

STATE COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GROUND WATER

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
1800 WaterMark Drive
Columbus, Ohio 43215-1099

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
65 South Front Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

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

Ohio Department of Transportation
25 South Front 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

May 15, 1997
Ohio EPA, 1800 WaterMark Drive
Conference Room 1A

NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD JUNE 26TH,
(not June 19th, as originally scheduled)
at ODNR's Wildlife Conference Room

ABSTRACT

The May 15th meeting was devoted to (1) agency updates and announcements; and (2) further discussion of the NPS Management Plan update. Sue Daly volunteered to chair the meeting in the absence of ODA representatives.

ATTENDANCE

OEPA: Tom Allen, Heather Belfi, Kevin Hinkle, Barb Lubberger
ODNR: Dave Hanselmann, Rebecca Petty, Bob Van Horn
ODH: Scott Golden
PUCO: Sue Daly
Visitor: Andrew Wehr, of Squire, Sanders & Dempsey legal firm

MARCH MEETING SUMMARY

On page 3 of the April meeting summary, item 2 of ODNR-Division of Water's report is revised to read:

"The Division of Water is providing assistance to the Division of Parks and Recreation and the Division of Engineering to develop a water supply at Hueston Woods State Park, in the aquifer just below the dam. The City of Oxford will withdraw water and in exchange, the City will provide finished water to the park."

AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ODNR, Division of Water, Rebecca Petty announced:

- 1.) The transfer of well logs to electronic format is progressing well. All well log data entry is complete, and the last shipment of logs was sent for scanning. Division staff recently met with Ohio Penal Industries' subcontractor to discuss digitizing the well locations. This task should be complete by the end of 1997.
- 2.) The Ground Water Pollution Potential map for Shelby County was completed recently.
- 3.) The Comparative Risk Program is circulating for comment a draft Risk Reduction Strategies document. The various Task forces and the Public Advisory Committee will meet on May 29, 1997.
- 4.) The Dayton Ground Water festival (on May 7) was a great success. Over 3,000 children attended.

ODNR, Division of Soil and Water Conservation, David Hanselmann announced:

- 1.) The Ohio Pesticide Applicators for Responsible Regulation (OPARR) held its annual meeting on May 13th. Participants showed a strong interest in the Hoover Reservoir and Little Walnut Creek Reservoir projects, where task forces are developing Best Management Practices for lowering the seasonal levels of atrazine in the reservoirs. Participants indicated an interest in identifying other watersheds or aquifers for similar initiatives.
- 2.) The Livestock Industry Task Force's draft bill regarding regulation of large animal units is under active discussion. Senator Gilmore of northwest Ohio has held meetings and is drafting language related to ground water withdrawal and waste disposal issues. The proposal to transfer regulatory authority over NPDES permits from OEPA to ODA has been dropped. The draft bill applies to facilities with greater than 10,000 animal units. Most facilities of this size are poultry processing facilities.
- 3.) Meetings to update the Nonpoint Source Program are continuing. Dave passed out an announcement for upcoming meetings in Cadiz (May 28); Akron area (June 3); McConnelsville (June 5); and Piqua (June 10).

OEPA, Division of Drinking and Ground Waters, Heather Belfi announced:

- 1.) A Farm-a-Syst meeting was held on May 5th, and the next one will be held in mid-June. The group currently is developing educational Fact Sheets for the Ohio program. Mark Wilson has joined OEPA's Director's Office as Agricultural Liaison, and is no longer coordinating the program. Until the group has a chance to formally select a new coordinator, Heather has been asked to handle coordination duties.

ODNR, Division of Geologic Survey, Bob Van Horn announced:

- 1.) In July the Division will initiate the ten-year project to develop 3-dimensional "Stack maps" of surficial materials, beginning with the Ohio portions of the Cincinnati and Falmouth

1:100,000 quadrangles. The Division also hopes to initiate the Put-in-Bay quadrangle mapping soon.

- 2.) The karst mapping project is well underway. Bob stated that many of the features previously mapped as karst features appear under closer scrutiny to be glacial features (for example, some “sinkholes” are turning out to be “kettles”--small circular lakes created by glaciation). This mapping project is scheduled to be complete by October 1997.
- 3.) The book *Fossils of Ohio* is now available, at a price of \$18.00.

ODH, Scott Golden announced:

- 1.) The Sewage Advisory Committee held its second meeting on May 6th. The group includes 24 members. They split up into six task teams, which will report back to the main committee. The next meeting will be held in June.
- 2.) ODH is looking at a potential study project in Terrace Park, a community in east Hamilton County. Dry wells (designated as exempt Class V wells) have been used for 80 percent of the community’s sewage disposal. USGS has submitted a study proposal to study the impacts on the aquifer. The county is interested in conducting the study as a 319 project, but the community is unable to provide the required matching funds.

OEPA, Division of Environmental Financial Assistance, Kevin Hinkle announced:

- 1.) OEPA’s DEFA and DSW are working under a U.S. EPA grant to better coordinate Nonpoint Source projects. They have developed a worksheet for “Environmentally Based Priority Ranking of Water Bodies”. Kevin is looking for additional information/databases that may relate to this effort. A copy of the worksheet is attached to the draft meeting summary. Please contact Kevin at 644-3712 for any input you wish to provide.

OEPA, Division of Drinking and Ground Waters, Tom Allen announced:

- 1.) DDAGW has formed work groups to provide recommendations on the level of services the Division should provide concerning review of ground water modeling efforts and review of statistical analyses. Both fields are highly technical and increasingly complex, requiring specialized training. The work groups will define the level of expertise that currently exists within the Division, and recommend how to best meet customer demands.

WORKGROUP UPDATES

Well Construction

Rebecca Petty reported that the group has made excellent progress. They have worked through most of the outline and expect to complete discussions at the next meeting. Writing assignments

will be distributed, and then time will be needed for review. A copy of the revised outline is attached.

DISCUSSION OF NPS MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE

Led by Dave Hanselmann, the group revisited the issues that had been listed during the previous meeting.

1. **Proposing a “ground water goal”** (similar to surface water attainment goals): Rebecca noted that this issue will be easier to address once some projects now in progress are complete, e.g., the Division of Water’s aquifer mapping project, and OEPA’s DDAGW extension of its ambient water quality network. However, some interim guidelines could be proposed. Following the 1986 Ground Water Strategy for the State of Ohio, the following goals and priorities were suggested:

Prevent contamination of ground water and clean up and remediate ground water where the quality has been impacted by land use activities, understanding that with so many potential or existing sources, issues to be addressed will be prioritized by the *availability of ground water*, and the *sensitivity* of the specific ground water system.

The group did not agree on any ranking system, but discussed ranking according to (1) aquifers that may be used as a drinking water source; and (2) aquifers that are usable for other purposes. The group may want to discuss this item more at the next SCCGW meeting.

2. **Data needs.** Additional data is needed on several general problems, including:

- o pesticides
- o nitrates
- o bacteria and viruses

Additional data is needed on various sources/activities:

- o impacts of Class V wells
- o impacts of septic systems
- o impacts of abandoned wells

3. **Prioritizing aquifers.** Addressed as part of Item (1.)
4. **Definition of “nonpoint sources” for ground water.** It was generally agreed that the guidance should use the existing definition of “nonpoint source” but should clarify and expand on the definition as it applies to ground water.
5. **Integrating other environmental initiatives.** This topic was difficult to discuss in the abstract; however, it was agreed that writers must try to point out linkages with other initiatives while completing the revision.
6. **Evaluate effectiveness of BMPs.** It was generally agreed that this topic deserves considerable time and effort. Dave suggested planning a meeting to discuss this topic alone, and possibly assigning research efforts to various individuals or task teams.
7. **Surface water-ground water interactions.** It was noted that this issue has two aspects: the technical aspect, which involves obtaining more data about these interactions ; and the administrative aspect,

which involves better integrating relevant programs implemented by OEPA's DDAGW and DSW.

- 8.-11. **Environmental information and local initiative.** It was noted that the Ohio Water Resources Council could be a good mechanism for channeling information between state and local agencies and grass-roots organizations.

Conclusion: Dave Hanselmann suggested that the next SCCGW meeting focus on BMPs and ground water-surface water interactions. He suggested inviting several individuals from The Ohio State University's Agricultural Extension, and ODA to participate in the discussion.

JUNE AGENDA

1. Agency updates and announcements
2. Work Group updates
3. Discussion of the NPS Management Plan

HAND-OUTS

1. General Interest Publications from ODNR's Division of Geological Survey
2. Environmentally Based Priority Ranking of Water Bodies worksheet (attached)
3. Public Meeting Schedule for Local Discussions on Protecting Ohio's Water Resources

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June 26, 1997

**Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Building G-1
Wildlife Conference Room**

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|------------------|---|
| 8:30 - 8:35 am | CALL TO ORDER -Introductions |
| 8:35 - 8:40 am | MAY MEETING SUMMARY |
| 8:40 - 9:30 am | AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS -Legislation/Rules/Policies -Program Developments/Organizational Changes/New Hires -Miscellaneous |
| 9:30 - 9:50 am | WORK GROUP UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS |
| 9:50 - 10:00 am | BREAK |
| 10:00 - 10:50 am | DISCUSSION OF NPS MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATES |
| 10:50 - 10:55 am | MISCELLANEOUS |
| 10:55 - 11:00 am | JULY SCCGW MEETING AGENDA |
| 11:00 am | ADJOURN |

