

STATE COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GROUND WATER

To promote and guide the implementation of a coordinated, comprehensive and effective ground water protection and management program for the state of Ohio

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

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

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

Ohio Department of
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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

August 15, 2013
Horace R. Collins Classroom
ODNR Geological Repository
Alum Creek State Park, Delaware

The August 15, 2013 meeting consisted of Agency announcements and workgroup updates

ATTENDANCE

Ohio EPA: Michael Eggert, Barb Lubberger, Jeff Patzke
ODNR: Frank Fugitt, Jim Raab, Tom Tomastik
NRCS: John Armentano
BUSTR: Charles Zepp
OSU Ext.: Cindy Folck
PUCO: Sue Daly
USGS: Ralph Haefner

AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Geological Survey: Bellevue Karst Project. The Bellevue karst map is undergoing final edits, providing the locations of 997 karst features verified by site inspection.

Surficial Mapping Projects. Progress continues on the mapping of surficial glacial deposits for the Adrian and Bellefontaine quads. Next year the Survey will map the Rainsboro 1;24,000 quad for the Coalition, as well as the western half of the Hillsboro quad.

Coastal Erosion Project. Progress continues on the Ashtabula shoreline and bluff work, comparing bluff composition and recession (erosion) rates.

Utica Consortium Grant. The Survey is currently digitizing selected geophysical logs and characterizing core and samples.

RPSEA Project. The Survey has begun mapping target formations for brine waste disposal in eastern Ohio for the Research Partnership to Secure Energy for America (RPSEA).

Changes at HRC. The Horace R. Collins Geologic Repository at Alum Creek has a new manager, Aaron Evelsizer, replacing Greg Schumacher, who is retiring. Also, the classroom has been renovated, featuring a dropped ceiling with new HVAC system, new carpet and better acoustics.



Ohio EPA, Division of Drinking and Ground Waters:

Water Well Standards Revision. DDAGW is revising its water well standards as part of the 5-year rule review. One major goal is to clarify which rules apply to *all* water wells (including irrigation, industrial supply, etc.), and which apply only to public water supply wells.

Water Quality Web Application. The division is working with ODH and OSU Extension on a Web application for homeowners that will enable them to enter the results of private well sampling and get information on typical levels in Ohio's aquifers, health standards and treatment information. A prototype may be ready by September for testing.

New DEFA Chief. Alauddin Alauddin has been promoted to chief of Ohio EPA's Division of Environmental Financial Assistance (DEFA).

New Hires and Staff Changes. Three geologists have been hired to fill DDAGW vacancies in the southeast (1) and southwest district (2) offices. New postings are expected in the northeast and central district offices.

Ground Water Quality Characterization Program Database. All the division's ambient water monitoring network data has been loaded into a new database, and the division is now developing reports, users guides, and training.

Radionuclides Fact Sheet. A technical report and fact sheet will be completed soon on the distribution of radionuclides in Ohio's ground water.

HSAs and Assessment Source Water Monitoring. The division is finalizing guidance for implementing 'hydrogeologic sensitivity assessments' (HSAs) and assessment source water monitoring for the Safe Drinking Water Act Ground Water Rule. HSAs are conducted for wells with *E.coli* detections, to help determine the most effective corrective action.

The Ohio State University Extension, Pesticide Safety Education Program:

Staff Changes. Mary Ann Rose, previously with the OSU Department of Entomology, has been named the new director of the Pesticide Safety Education Program.

Also, Andrew J. Londo has been named the new assistant director of the agriculture and natural resources section of OSU Extension, starting September 2013. Previously with Mississippi State University, Dr. Londo is known for his extensive research in forestry issues.

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio:

Max Walton Glen. This unincorporated community in Richland County is looking at forming a homeowner's association that will have responsibility for operating a central water system. The system will be designated a public water system to be regulated by Ohio EPA.

Farm Science Review. The 2013 Farm Science Review will be held September 17-19.

Natural Resources Conservation Service:

Field Monitoring. The State NRCS has been approved by the national office to offer the new Edge-of-Field Monitoring Standard for a contract in Mercer County. This standard allows for nine years of monitoring whereas Standard 799, which it replaces, allowed for only three years.

Denitrifying Bioreactors. NRCS also has been approved to offer denitrifying bioreactors as a fundable practice in 2014. The bioreactor is a filter attached to the end of a field tile, to remove nitrates from the soil water before it is released to a stream.

EQIP Contracts. NRCS currently is finishing up EQIP contracts, which will provide a total of \$14 million this year for cost-shared environmental improvements on farms.

Great Lakes Initiative. NRCS received \$5 million from the Great Lakes Initiative for phosphorus reduction practices in the Western Lake Erie Basin.

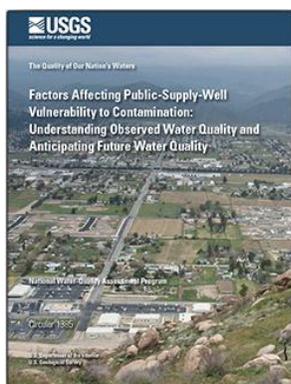
United States Geological Survey, Ohio Water Science Center:

Utica Shale Water Quality. The Survey continues to contact oil/gas industry firms and request permission to sample oil and gas wells completed in the Utica Shale, to analyze the water quality of its brines, but so far there has been only minimal response.

Noble County Proposal. In June the Survey submitted a proposal for a project with OSU, to be funded by the Research Partnership to Secure Energy for America (RPSEA) that will involve installing and sampling monitoring wells before the installation of a nearby oil and gas well. The proposed project site is in Noble County and is owned by OSU.

Study of Hydrologic Influences of Stormwater Best Management Practices. In cooperation with the USEPA, the USGS is starting a study in Slavic Village (suburb of Cleveland) to evaluate groundwater beneath an area where stormwater best management practices will be installed. The Survey will be drilling shallow monitoring wells to examine the potential for groundwater mounding and water-quality changes (initially including only temperature) adjacent to rain gardens and other stormwater treatment approaches. Rob Darner is in charge of the project.

National Water Quality Assessment (NAWQA) Principal Aquifer Initiative. USGS is conducting a nationwide comprehensive ground water sampling program that will include 6-7 wells in Ohio. Donna Runkle is in charge of the Ohio effort.



New Report. The Survey recently published a new report: *Factors Affecting Public Supply Well Vulnerability to Contamination: Understanding Observed Water Quality and Anticipating Future Water Quality*, by Sandra M. Eberts, Mary Ann Thomas, and Martha L. Jagucki, USGS Circular 1385, at <http://pubs.usgs.gov/circ/1385/>

Also, the Survey has created a new web page on “Groundwater and Drought”, which is available at <http://water.usgs.gov/ogw/drought/>

Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Oil and Gas Resources:

Drilling Statistics. Statewide there are now 38 deep oil and gas extraction rigs running in Ohio, 34 of them in the Utica shale and 4 of them in the Marcellus shale. 841 drilling permits have been granted, and active drilling is occurring at 522 of the permitted sites.

New Rules. Over a dozen new rules are being drafted to address oil and gas-related issues such as: Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasures (SPCC) Plans, temporary storage

facilities for flowback water, well pads, water impoundments, electronic tracking, and brine disposal fees.

Seismic Monitoring. Seismic monitoring is in place in Washington and Mahoning Counties, and soon will be in Muskingum and Trumbull Counties. The division is expecting to buy another twelve seismic units.

Storage Facility Research. Temporary storage and recycling facilities for flowback waters from oil and gas drilling are currently hot topics. Battelle Laboratories is conducting a research project looking at options. In Ohio, primary and secondary containment of flowback storage tanks are required; in-ground storage of flowback waters is not permitted.

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

Dewatering Complaints. The division was recently contacted about dewatering of domestic water wells in Galloway that was attributed to exploratory pumping at the Wilson Turf Farm nearby. Another complaint was received about dewatering that was attributed to the installation of a deep sewer project along Reynoldsburg-New Albany Road.

Well Logs Received. From January to June of 2013, the Division received 2,459 new well logs, of which 1,475 (60%) were for domestic water wells; 490 (20%) were for monitoring wells; 195 (8%) were for agriculture/irrigation wells; and 35 (2%) were for geothermal heating/cooling systems.

WORKGROUP UPDATES

Well Sealing Workgroup: The workgroup met in June and July, and the next meeting is scheduled for August 21st. In September the workgroup will work on the Conclusions and Appendices, in October and November they will distribute for review and make revisions, and the document should be finalized by January 2014.

Geothermal Guidance. The guidance on installation of borings and wells for geothermal heating/cooling systems requires some modification, to acknowledge Ohio Board of Building Standards jurisdiction over internal and external piping for closed-loop systems. The workgroup met on August 12th to review proposed edits, and to discuss more substantial issues. Local boards of building standards maintain records for underground piping for commercial buildings, but not for residential buildings, and they are not required to keep these records in perpetuity. The workgroup discussed petitioning the state Board of Building Standards to require these records to be kept in perpetuity.

NEXT SCCGW MEETING

... is scheduled for October 17th, at ODNR's Assembly Center East, Morse Road/Fountain Square Campus

REMINDER:

Meeting agendas and final meeting summaries are posted on the SCCGW Web site:
<http://wwwapp.epa.ohio.gov/ddagw/SCCGW/>