

Source Protection

Authority: organization whose responsibilities include providing administrative and technical support to the source protection committee and the source protection planning process. In most cases this is the conservation authority board, which is comprised of representatives appointed by municipal councils.

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Committee: the committee will be made up of representatives from watershed stakeholders (such as municipal, agriculture, landowners, industry, environmental non-government organizations) and members of the public at large and will work together with municipalities, conservation authorities, and provincial agencies.

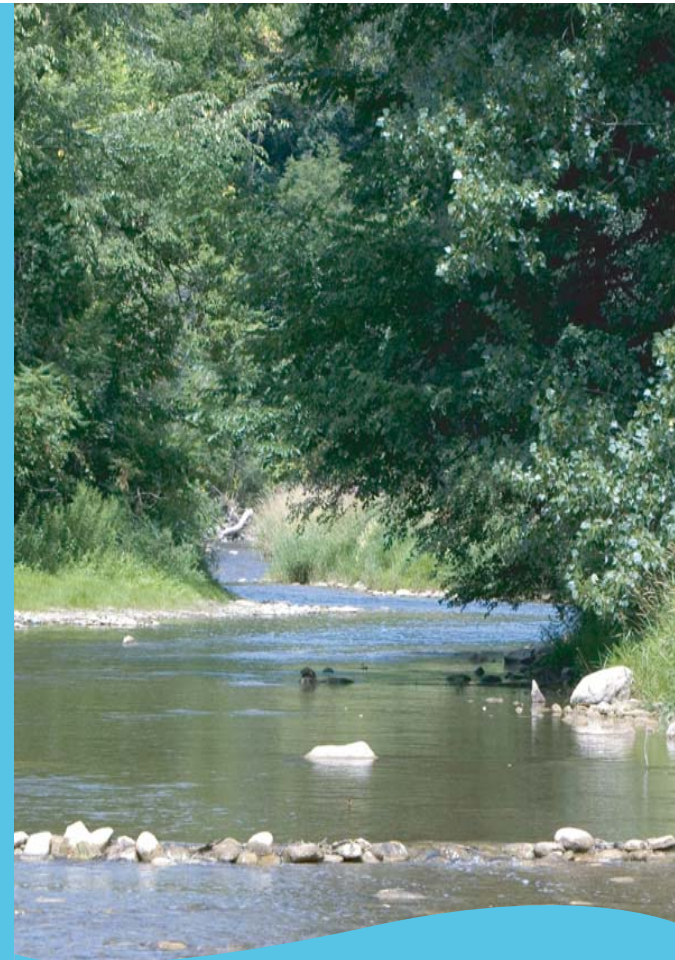
Background information on the Clean Water Act is available on the Ministry of the Environment website at: ontario.ca/cleanwater

Further local information on drinking water source protection can be found at: conservationontario.on.ca/source_protection/otherswpreionsindex.htm



This publication is provided for information purposes only. For compliance purposes reference should always be made to the Act or related regulations.

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Roles and Responsibilities for the Clean Water Act, 2006

The Ontario government passed the Clean Water Act to help protect drinking water at the source, as part of an overall commitment to safeguard human health and the environment.

The legislation sets prevention as its fundamental principle. Keeping the sources of our drinking water free of contamination is smarter, safer and more effective than cleaning up problems after the fact.

A key focus of the legislation is the production of locally developed, science-based drinking water source protection assessment reports and source protection plans.

The following information provides an overview of roles and responsibilities under the Clean Water Act.

Partner Roles and Responsibilities for the *Clean Water Act, 2006*

Source Protection Areas and Regions	Province	Source Protection Committee	Municipality	Source Protection Authority
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develops regulation to amend initial source protection area boundaries that were based on the conservation authority boundaries to ensure watershed based jurisdiction for source protection planning Communicates with municipalities and source protection authorities about boundary changes that may affect them 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Once the source protection committees are established they will be working within the boundaries of the source protection area or source protection region 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All participating municipalities that are within a source protection area whose boundary has been altered will be listed in the areas and regions regulation Municipalities in a source protection area will need to appoint a representative to sit on the source protection authority board, in accordance with the <i>Conservation Authorities Act</i>. Under the section 8 of the <i>Conservation Authorities Act</i>, municipalities may group together to appoint a representative jointly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Source protection authorities for source protection areas that are grouped together in a region must establish an agreement between each other within 90 days of the areas and regions regulation being promulgated
Terms of Reference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides guidance on the development of the terms of reference Minister approves the terms of reference Minister may elevate certain systems to undergo source protection planning and amend the terms of reference 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepares the terms of reference for the source protection area Must consult with municipalities and public Must advise First Nations on reserves that the source protection committee is starting to prepare the terms of reference Must advise municipalities that the source protection committee is starting to prepare the terms of reference Through negotiation and consultation, assigns tasks to municipalities and source protection authority to complete components of the assessment report and source protection plan. Must have municipal council resolution from municipality agreeing to undertake the task prior to assigning the task Must consider comments of municipalities, First Nations, public and others involved in consultations when finalizing draft proposed terms of reference Must submit proposed terms of reference to the source protection authority Must post proposed terms of reference on the Internet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Should participate in consultations around the terms of reference When bringing in municipal elevated drinking water systems, must pass council resolution (resolution to be included in terms of reference) May pass municipal council resolution (resolution included in terms of reference) if a municipal residential drinking water system will not be undergoing source protection planning because the system is being taken out of use When negotiating to do work around the assessment report and source protection plan, will need to provide the source protection committee with council resolution agreeing to undertake tasks May submit comments on the terms of reference for the Minister's review to the source protection authority 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will provide administrative and technical support when the source protection committee is developing the terms of reference May be assigned tasks to develop the assessment report and source protection plan Must submit terms of reference to the Minister along with municipal, authority, and public's comments Must submit any concerns that were not resolved to the satisfaction of First Nations to the Minister Must post terms of reference on the Internet after it is approved by Minister
Assessment Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides guidance on the development of the assessment report Director approves the assessment report Must provide relevant data and information to the source protection committee for the development of the assessment report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepares the assessment report for the source protection area Must consult with municipalities in developing the assessment report Must post proposed assessment report on the Internet Must submit proposed assessment report to the source protection authority 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May undertake work in the assessment report that was assigned in the terms of reference (if passed council resolution agreeing to undertake the task). May submit comments to the source protection authority on the proposed assessment report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Should undertake work in the assessment report that was assigned in the terms of reference Must submit proposed assessment report to the Minister Must submit municipal, authority and public comments on the assessment report to the Minister
Source Protection Plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides guidance on the development of the source protection plan Minister approves the source protection plan Must provide relevant data and information to the source protection committee for the development of the source protection plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepares the source protection plan for the source protection area Must consult with municipalities in developing the source protection plan Must submit proposed source protection plan to the source protection authority 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May undertake work in the source protection plan that was assigned in the terms of reference (if passed council resolution agreeing to undertake the task) May submit comments to the source protection authority on the proposed source protection plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Should undertake work in the source protection plan that was assigned in the terms of reference Must submit proposed source protection plan to the Minister May propose amendments to the source protection plan and if they do, must consult with municipalities on those proposed amendments