

STATE COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GROUND WATER

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
Lazarus Government Center
Columbus, Ohio 43215-1049

Ohio Department of Natural Resources
Fountain Square
Columbus, Ohio 43224-1387

Ohio Department of Health
246 North High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43266-0588

Ohio Department of Commerce-SFM
8895 East Main Street
Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068

Ohio Public Utilities Commission
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43266-0573

Ohio Department of Agriculture
8995 East Main Street
Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068-3399

Ohio Department of Development
77 South High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43266-0413

Ohio Department of Transportation
1980 West Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

TO PROMOTE AND GUIDE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A COORDINATED, COMPREHENSIVE AND EFFECTIVE GROUND WATER PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FOR THE STATE OF OHIO

June 29, 2004
Highbanks Metro Park
Nature Center

ABSTRACT

The June 2004 meeting consisted of Agency announcements

ATTENDANCE

OEPA: Tom Allen, Bob Knipmeyer, Barb Lubberger

ODNR: Mike Hallfrisch, John Kessler, Ted Lozier

USGS: Jeff DeRoche

ODH: Rebecca Fugitt

ODA: Bill Goodman

PUCO: Sue Daly

MAY DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY

No changes requested

AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ohio EPA, Directors Office, Bob Knipmeyer announced:

- Ohio Citizen Action hosted a meeting on the chemical "C8" in Washington County, Ohio on June 17th. Jane Houlihan, of the Environmental Working Group in Washington DC, was the keynote speaker.

- The Department of Energy is offering a billion-dollar grant for piloting a coal-fired power plant whose carbon dioxide emissions would be injected into the deep subsurface via a UIC Class I well. Ohio will submit a proposal in September, and currently is considering potential sites.

- So far this year, in Ohio West Nile virus has not yet been identified in horses or humans. The epicenter was in Illinois last year and this year appears to have moved to Arizona.

Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Water, Ted Lozier announced:

- The Division's survey regarding usage of its information was filled out by 166 recipients, 70% of them drillers and 30% consultants and agency staff. The items used most are well logs and Ground Water Resources maps. The improvement most desired is the ability to locate electronic well logs by reference to Web-based maps (currently, well log searches are based on the address).

- The Division is still seeking funding from other agencies (NOAA, ODOT, OEPA, ODH, etc.) to Web-enable its well log library. So far only NOAA has committed funds.

- Representative Wagner's office has been contacted by local opponents to a proposed dairy operation of 2,000+ head in Greene County. They are claiming the facility's wells will dewater their residential wells.

- Senator Carmichael has approached the Legislative Services Commission about developing possible legislative solutions to ground water use conflicts. This came as a result of concern over use of an aquifer located in northwest Wayne County by Wadsworth, which is located in Medina County. Constituents in Wayne County are concerned this use will deplete their future water needs .

- The Water Monitoring Workgroup for the Ohio Water Resources Council has had its charter approved and is working on making water monitoring data available on the Web.

Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Soil and Water Conservation Services, John Kessler announced:

- Applications for watershed coordinator supplemental grants are due on June 30th. Proposals for full watershed coordinator grants are due September 1st. Thanks to some additional funding provided by the Division of Mineral Resources Management, the division will be able to select three coordinators instead of two, as originally planned.

- The program intends to do a thorough review of the financial model used for funding watershed action plans over the last five years, and try to make improvements.

- In late July the division will host a "summer school" for division staff and SWCD Board members, which will include sessions on watershed planning, and advanced technical topics.

- USEPA's Kansas City office called to say they had heard good things about how the division coordinates with other state programs (such as OEPA's TMDL and SWAP programs), and was interested in visiting Ohio in late July to discuss Ohio's watershed program. SCCGW members will be invited to participate.

Ohio Department of Agriculture, Bill Goodman announced:

- ODA is working with ODH and OEPA to establish a new water quality laboratory that will be used by all three agencies, located on the ODA grounds.

- The gypsy moth spraying program has begun.
- A possible case of BSE ("mad cow disease") has been identified in Iowa, but has not been confirmed yet.

Ohio Department of Health, Rebecca Fugitt announced:

- House Bill 231 (home sewage) passed the House and will go to the Senate in the fall.

- Fee increases for water well licensing will go into effect in mid-November. This will ease current budget pressures and help fund two new positions in the Water Program, which will be posted in mid-August.

- John Smith is leaving the program, and his 319 grant project work will be distributed to other staff. (The joint ODNR-USGS 319 project is intended to provide detailed information on Ohio soils, which will enable County health department staff to permit appropriate types of home wastewater systems.) Development of GIS overlays and applications will be contracted to ODNR.

- The final report for this 319 grant is due September 30th.

- Sampling of 51 domestic wells in the Oak Opening Sands of northwest Ohio was conducted in early June, to test for the presence of pesticides.

- ODH also sampled 37 private wells in a Wayne County subdivision for impacts from septage related to private septic systems that are inappropriately sited. Analysis revealed the presence of *E. coli* bacteria as well as elevated nitrates and chlorides. The county is requiring residents to upgrade their aerators and add chlorinators. The eventual goal is to extend sanitary sewer lines to this subdivision.

-ODH sampled ten private wells in Elizabethtown (Hamilton County) on June 24th, for impacts from the area's numerous dry wells.

- ODH recently sampled ten residential cisterns in the Marietta area for potential impacts from heavy metals in air releases from the nearby Aromet facility.

Ohio EPA, Division of Drinking and Ground Waters, Barb Lubberger and Tom Allen announced:

- Heather Raymond will be e-mailing SCCGW members the applications for 319 planning grants, for their review. Comments are needed by the next SCCGW meeting (July 15). Applications for the 319 implementation grants have not come in yet. When they do, the applications with ground water issues will be e-mailed to SCCGW members for review. Questions should be directed to Heather (644-2911).

- The grant proposal for Source Water Environmental Education Teams, which was presented by Kristy Hunt at the May SCCGW meeting, will be submitted in January 2005 instead of July 2004, as originally planned.

- DDAGW is working with its Public Interest Center to design a SCCGW page on OEPA/DDAGW's Web site, with links to the Ohio Water Resources Council's Web site, as well as Ohio EPA's main Web site.

- The Midwest Ground Water Conference will be held in Bloomington, Indiana this year, October 28-29. Abstracts are due June 30th.

- Michael Eggert met with ODA Livestock Environmental Permitting Program on June 23rd to review four County SWAP Maps prepared for use by their Rule Advisory Committee. The maps were developed to provide the committee members a better understanding of the distribution and size of both community and non-community public water system source water protection areas referenced in their rules. They are considering modifications to CAFO facility siting criteria.

- Reporting on current Action Items of the Ohio Water Resources Council (OWRC) Strategic Plan is being updated. Please let Tom know of any OWRC Action Items completed from January to June 2004.

- The OWRC Education and Outreach workgroup is working on its charter. It is also deciding whether and how to bring the Storm Center initiative (environmental education via local TV weather casters) into Ohio, and acting as a focus group for the contractor hired to develop the Water Portal.

- The October 6-7 Water Management Association of Ohio (WMAO) Fall Conference will be held at the Marriott North. The agenda is being drafted (Tom distributed copies) and must be finalized by July 12th.

NEXT SCCGW MEETING:

Thursday, July 15th, at the Horace R. Collins Conference Center (ODNR Repository).

In addition to agency updates and announcements, there will be a presentation on BUSTR's proposed new rules and a presentation on Geoprobe technology. Lunch will be followed by an outdoor demonstration of Geoprobe.

Please let Tom Allen know by July 8th who from your program will attend. Staff are welcome to attend the morning presentation during the SCCGW meeting as well as the afternoon demonstration.

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**Horace R. Collins Conference Room
July 15, 2004**

- 8:30 - 8:35 CALL TO ORDER
 - Introductions
- 8:35 - 8:40 JUNE DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY
- 8:40 - 10:15 AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
- 10:15 - 10:25 BREAK
- 10:25 - 11:00 PRESENTATION OF BUSTR'S PROPOSED NEW RULES
- 11:00 - 11:25 PRESENTATION OF GEOPROBE TECHNOLOGY
- 11:25 - 11:30 AUGUST AGENDA
- 11:30 ADJOURN

Tom Allen will provide drinks and items to make sandwiches. Other SCCGW members are encouraged to bring a side dish.

- 1:00 - 3:00 GEOPROBE DEMONSTRATION (Outside)