



For Immediate Release
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ONTARIO MOVES TO PROTECT DRINKING WATER SOURCES *Grants For Scientific Studies Support Local Water Protection Planning*

Hanover — The Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority and local municipalities are pleased to receive \$ 1,440,850 from the provincial government to assist with protecting community drinking water supplies.

The McGuinty government is providing almost \$10 million in grants this year, \$8.5 million of which is going to municipalities and their partner conservation authorities for scientific studies to support their source water protection efforts. These grants are part of the government's \$67.5 million commitment for source protection planning.

“We all need sustainable sources of clean, safe drinking water,” said Doug Freiburger, Chair of the Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority. “This funding is allowing us and our partner municipalities to undertake studies that will provide the basis for developing water protection approaches that make sense for local communities.”

The Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority is working with fourteen local municipalities to gather the information about the state of water in their watersheds that the municipalities need to develop local protection plans.

The proposed Clean Water Act was introduced following broad consultations with municipalities, agriculture, conservation authorities, industry, non-governmental organizations, public health officials, water experts and the public. If passed, it would ensure that communities are able to identify potential risks to their supply of drinking water, and take action to reduce or eliminate these risks. Municipalities, conservation authorities, landowners, farmers, industry, community groups, health officials and the public would all work together to meet common goals.

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