

From: Jenna Snelgrove [REDACTED]
Date: February 13, 2019 at 9:11:30 AM EST
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Cc: [REDACTED], Heather Boyd <Heather.Boyd@brant.ca>, Rob Trotter <Rob.Trotter@brant.ca>, Andrea Hicks [REDACTED], Ruchika Angrish <Ruchika.Angrish@brant.ca>
Subject: RE: News Release - Lake Erie Source Protection Region

Good morning Mr. Ball,

The Grand River Source Protection Plan (the Plan) was approved in 2015 and the County of Brant has been actively implementing the policies of the Plan since it came into effect in July 2016. The current draft updated Grand River Source Protection Plan is a new version that includes refined mapping of the vulnerable areas affected by policies. The County of Brant is continuing to implement its Source Protection Program with persons affected by policies in the current version of the Plan and will be engaging with persons newly affected by the updated Plan once it is approved by the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP).

As a result of the changes proposed within the draft updated Plan, the boundaries of the vulnerable areas that were previously established for the St. George, Airport, Bethel, and Mount Pleasant drinking water supplies have been changed. The Wellhead Protection Areas (WHPA) boundaries corresponding to the St. George and Airport Drinking Water Supplies have been changed to reflect the addition of new wells within these drinking water systems. A WHPA boundary includes the lands surrounding the physical structure of a well where land use activities have the potential to impact local water quality. For the Bethel Drinking Water Supply, nitrate was previously identified as a concern within this area; however, a steady decline in nitrate concentrations was observed from 2008 to present. For the Mount Pleasant Drinking Water Supply, chloride was previously identified as a concern; however since 2008, these concentrations have also declined. Due to these water quality improvements, vulnerable areas called Issue Contributing Areas (ICA) have been removed from the mapping in the draft updated Plan.

The following are examples of land use activities addressed through policies within both the current and draft updated Grand River Source Protection Plan:

- Septic systems, or sanitary sewers and related pipes
- The handling, storage and application of agricultural source material (manure)
- The handling, storage and application of pesticide
- The handling, storage and application of commercial fertilizer
- The handling and storage of fuel for commercial/industrial/agricultural purposes
- The use of land as livestock grazing or pasturing land, an outdoor confinement area or a farm-animal yard

Policies included within the Plan include a septic system maintenance inspection program, review of new development proposals within vulnerable areas, and delivery of an Education and Outreach Program to County of Brant citizens in vulnerable areas. The County of Brant's appointed Risk Management Official is also responsible for working alongside persons engaged in land use activities to establish Risk Management Plans that contain measures to minimize the activity's impact on drinking water quality.

In case you have any further questions about the County of Brant's role in implementing the Draft Updated Grand River Source Protection Plan, please feel free to let me know.

Thank you,

Jenna

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Source Water Protection Assistant

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