Act* and its regulations to report on the implementation progress of policies in the Plan.

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## The Trent Conservation Coalition Source Protection Region

The Trent Conservation Coalition (TCC) Source Protection Region is comprised of five source protection areas. The Trent Source Protection Plan (SPP) applies to the source protection areas, identified below, that are within the Trent River Watershed. The Ganaraska Source Protection Plan is a separate plan for the Ganaraska Source Protection Area. This report was prepared based on annual reporting information submitted by implementing bodies for the Trent Source Protection Plan.

- Kawartha-Haliburton Source Protection Authority;
- Otonabee-Peterborough Source Protection Authority;
- Crowe Valley Source Protection Authority;
- Lower Trent Source Protection Authority.

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## **TCC Source Protection Region Quick Facts:**

- Population in the TCC: 400,000 (including Ganaraska)
- Area: TCC = 14,500 km2
- Area: Trent River Watershed= 12,900 km2
- Number of drinking water systems in the TCC SPR: 53 (includes one planned groundwater system)
- Number of drinking water systems in the Trent River Watershed: 47 (includes one planned groundwater system)
- Number of surface water systems in the TCC SPR: 18
- Number of surface water systems in the Trent River Watershed: 15
- Number of groundwater systems in the TCC SPR: 35 (includes one planned system)
- Number of groundwater systems in the Trent River Watershed: 32 (includes one planned system)
- Population serviced by municipal residential drinking water systems in the Trent River Watershed: more than 150,000
- Number of municipalities in the TCC SPR with residential drinking water systems: 27 (22 lower tier, 5 upper tier)
- Number of municipalities in the TCC SPR with at least part of a vulnerable area in their jurisdiction: 43 (38 lower tier, 5 upper tier)
- Number of policies in the Trent Source Protection Plan: 138
- Number of Issue Contributing Areas in the Trent Source Protection Plan: 1 (Stirling system)
- Effective date of the Trent Source Protection Plan: January 1, 2015





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## **Otonabee-Peterborough Source Protection Area**

The Otonabee-Peterborough Source Protection Area (O-P SPA) has an approximate population of 147,446 and includes portions of twelve (12) municipalities and three (3) First Nations Reserves. It covers approximately 3,365 km2 and is comprised of the Otonabee Region Watershed (1,915 km2) and areas to the north (1,365 km2) which include portions of Haliburton and Peterborough Counties.

Approximately 62% of the population, or 91,508 people, obtain drinking water from eleven (11) municipal residential drinking water systems in the O-P SPA. Three (3) municipal drinking water systems, Lakefield, Peterborough and Hastings, draw from surface water sources (the latter extends into the Municipality of Trent Hills in the Lower Trent Source Protection Area). Eight (8) residential drinking water systems draw on groundwater to serve approximately 3% of the population, or 4,929 people, in the communities of Alpine Village/Pirates Glen, Birch Point Estates, Buckhorn Lake Estates, Crystal Springs Subdivision, Keene Heights Subdivision, Millbrook, Norwood, and Pinewood.

There are two (2) populated First Nation Reserves in the O-P SPA, Curve Lake and Hiawatha, with a combined population of approximately 1,543 that is primarily served by private wells.



## **Kawartha-Haliburton Source Protection Area**

The Kawartha-Haliburton Source Protection Area (K-H SPA) is comprised of watersheds that represent the jurisdiction of Kawartha Conservation, and an additional watershed area to the North primarily within Haliburton County.

The K-H SPA covers an area of 5,406 km2 and is located within the southcentral region of Ontario, fringing on the Greater Toronto Area to the south and Algonquin Park to the north. There are 11 municipalities within or partially within the Source Protection Area. Approximately 45% of the population, or 38,050 people, obtain their drinking water from 22 municipal residential drinking water systems in the K-H SPA.

There are six existing municipal residential drinking water systems in the source protection area that obtain their water from surface water sources. These systems serve about 22,350 people in the communities of Bobcaygeon, Fenelon Falls, Kinmount, Lindsay, Norland and Southview Estates.

There are 16 existing municipal residential drinking water systems in the source protection area that obtain their water from groundwater sources. These systems serve **CONSERVATION** about 15,700 people in the communities of Blackstock, Canadiana Shores, Greenbank, Janetville, Kings Bay, Lutterworth Pines, Manorview, Mariposa Estates, Minden, Pleasant Point, Port Perry, Sonya, Victoria Glen, Victoria Place, Woodfield, and Woods of Manilla.

The Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation is located within the Source Protection Area.

## DRINKING WATER SOURCE PROTECTION



KAWARTHA

## **Crowe Valley Source Protection Area**

The Crowe Valley Source Protection Area covers an area of approximately 2,006 km<sup>2</sup> and includes the entire Crowe River watershed. There are 10 municipalities located within or partially within the Crowe Valley Source Protection Area. The total population of these municipalities is 46,074 (Statistics Canada, 2021), and about 12,446 of them are located within the source protection area boundary.

Drinking water systems in the Crowe Valley Source Protection Area include municipal and non-municipal systems of various sizes that draw raw water from both groundwater and surface water sources.

About 35% of the population in the Crowe Valley Source Protection Area (approximately 3,700 people) obtains their drinking water from four municipal residential drinking water systems.

There is one existing municipal residential surface water supply system in the source protection area that obtains water from a surface water source. This system serves about 1,300 people in the community of Marmora.



There are three existing municipal residential groundwater supply systems in the source protection area that obtain their water from groundwater sources. These systems serve about 2,400 people.



## **Lower Trent Source Protection Area**

The Lower Trent Source Protection Area includes the area under the jurisdiction of the Lower Trent Region Conservation Authority (2070 km<sup>2</sup>) and the area outside of Conservation Authority jurisdiction between the Lower Trent, Otonabee, and Crowe Valley watersheds (45 km<sup>2</sup>). The Lower Trent Source Protection Area is bordered on the south by Lake Ontario and the Bay of Quinte. Rice Lake forms the northwestern boundary of the region. Several tributary streams including Cold, Rawdon, Salt, Squires (Hoards), Percy, Burnley (Mill), Trout, and Mayhew Creeks empty into the Trent River. Shelter Valley, Barnum House, Lakeport/Colborne and Butler Creeks empty into Lake Ontario while DND and Meyers Creeks empty into the Bay of Quinte.

There are nine municipalities located within or partially within the Lower Trent Source Protection Area. The total population of these municipalities is 112,469 (Statistics Canada, 2021) and more than 88,000 of them are located within the source protection area boundary.

About 60% of the source protection area population (over 48,400 people) in the Lower Trent Source Protection Area obtains their drinking water from 10 municipal residential drinking water systems.

There are six existing municipal residential surface water supply systems in the source protection area that serve about 36,600 people in the communities of Bayside, Campbellford, Frankford, Hastings, Trenton and Warkworth.

There are four existing municipal residential groundwater supply systems in the source protection area that obtain their water from groundwater sources. These systems serve about 11,800 people in the communities of Brighton, Colborne, Grafton and Stirling.

The Alderville First Nation, located south of Rice Lake, is the only First Nation in the Lower Trent Source Protection Area. The reserve has a population of approximately 575 and a population density of 50 people/km<sup>2</sup> with most residents of Alderville First Nation being serviced by private wells.





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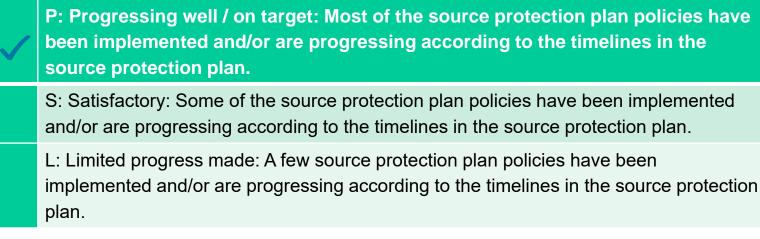
# LOCATION OF MUNICIPAL WELLS AND INTAKES SUBJECT TO THE CLEAN WATER ACT



## 2. A MESSAGE FROM YOUR SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE

The scoring system below is used to assess the progress achieved from January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023 related to implementing policies in the Trent Source Protection Plan.

Our progress score on achieving source protection plan objectives in this reporting period is as follows:



The rationale for the Source Protection Committee (SPC) to select the "progress score" is as follows:

The SPC arrived at this consensus based on a summary of information provided by Source Protection Authorities through the Annual Progress Report templates and a draft Annual Progress Report presented on March 26, 2024 at a TCC Source Protection Committee meeting. The SPC reviewed the sections in the below report, including a review of the scoring proposed by each Source Protection Authority. The SPC then assessed the progress score by applying the criteria above. The committee settled on the progress score of "**Progressing well/on target**" because implementation of the Trent Source Protection Plan policies are mostly complete across all four SPAs.



## 2.1 METHOD OF EVALUATION of 61

Implementation of the Trent Source Protection Plan is an important element of a multi-barrier approach to protecting municipal residential drinking water sources. To evaluate implementation effectiveness, a monitoring component is included for each policy. The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) has identified a reporting process for the monitoring component that includes the preparation of an Annual Progress Report. In order to report on implementation progress to the MECP, the implementing bodies submit information on their progress through use of a standardized template to the Source Protection Authorities and the Region. This information is then used to develop this Annual Progress Report.



## **3. PROGRESS ON SOURCE PROTECTION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION**

## **3.1 SOURCE PROTECTION PLAN POLICIES**

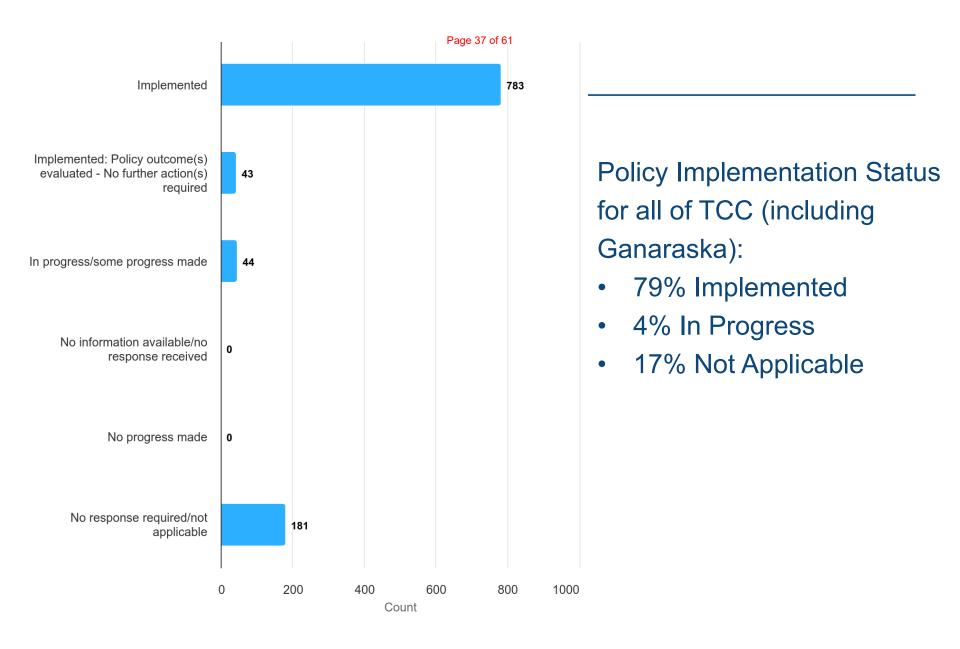
Across the Trent Conservation Coalition Source Protection Region, all policies that address significant drinking water threats are implemented, in progress or have been evaluated and determined to require no further action(s).

The percentage of policy progress across the Trent Source Protection Plan was determined through the following information:

Source Protection Area	Percent Policies Implemented, In progress or evaluated as no further action required	Progress Score Assigned by SPA
Otonabee-Peterborough	100%	P: Progressing well / on target
Kawartha-Haliburton	100%	P: Progressing well / on target
Crowe Valley	100%	P: Progressing well / on target
Lower Trent	100%	P: Progressing well / on target

Our overall progress score across the Trent Source Protection Plan on achieving source protection plan objectives in this reporting period is as follows:

P: Progressing well / on target: Most of the source protection plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing according to the timelines in the source protection plan.



## **3.2 MUNICIPAL PROGRESS – ADDRESSING RISKS ON THE GROUND**

Municipalities and approval authorities under the *Planning Act* are the Implementing Bodies for 56 policies in the Trent Source Protection Plan. The jurisdictions of 43 municipalities lies within the Trent Conservation Coalition Source Protection Region, however of those, 27 municipalities (22 lower tier and 5 upper tier) contain vulnerable areas where Source Protection Plan polices apply.

For the Trent Source Protection Plan, a summary of key information and progress scores is as follows:

Source Protection Area	% Official Plan Policies Implemented	% Zoning By- Law Policies Implemented	% Emergency Management Policies Implemented	Progress Score assigned by SPA
Otonabee- Peterborough	100%	89%	100%	P: Progressing well / on target
Kawartha- Haliburton	67%	75%	100%	P: Progressing well / on target
Crowe Valley	100%	100%	100%	P: Progressing well / on target
Lower Trent	71%	67%	100%	P: Progressing well / on target

For the above table, it is important to note that although some work is in progress, including waiting on council approval for updates, zero municipalities report they have not started.

## **3.2 MUNICIPAL PROGRESS – ADDRESSING RISKS ON THE GROUND**

Under the category "% Official Plan and Zoning By-Law Policies Implemented" all of the municipalities are in process of implementing. The majority of municipalities have amended their Official Plans, or are waiting for municipal council approval of these amendments. All municipalities have implemented source protection into their Emergency Management Plans.

Our overall progress score on achieving source protection plan objectives in this reporting period is as follows:

P: Progressing well / on target: Most of the source protection plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing according to the timelines in the source protection plan.



## **3.3 SEPTIC INSPECTIONS**

While outside the scope of the *Clean Water Act*, The Ontario Building Code (OBC) requires that septic system threats be subject to a mandatory inspection program. Based on the location of individual septic systems, the responsibility to undertake these inspections may be that of the local Health Unit/department, municipality, or Conservation Authority depending on which body is empowered as the principal authority (municipalities).

Compliance Date Summary		
Existing	5 years from notice on EBR (November 3, 2019)	
Future	When the plan takes effect (January 1, 2015)	

Compliance dates for existing sewage system inspections (those constructed by the following date) are set by the s. 1.10.2.4 (2)(a)(i)(A) of <u>O. Reg.</u> <u>315/10: BUILDING CODE</u> to be five years after the date of publishing of the Assessment Report on the Environmental Bill of Rights. Or, five years after the construction of the sewage system, in the case of a sewage system constructed on or after the date of publication. The EBR Registry Number is <u>012-2699</u> and was posted November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014 therefore the compliance date for most existing sewage systems is November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019, and every five years after. Page 41 of 61

The progress of septic inspections for the Trent Source Protection Authorities is as follows:

SPA (Compliance period)	Inspection Agency(ies)	# Systems Requiring Inspection (for 5 year compliance period)	# Inspections (this reporting period)	# Requiring Maintenance	# and (% Complete)
Otonabee- Peterborough	Municipal Building Inspectors (Douro-Dummer) and Peterborough Public Health	194	8	1 (2%)	175 (90%)
Kawartha- Haliburton	Municipal Building Inspectors	390	116	4 (3%)	303(78%)
Crowe Valley	Municipal Building Inspectors and Peterborough Public Health (Havelock)	45	1	0 (0%)	14 (31%)
Lower Trent	Municipal Building Officials and Septic Inspectors	156	5	1 (20%)	119 (76%)

## **3.3 SEPTIC INSPECTIONS**

For Kawartha-Haliburton, Crowe Valley and Lower Trent, 2023 marked year 3 of their 5-year cycle for inspections.

It should be noted that overall, 100% of existing septic threats were inspected in accordance with the previous 5-year compliance period from the Ontario Building Code.

Of the inspections completed in 2023, 5% required maintenance, mostly minor, and 95% function as required.

Due to the shifting five year cycles of sewage system reporting there are varied levels of completion among the Source Protection Areas.

For Otonabee-Peterborough, 2023 is year 5 of their second 5-year cycle, and 19 inspections are currently out of date. Otonabee-Peterborough achieved 100% compliance for the previous period.



### **3.3 SEPTIC INSPECTIONS**

Source Protection Area	Standard Operating Procedures in place for future threats?
Otonabee-Peterborough	100%
Kawartha-Haliburton	100%
Crowe Valley	100%
Lower Trent	100%

All municipalities and/or health units have standard operating procedures to ensure OBC compliance and thus ensure that future septic systems do not become significant threats.

Our progress score on achieving source protection plan objectives in this reporting period is as follows:



P: Progressing well / on target: Most of the source protection plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing according to the timelines in the source protection plan.

### 3.4 RISK MANAGEMENT PLANS Page 44 of 61

Risk Management Officials (RMOs) are the Implementing Body for 39 policies in the Trent Source Protection Plan, and utilize the following tools which were established under Part IV of the *Act*, to manage threats: Prohibition (s.57); Risk Management Plans (s.58); and, Restricted Land Uses (s.59).

Compliance Date Summary		
Existing	Existing 8 years from plan taking effect	
	(January 1, 2023)	
Future	When the plan takes effect	
	(January 1, 2015)	

Existing threats have a 5-year compliance date. Future threat policies are effective when the plan takes effect. In 2020, the MECP approved an extension of 2 years due to COVID-19 and other delays.



## 3.4 RISK MANAGEMENT PLANS Page 45 of 61

Source Protection Area	# RMP's Established in Reporting Period	# Significant Threats Managed	# of Threats remaining to be managed	# Inspections
Otonabee- Peterborough	0	0	2	3
Kawartha-Haliburton	0	0	9	67
Crowe Valley	0	0	0	0
Lower Trent	5	6	0	24

Five (5) Risk Management Plans have been established for this reporting period. These 5 plans collectively manage a total of 6 significant drinking water threats. Risk Management Officials report an ongoing effort to refine the number of significant drinking water threats based on information gathered from site visits, direct contacts and other means. The number of threats remaining has been revised to not include septic threats, and as a result as reduced to 11 (8 Fuel, 3 DNAPL).

The total number of inspections carried out by a Risk Management Official was 94. The compliance rate with the Risk Management Plans established is 100%.

A total of 97 Section 59 notices were issued for this reporting period. The processes to screen development applications is reported to be working and some municipalities continue to fine tune their screening processes to improve efficiencies.

### 3.4 RISK MANAGEMENT PLANS Page 46 of 61

The contact details for the Risk Management Officials can found on the Trent Conservation Coalition website: <u>http://trentsourceprotection.on.ca/risk-</u> <u>management/contact-your-risk-management-</u> <u>official-inspector</u>.





P: Progressing well / on target: Most of the source protection plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing according to the timelines in the source protection plan.

## **3.5 PROVINCIAL PROGRESS: ADDRESSING RISKS ON THE GROUND**

Five provincial ministries reported on progress of 27 policies in our Source Protection Plan.

The ministries listed below have implemented 93% of the TCC policies. The remaining 7% are reported to be in progress. The table below summarizes the progress achieved for policy implementation as reported by each ministry:

Implementing Body	Policy Implementation	Policy Implementation	Policy Implementation
	Complete (%)	in Progress (%)	Not Started (%)
Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Rural	(100%)		
Affairs (OMAFRA)			
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation	(100%)		
and Parks (MECP)			
Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry	(100%)		
(MNRF)			
Ministry of Transportation (MTO)	(60%)	(40%)	
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing		(100%)	
(MMAH)			

# **3.5 PROVINCIAL PROGRESS: ADDRESSING RISKS ON THE GROUND**

For existing threats, Ontario ministries listed above are reviewing previously issued provincial approvals (i.e., prescribed instruments, such as environmental compliance approvals under the Environmental Protection Act) where they have been identified as a tool in the Trent Source Protection Plan to address existing activities that pose a significant risk to sources of drinking water. The provincial approvals are being amended or revoked where necessary to conform with the Trent Source Protection Plan policies. Our policies set out a timeline of 5 years to complete the review and make any necessary changes.

The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks reports that the percent progress made on prescribed instruments (PI) review is 100% for the following categories:

- Waste disposal sites landfilling and storage
- Sewage Works/Wastewater
- Municipal Drinking Water Licences & Drinking Water Works Permits

The Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs reports that the percent progress made on prescribed instruments (PI) review is 100% for the following categories:

- Nutrient Management Strategies (NMS)
- Non-Agricultural Source Material (NASM) Plans

The Ministry of Transportation reports that a process is in place to ensure Prescribed Instrument holders comply with the terms and conditions of their Prescribed Instrument.

For future threats, Ministries reported that 100% are implemented, with standard operating procedures in place where applications are reviewed to ensure the proposed activities conform to our policies.

P: Progressing well / on target: Most of the source protection plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing according to the timelines in the source protection plan.

Ten (10) policies in the Trent Source Protection Plan utilize the education and outreach (E & O) tool to influence behavior and encourage the voluntary adoption of practices to better protect sources of municipal drinking water.

Road signage was identified as an effective E & O tool to raise awareness of the Drinking Water Source Protection Program (DWSPP) and the importance of protecting sources of municipal drinking water. Drinking Water Protection Zone signs have been installed in vulnerable areas across the Trent Conservation Source Protection Region. To date, all required Drinking Water Protection Zone signs have been installed in the four Source Protection Authorities, including 255 under the Trent Source Protection Plan.



Regionally, the threat from Road Salt was a key focus for E & O this year with the continuation of the Salt Responsibly campaign. This included stickers to be placed on road salt boxes; and an interactive story map with information, science and actions that the public can take to reduce the threat of road salt on our sources of drinking water. Education and outreach efforts were also involved in spreading the news of our upcoming Section 36 Amendment, as well as raising awareness for the new Best Practices for non-municipal drinking water systems.



Fuel threats, and specifically fuel oil tanks were again a key focus of education and outreach this reporting period. This included information products related to fuel storage and handling, and information provided to local fuel suppliers. Social media posts related to fuel threats were also used in 2023 to remind residents of their potential to impact drinking water sources. Social media posts were also used to communicate changes and solicit comments related to fuel policies as a result of the proposed Section 36 Amendments to the Trent Source Protection Plan.

Education and outreach activities were integrated into Risk Management Official activities and included best management practices as risk management measures in risk management plans. Specific activities related to fuel threats included the installation of fuel tank stickers and fill pipe tags identifying that the location is in a Vulnerable Area and providing provincial Spills Action Centre contact number.



### **Otonabee-Peterborough Source Protection Authority**

Ongoing Education and Outreach efforts are primarily targeted to those undertaking activities that are, or would be significant drinking water threats. Through agreements between the Conservation Authority and eight municipalities, information related to significant drinking water threats and the Drinking Water Source Protection Program are made available at office location, websites and on social media platforms.

Information related to specific drinking water threats such as Road Salt, Snow Storage, DNAPLs and Organic Solvents, Fuel, Sewage, and Pesticides was communicated through social media posts throughout the year. Messages related to water quality, water quantity, stormwater, sewage, road salt and other threats were integrated into presentations, educational activities and displays delivered virtually and in person. This information was shared at various events including the East Central Farm Show, Peterborough Children's Water Festival, Celebrate Havelock, and Millbrook Street Festival.

Information products including brochures and factsheets are made publicly available electronically, and in hard copy and used to support ongoing education and outreach efforts. These products include information related to threats, and activities such as buying or selling property.

### **Otonabee-Peterborough Source Protection Authority** - continued

Throughout 2023, existing information materials and website content was updated to ensure it remains current, relevant and AODA compliant.

The Risk Management Office also regularly provides information and access to online resources including systems summaries with maps, local municipal waste disposal sites and services in their communications with stakeholders. Other activities included seasonal social media campaigns and distribution of information to affected landowners and tenants in vulnerable areas to help them better understand how to protect municipal sources of drinking water.



### **Kawartha-Haliburton Source Protection Authority**

### Education and Outreach efforts in 2023 included:

- Attendance at the East Central Farm Show and the Country Living Show. RMO and Conservation Authority staff attended these events to share information on the SWP program and stewardships initiatives. The vulnerable area posters and road sign were a great draw for people to the booth.
- Direct mailouts to landowners impacted by the S.36 Amendments.
- Municipalities and Kawartha Conservation staff continue to share both CO and Kawartha Conservation's custom made education and outreach materials throughout the year.



### **Crowe Valley Source Protection Authority**

Advertisements in community guides. Learning opportunities typically directed at special events such as water festivals, with education and outreach targeted at those activities that would be significant drinking water threats. Websites updates, and Conservation Ontario infographics and factsheets used and shared. Promotion of Salt Responsibly campaign.





#### **Lower Trent Source Protection Authority**

Education and outreach this reporting period included a variety of approaches to reach a broad audience. This included use of traditional media, such as advertising in the Community Guide, as well as 15 social media posts reaching over 7,000 people. DWSP information on Lower Trent Conservation website was consistently updated. LTC also supported and promoted the Road sign and Salt Responsibly campaigns to raise awareness.

Youth education was also a priority. Approximately 1200 students, teachers and parents were engaged through the Tri-County Children's Water Festival, as well as ~1100 children through virtual and in-person programming. Over 800 people were also reached through presentations and participation at community events, including LTC Farewell to frost, Quinte West Wellness Expo, and the Hastings County Plowing Match.



Our progress score for each Source Protection Authority on achieving source protection plan objectives in this reporting period is as follows:

Source Protection Authority	Status
Otonabee-Peterborough	P: Progressing well / on target
Kawartha-Haliburton	P: Progressing well / on target
Crowe Valley	P: Progressing well / on target
Lower Trent	P: Progressing well / on target

Our overall progress score on achieving source protection plan objectives in this reporting period is as follows:

 $\checkmark$ 

P: Progressing well / on target: Most of the source protection plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing according to the timelines in the source protection plan.

## **3.7 SOURCE PROTECTION PLAN POLICIES: SUMMARY OF DELAYS**

The Trent Conservation Coalition Source Protection Region, not including Ganaraska, reports no significant delays in policy implementation. However, policy implementation challenges were addressed through our S.36 Amendment, submitted in December, 2023, which upon release of this Report is waiting final approval from the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks. Through this process, policy wording has been improved to assist in overall Trent Source Protection Plan implementation.



# **3.8 SOURCE WATER QUALITY: MONITORING AND ACTIONS**

A water quality issue, as identified by the Source Protection Committee, is where a contaminant is present at a level of concern or showing an upward trend and threatens the municipal drinking water source. The issue contributing area (ICA) is an area of land or water where activities are contributing to the water quality issue.

These activities are classified as significant threats to drinking water.

#### Stirling Water System

Stirling wells were identified as having an E. coli issue in the raw untreated water. Observations this year showed no change in concentration or trends. In response to the issue, the municipality engaged in the following activities:

- Reported annually by February 1<sup>st</sup> to the Lower Trent Source Protection Authority
- A new less vulnerable well was brought on line in 2020 to reduce risk of E. coli. RMPs continue to be developed to reduce the amount of E. coli entering Rawdon Creek
- Monitored the identified issue through data as provided in the Stirling-Rawdon annual water report. The report also identified the municipality continues to track Total Coliform (TC) hits
- Undertook hydrological studies showing the wells are Groundwater Under the Direct Influence (GUDI) of surface water and there is in situ filtration.
- Completed all septic inspections in the Stirling Issue Contributing Area
- All identified significant drinking water threats have been managed by RMPs
- Completed Education & Outreach activities including advertorials in local newspaper, attendance at local events, updated factsheets and door-to-door visits in the Issue Contributing Area



## **3.9 SCIENCE BASED ASSESSMENT REPORTS: WORK PLANS**

Water Budget - Technical Rule #30.1 for Stirling-Rawdon a Tier 3 water budget was included in the 2018 Section 36 work plan, however still requires MECP support and funding to proceed. To be reviewed in 2024 upon approval of new Assessment Report.



## **4. MORE FROM THE WATERSHED**

Find out more information about DWSP and what's happening in the TCC SPR at <u>trentsourceprotection.on.ca</u> including details on:

- The Clean Water Act
- The Trent Conservation Coalition Source Protection Region
- The four Source Protection Authorities that make up the Trent Source Protection Plan
- Publications and resources such as the source protection plans and assessment reports
- Am I affected? / policy mapping tool
- Best Practices for Non-Municipal Source Protection

# Alternatively, for more information, please contact your local Source Protection Authority:

Source Protection Authority	SPA Lead Contact:
Otonabee CONSERVATION	Meredith Carter Manager, Watershed Management Program Otonabee Region Conservation Authority 705-745-5791 x223 mcarter@otonabeeconservation.com
KAWARTHA Discover - Protect - Restore	Jenna Stephens Risk Management Official /Source Protection Technician Kawartha-Haliburton Source Protection Authority (705) 328-2271 x 224 jstephens@kawarthaconservation.com
Crowe Valley	Andrew McIntyre Crowe Valley Source Protection Authority Risk Management Official / Source Water Protection Specialist (613) 472-3137 andrew.mcintyre@crowevalley.com
LOWER TRENT CONSERVATION	Anne Anderson Special Project Coordinator Lower Trent Source Protection Authority (613) 394-4829 x 219 anne.anderson@ltc.on.ca