

# STATE COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GROUND WATER

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

October 18, 2007

Horace Collins Conference Room  
Delaware, Ohio

### ABSTRACT

The October 2007 SCCGW meeting consisted of Agency announcements and three presentations: "Thought Process Behind Ground Water Protection at C&DD Facilities" (Lindsay Taliaferro III, OEPA); "The Association of Arsenic with Redox Conditions and Ground-Water Age in the Glacial Aquifer System of the Northern United States" (Mary Ann Thomas, USGS); and "Hydrogeologic Arsenic Assessment for Public Water Systems" (Michael Slattery, Ohio EPA).

### ATTENDANCE

Ohio EPA: Tom Allen (SCCGW Chair), Bob Knipmeyer (Directors Office), Michael Eggert, Barb Lubberger, Michael Slattery, Lindsay Taliaferro III (DDAGW), Brian Hall (DSW), Scott Heidenreich (DSIWM), Mike Allen (DERR)  
ODNR: Mike Angle, Rick Pavey (OGS), Chris Kasselmann (DSWC), Ted Lozier (DOW)  
PUCO: Sue Daly  
NRCS: John Armentano  
USGS: Denise Dumouchelle, Mary Ann Thomas

-- *Technical Guide to Managing Ground Water Resources* (USDA Forest Service)  
([http://www.fs.fed.us/biology/resources/pubs/watershed/groundwater/ground\\_water\\_technical\\_guide\\_fs-881\\_march2007.pdf](http://www.fs.fed.us/biology/resources/pubs/watershed/groundwater/ground_water_technical_guide_fs-881_march2007.pdf))

-- *Report to the Nation: A Call to Action* (Ground Water Protection Council), which has great visuals and succinct Executive Summaries for each state.  
([http://www.qwpc.org/home/GWPC\\_Home.dwt](http://www.qwpc.org/home/GWPC_Home.dwt))

Balanced Growth. The Lake Erie Commission is implementing four Balanced Growth pilot projects in northern Ohio. Within each project area, at least 75% of the local governments must agree on which areas are to be preserved as conservation areas and which may be developed. Local zoning then is expected to follow these guidelines.

The Ohio Water Resources Council (OWRC) will meet on November 20<sup>th</sup> to discuss promoting this model throughout Ohio as a mechanism for

### AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### **Tom Allen, SCCGW Chairman:**

Ground Water Reports. The following newly published reports may be of interest to SCCGW members:

protecting water resources, along with others such as watershed plans.

#### Storm Center Project.

Hopefully soon StormCenter will sign a contract with a Toledo TV station to launch Envirocast project in northwest Ohio in January 2008, via funding from the Western Lake Erie Basin Committee. The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) has agreed to continue partnering with the OWRC and find funding to launch StormCenter/Envirocast in central Ohio.

Upcoming Conferences. MORPC will hold a summit on sustainable growth on November 13 and 14. The Water Management Association of Ohio (WMAO) will host its fall meeting on November 14 and 15.

Sensitive Aquifers. Siting criteria established to protect ground water are being evaluated, such as the 100 gal./min. unconsolidated aquifer rule in solid waste landfill regulations. (See Fact Sheet handout from Tom Allen).

#### ***Ohio EPA, Division of Drinking and Ground Waters:***

Ground Water Protection Council (GWPC). Mike Eggert attended the GWPC's Annual Forum in September, where he was named co-chair of the Council's Ground Water division.

TOT Studies. The Division has initiated a contract with USGS to complete time-of-travel studies on approximately twenty streams that are used by public water systems. The goal is to develop better estimates of the time required for a spill to reach the intake from any given point on the river under various flow conditions.

Aggregate Mines. DDAGW is working with ODNR's Division of Mineral Resources Management, discussing concerns frequently voiced by the public about the impacts of aggregate mining on drinking water quality.

Ground Water Rule. The Division is working on developing the Ohio version of the federal Ground Water Rule. It is expected to be implemented in 2009.

Carbon Sequestration Pilot Project. The R. A. Berger Co. has drilled a well 8,400 feet deep in Belmont County. This fall the company plans to apply to Ohio EPA's Underground Injection Control unit for a permit to inject 30 tons/day of carbon dioxide into the Clinton, Oriskany and Williamsport formations.

Reports. The Division is completing the following reports:

- Study of bacteria contamination in finished water from public water systems around Buckeye Lake;
- Karst development and ground water flow rates in Clark County; and
- Ground Water Impacts of Infiltration of Partially Treated Wastewater at Catalina MHP, Middletown, Ohio.

Region V SWAP Meeting. Last week Barb Lubberger attended the annual Region V Source Water Protection Managers Meeting in Minnesota. The meeting concluded with the following decisions:

--Continuous Conservation Reserve Program (CCRP): The managers intend to craft a message to Congress, asking that the Farm Bill be amended to include "equivalent area". That is, instead of limiting CCRP to the portion of a SWAP area that is included in the 2,000 foot radius of a well, allow CCRP within any portion of the SWAP area up to a maximum of 288 acres (which is the equivalent to the land encompassed by a 2,000-foot radius circle). It is expected that this message will be endorsed by various state agencies and programs, Rural Water, GWPC, ASDWA, AWWA, and others.

--Sharing Software: Minnesota has developed a program that can create cross-sections from its well log database and also generate potentiometric surface maps. Over the next year, the managers will discuss making this program available to other Region V states.

#### ***Ohio EPA, Division of Solid and Infectious Waste Management:***

C&DD Rules. The Division recently completed its review of 1,300 comments on the proposed new C&DD rules. They expect to submit draft rule revisions to the Directors Office by the end of 2007.

C&DD Leachate Monitoring. The Division is currently sampling leachate from over 30 C&DD landfills to refine its recommendations concerning liners and caps. Results will be available in mid-November.

***Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water:***  
New TMDLs. The Division recently approved TMDLs for the following watersheds: Sugar Creek, Chagrin River, Olentangy River, and Lake St. Marys.

Petition Ditches. New regulations for 'petition ditches' will be public-noticed in December or January.

Climate Change. Modeling of the Mahoning watershed for NPDES permitting indicates that flows are significantly higher now than they were 30 years ago.

***Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Water:***

Ethanol Plants. In Fayette County there are local concerns about possible dewatering of residential wells by a wellfield designed to supply production water for a new ethanol plant. The division is installing water level gauges to monitor drawdown.

Hellbranch Run. Staff drilled and installed monitoring wells and thermistors (temperature monitors) with the University of Akron's Dept. of Geology and Environmental Science. They also conducted a synoptic water level study for this region.

***Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Geological Survey:***

Stages Pond. OGS is helping the Division of Natural Areas and Preserves monitor Stages Pond, a wetlands in Pickaway County. A major wellfield is being installed nearby and there are concerns that it will dewater the wetlands.

New Seismic Unit. The Division has a new seismic unit and new software from the Kansas Geological Survey, which may be able to visualize saturated sand and gravel lenses within till zones.

Karst Map. A new version of the Ohio Karst Map has come out, incorporating new information from

various sources, including Ohio EPA's recent karst study in Clark County. Because new information arrives so frequently, the Division may update the map annually.

New Glacial Grooves. In Marblehead, 22 acres of glacially sculpted rock has been discovered in a limestone quarry. In size and quality they are similar to the glacial grooves on Kelley's Island. The Division of Natural Areas and Preserves hopes to acquire this area from Lafarge Quarry so that it can be preserved.

***Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Soil and Water Conservation:***

Balanced Growth. The Division plans to train watershed coordinators in balanced growth initiatives and is looking for good trainers.

Section 319 funds. For the next Section 319 Request for Proposal, only projects within areas with endorsed watershed plans or TMDLs will be considered.

Gulf Hypoxia. Senator Mary Landreu (of Louisiana) introduced an amendment to the Farm Bill to fund efforts of Mississippi River sub-basins to reduce nutrient that are causing the hypoxic zone in the Gulf of Mexico. If the amendment is agreed to, Ohio would receive more than \$800,000, which the division would apply directly toward best management practices at agricultural "hot spots."

***U.S. Geological Survey:***

Budget. The federal budget has not yet been passed, so the Survey is still operating on a Continuing Resolution.

(GW/SW Interaction).

--Hellbranch Run: Both ODNR and USGS staff are currently attending training on using temperature as a tracer for surface/ground water interactions. The gain-loss study was completed in early August, but the data is statistically inconclusive.

--Great Miami River: Denise Dumouchelle and Rod Sheets are completing a report on ground water/ surface water interaction in the Great Miami River bed, based on correlation of temperature data to river bed sediment geophysical data.

***Natural Resources Conservation Service:***

Farm Bill. The 2003 Farm Bill expired at the end of September and NRCS is operating on a Continuing Resolution. However, they are taking sign-ups for EQIP, CRP and WRP.

***Public Utilities Commission of Ohio:***

Climate Change. A strong message at the recent National Drinking Water Symposium was that dry spells will last for longer periods of time and possibly be warmer, and wet spells are expected to become more intense due to climate change. The practical implication for this audience was that there will be more and possibly more severe droughts and flooding, and that water suppliers may need to create more storage capacity.

Publications: AWWA Research Foundation's Climate Change and Water Resources: A Primer for Municipal Water Providers is now available.

The need for water education on a larger scale was discussed.

**PRESENTATIONS**

“Thought Process Behind Ground Water Protection at C&DD Facilities” (Lindsay Taliaferro III, Ohio EPA)

“The Association of Arsenic with Redox Conditions and Ground-Water Age in the Glacial Aquifer System of the Northern United States” (Mary Ann Thomas, USGS)

“Hydrogeologic Arsenic Assessment for Public Water Systems” (Michael Slattery, Ohio EPA).

**NEXT SCCGW MEETING**

The next meeting will be the annual SCCGW Holiday Luncheon, which is usually held at the Dutch Kitchen in Plain City during the 2nd or 3rd week of December. More information will be provided within a few weeks regarding the date, location and meal price.

**REMINDER:** Meeting agendas and final meeting summaries will be posted on the SCCGW Web site:

[www.epa.state.oh.us/ddagw/SCCGW/index.html](http://www.epa.state.oh.us/ddagw/SCCGW/index.html)