

STATE COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GROUND WATER

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Columbus, Ohio 43215-1049

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Columbus, Ohio 43224-1387

Ohio Department of Health
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Ohio Public Utilities Commission
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Columbus, Ohio 43266-0573

Ohio Department of Agriculture
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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

December 21, 2000
Dutch Kitchen, private room
8690 US Highway 42 South
Plain City, Ohio
(614) 873-4518

ABSTRACT

The December 21, 2000 meeting was devoted to updates and announcements on Agency and SCCGW Workgroup activities. Within their program updates, SCCGW representatives addressed how their programs can assist Ohio EPA with its Source Water Assessment and Protection Program (SWAP) outreach efforts that are beginning to come to the forefront of SWAP implementation activities. Larry Antosch, Director of Research for the Ohio Farm Bureau provided a presentation to the SCCGW representatives discussing the Farm Bureau's activities in the ground water arena.

ATTENDANCE

ODA: Larry Berger
ODH: Rebecca Petty
ODNR: Mike Hallfrisch, Scott Kell
OEPA: Tom Allen, Mike Baker, Vlad Cica, Michael Eggert, Kristy Hunt
PUCO: Sue Daly
USGS: Jeff de Roche, Ralph Haefner

NOVEMBER MEETING SUMMARY

No comments provided.

AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Geological Survey, Rick Pavey announced:

- ODNR's Division of Geological Survey has been working together with the USGS on a follow up geologic study to a Federal Emergency Management Act (FEMA) project for the Sharon Woods Subdivision. This project came about when houses within the subdivision began sinking after the 1999 drought. The subdivision was developed 35 years ago over an abandoned glacial trench that had filled in with organic material through the development of a marsh or wetland. During the drought the organic material dried out and contracted which caused the houses located on top of the trench to subside. During construction of the subdivision, a layer of fill was deposited to fill in the trenched area. The investigation has found creosote telephone poles located within the fill, which suggests a previous understanding of the areas instability. There are other areas of concern but not sure what resources are available to address them.
- Provided Ohio EPA DDAGW with a 30X60 map of the Surficial Geology of the Cleveland South Quadrangle. The GIS coverage for this map is being developed.

Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Water, Mike Hallfrisch announced:

- The statewide Aquifers Map can now be found on ODNR's Web Page and is available for download in both ArcView and ArcInfo formats.
- Water Inventory is working on a web application for observation wells. This web page will make water withdrawal information available.
- ODNR has received 319 funding to complete DRASTIC maps for 12 Ohio Counties. Seven of the counties have no DRASTIC work completed and five counties have DRASTIC work completed in various stages.

Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Mineral Resources Management, Scott Kell announced:

- The Industrial Minerals Mining bill did not make it out of the House Natural Resources Committee. One of the bill's provisions was to address de-watering as a result of quarry mining. Private water supplies have been effected and the provision would require prior ground water modeling of the proposed mined area in order to understand the effects of the mining on the local ground water. The Department intends to re-introduce the bill in January 2001.
- A court hearing is scheduled concerning a lawsuit over proposed oil and

gas well drilling at Mosquito Creek Reservoir located near the City of Warren in Trumble County. The lawsuit alleges that the Bureau of Land Management did not follow NEPA requirements when permitting the oil and gas wells to be drilled under the reservoir. Scott Kell and Tom Berg, Chief of the Division of Geological Survey, have submitted affidavits to participate in the court hearing. The opponents to the drilling submitted an affidavit from a Geologist that suggests hydrofracking operations at oil and gas wells can intersect improperly abandoned wells. Furthermore the Geologist's statements suggest that producing oil and gas can cause subsidence at 4,000 feet that can induce seismic activity. There are seven proposed wells within 1,000 feet of the Mosquito Creek Reservoir. These wells will be drilled at an angle underneath of the reservoir.

- Will provide a presentation on the Oil and Gas Emergency Response Web Page at the February or March SCCGW meeting.

- Would like to receive from Ohio EPA GIS coverages of surface water intakes as well as ground water public water system wells. The coverages will be used for the Emergency Response web page that has been developed to deal with oil and gas well emergencies. Also, the Division of Mineral Resources Management has been adding additional precautions to oil and gas well permits when the wells are known to be drilled within a Wellhead Protection Area. This is done on a limited basis because of mapping capabilities and coordination. ODNR would like to have large hard copy maps showing the locations of all Wellhead Protection Areas that presently exist in Ohio.

Mike Baker provided that coverages are available for both surface water intakes and ground water wells, as well as existing Wellhead Protection Areas. ODNR should contact Michael Eggert of DDAGW to coordinate the needed information.

ODH, Bureau of Local and Environmental Services, Rebecca Petty announced:

- ODH will be hosting the Midwest Sanitarian Conference that is scheduled to be held in Columbus on March 19-23, 2001. This is a training conference for Sanitarians and it would be a good place for one or two presentations on the SWAP program. It may also be possible to have a presentation display targeted at the SWAP program. The Water Systems Council wanted to coordinate a field workshop that would be attached to the sanitarian conference. March 23rd, possibly, will be a scheduled field day for the conference that may be held at a site in southwest Ohio. A scheduled field day would include some training on drilling.

- House Bill 105 - Household Sewage Disposal Systems - did not pass. There was a lot of support for this rule from both ODH and industry. Presently ODH has no position on whether this rule will be re-introduced. ODH will proceed with the rule revisions required by the 5 year rule revision requirement. A draft of the revised rules will be available in late January 2001. Someone from ODH will provide a presentation on the proposed rule revisions to the SCCGW.

Tom Allen provided that a lot of counties have been gearing up for the proposed new rules through 319 funding.

- ODH is presently reviewing driller registrations. ODH will be denying registration of some drillers who have been recalcitrant.

- Still do not have a Bureau Chief. Did receive approval to hire an additional person in the Sewage Program. John Smith formerly a Sanitarian for Hamilton County will be joining the program January 16, 2001. John has a lot of experience with alternative disposal systems.

U.S.G.S, Water Resources Division, Jeff de Roche announced:

- Charley Hickman from the USGS National Mapping Division (NMD) has recently been hired to work with the USGS (Ohio District) Water Resources Division. Charley is a liaison with Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, and the eastern great lakes states. His duties are to inform others of the products and services offered by NMD, such as digital orthophoto quads (DOQs), digital elevation models (DEMs) and aerial mapping services. Charley has a great understanding of who to contact for available information sources and would be great to have for a future SCCGW presentation.

- 319 funding went through for the proposed Metadata project.

- Provided (3) USGS Publications:

1. USGS Fact Sheet 124-00 - What Makes a Healthy Environment For Native Freshwater Mussels?
2. Water-Resources Investigations Report 00-4146 - Ground-Water Quality and Vulnerability to Contamination in Selected Agricultural Areas of Southeastern Michigan, Northwestern Ohio, and Northeastern Indiana
3. Water-Resources Investigations Report 00-4091 - Status and Trends in Suspended-Sediment Discharges, Soil Erosion and Conservation Tillage in the Maumee River Basin-Ohio, Michigan, and Indiana

U.S.G.S, Water Resources Division, Ralph Haefner announced:

- The USGS will begin working on the 319 Meta Data Project on September 1, 2001.

- He is a co-author on the recent Ohio Journal of Science Publication on Fractured Glacial Tills. This Journal can be copied from the Water Management Association of Ohio web page at www.ohiowater.org/wmao.

Ohio EPA, Division of Solid and Infectious Waste Management, Vlad Cica announced:

- Chief Position is being re-posted till the end of January 2001.
- A letter from Sharon Gbur explaining the extended comment period for several rule packages concerning Landfill Related Rules was attached to the hard copy draft of the November 16, 2000 SCCGW meeting notes.

Ohio EPA, Division of Drinking and Ground Waters,

Mike Baker announced:

- State Agencies are being asked to take a 2 - 4% decrease in expected General Revenue Funds because of declining sales revenue, as well as increased Medicaid costs.
- New positions within the Division will include a Supervisor to over see the SWAP Program activities. Also posting a Water Quality Specialist to focus on Drinking Water Quality on a statewide basis.
- Ohio Water Resources Council: There is a general structure in the process. Michelle Willis of ODNR will work with the reformation of the council under the new guidelines. There will be a Core Group consisting of Agency Liaisons that will meet on a regular basis. A group of Public Members that will meet 3-4 times a year. Agency Directors will schedule to meet with both groups once a year. It is important that the SCCGW group stay involved with this issue. The SCCGW has been used as a model for the new group. There will be an initial meeting sometime in April - May 2001 of the Water Resources Council.

Sue Daly provided that The Ohio Water Resources Strategic Plan issued previously by the Ohio Water Resources Council dwelled heavily on surface water. SCCGW Representatives had the opportunity to send comments on the Strategic Plan separately as a response for their agency. Sue raised the suggestion that SCCGW should send out a letter suggesting the Ohio Water Resources Strategic Plan focus more on all water resources.

Michael Eggert announced:

- He is the new Manager of the DDAGW Water Quality Characterization and Protection unit.

- Those with links to the Ohio EPA web page should make sure that they are using www.epa.state.oh.us/ . A previous link www.epa.ohio.gov/ has been discontinued.

- Some of DDAGW's Water Quality data collected through the Ambient Sampling Program has been sent to the Miami Conservancy District (MCD). This information is available on the MCD web page. The web site requires water quality information searches to be based on sample date, which makes the information difficult to find.

- Every Community Public Water System serving over 10,000 people will be sampling for new contaminant parameters for pesticides and some organics. There are 170 Public Water Systems in Ohio that will be involved in this initial sampling.

- The proposed Class V Well Regulations are going to ban Class V Wells of automotive related facilities from existing within delineated ground water SWAP areas. By March 2007 the Class V Well Regulations will eventually ban Class V Wells of automotive related facilities statewide. The new rules for Class V Wells have asked for the definition of Ground Water Protection Areas. The SWAP program is working with the DDAGW Underground Injection Control Unit for assistance in developing a definition of Ground Water Protection Areas that would work for the SWAP Program for the new rules as well as with other future rules. Presently the two programs are only planning on using existing Wellhead Protection Areas as well as ground water based Source Water Protection Areas, which will be defined as Drinking Water Source Protection Areas, instead of Ground Water Protection Areas within the new rules.

Mike Baker provided that defining ground water based Source Water Protection Areas as Drinking Water Source Protection Areas within the new UIC Rules will assist Ohio EPA with implementing the new terminology for Wellhead Protection and Source Water Protection areas to be defined as Drinking Water Source Protection Areas. It will be a strategy within the 5 year rule revisions to change the term Wellhead Protection to Drinking Water Source Protection.

Sue Daly inquired about Drinking Water Operator Certification requirements.

Mike Baker explained that under the new proposed Drinking Water Rules all Public Water Systems (PWS) will be required to have a certified operator. A new Class A Operator Certificate is required of PWS serving less than 250 people. This certification class will have reduced examination requirements because there will be minimal treatment or distribution facilities.

Kristy Hunt announced:

- Ohio EPA's SWAP program met with its Source Water Advisory Group (SWAG) on December 5, 2000. Process manuals developed to assist DDAGW in implementing

consistent SWAP assessments throughout Ohio were reviewed by SWAG members and the December 5th meeting was used to collect their comments. SWAG members also provided valuable input towards the effective dissemination of the SWAP Assessment reports to the public water system and to the public. The Division of Surface Water (DSW) presented a draft SWAP Assessment report for the Marysville PWS which is a surface water based system. Comments were provided to DSW from SWAG members on this draft SWAP report as well.

- SWAP implementation continues within the five pilot counties of Greene, Sandusky, Medina, Coshocton and Fairfield for ground water based public water systems.

- Central Office SWAP staff are beginning to focus on the outreach concepts involved with the SWAP program. SWAP areas will be recognized and dealt with by employees of other Ohio Agencies such as BUSTR, ODH, ODNR, etc. All State Agencies that recognize the connection of their programs to the Ohio EPA SWAP program are encouraged to work with Ohio EPA to develop coordination efforts. Coordination can be done through SWAP presentations to employees of specific Agencies to further define the concepts and goals of the Ohio SWAP program or through the provisions of maps/GIS coverages that identify the location of delineated Wellhead Protection and Drinking Water Source Protection areas.

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, Sue Daly announced:

- No updates.

Ohio Department of Agriculture, Larry Berger announced:

- The Chief position is still interim. There is a time limit to having an Interim Chief and a decision on a permanent Chief should be made soon.

Featured Presentation: Larry Antosch, Director of Environmental Research within the Ohio Farm Bureau Agricultural Ecology Department provided a presentation concerning Farm Bureau updates within the ground water arena.

- There are between 65,000 - 70,000 farmers in Ohio. The Ohio Farm Bureau has over 207,000 members. The Bureau recently developed the Agricultural Ecology Department. Constance Cullman Jackson will serve as the Department's Vice President. The Department is looking to hire either a Rural Sociologist or Anthropologist. One of the goal's of the new department is to resolve major conflicts before they become major issues.

- Handout (1) Natural and Environmental Resource Team Strategic Vision for Water Quality - April 2000. This Team's Mission is "to enhance the quality of Ohio's water resources, encourage adoption of economically practical solutions, and develop effective partnerships." Furthermore, It is important for the effectiveness of programs created through Ohio Agencies

such as TMDL and SWAP to engage with the Agricultural Community.

- Handout (2) Can you speak Hydroqualese? A Farm Bureau Fact Sheet that lists and defines several key regulatory acronyms to assist in educating the Agricultural Community. The Agricultural Ecology Department will be working to build awareness of watersheds. Created a watershed identification project. Also, packaged the Ohio EPA 305(b) report information into a format that people at the local level could use to identify water quality information. There are opportunities to work with the newly appointed 21 Watershed Coordinators.

- Handout (3) Three different copies of the H2Ohio quarterly newsletter. This newsletter goes out to a select group of Farm Bureau Members. The Farm Bureau has over 900 local Advisory Councils. Their monthly meetings provide an excellent opportunity to exchange information and discuss a topical issue. There will be some room in the upcoming Farm Bureau Magazine "Buckeye Farm News" for an article on Ohio's SWAP program. The Farm Bureau Magazine goes out to all Farm Bureau Members. He and Chris Kenah of Ohio EPA DDAGW had developed an article last year on the SWAP program and with some minor revision could be run in the Buckeye Farm News. As Ohio EPA ventures into SWAP Assessments the Farm Bureau has opportunities to deal with vegetable farmers, etc. in terms of their own SWAP Protection efforts as well as dealing with being located within the SWAP areas of other Public Water Systems.

- In 1988, the Ohio Farm Bureau assisted in a sampling effort for private residential wells in all counties throughout the state. Any Ohio resident interested could participate. Samples were run through the Heidelberg College Water Quality Laboratory. Another water quality sampling effort is being planned for 2001. Historical sampling information, up to 12 years back, is available from past sampling efforts. The possibility is there if Ohio EPA DDAGW wants to piggy back the sampling project with the SWAP program. He would need to make sure if the Farm Bureau would provide funding if Ohio EPA DDAGW was interested in the project. Other SCCGW members recalled that prior sampling efforts by Heidelberg were subsidized so that there was minimal cost to the resident who owned the well. It would be beneficial to do a mail out to see if past participants would be interested in having their well re-sampled.

- The Farm Bureau is working with Ohio EPA Division of Surface Water to have a designated set of surface water sampling protocols. There are people who are interested in testing their own streams. Sampling protocols would assist those interested in understanding what surface water stream sampling entails. Expect to have the surface water sampling protocols completed by the end of 2001.

- The Farm Bureau also has links with air quality concerning particulate and fugitive dust, odor as well as auto and truck emissions.

SCCGW Comments:

-The Ohio Farm Bureau should reference the ground water section of the Ohio 305b report for additional information on Ohio's ground water quality.

- Explain Watershed Management on the HYDROQUALESE Fact Sheet.

WORKGROUP UPDATES

No updates provided.

January 18, 2001 AGENDA

The meeting will be held from 8:30 - 11:35 a.m. at the Horace R. Collins Conference Room in Delaware, Ohio. The meeting will address the December 2000 meeting notes as well as agency updates.

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**Horace R. Collins Laboratory - ODNR Repository
Conference Room**

8:30 - 8:35 am	CALL TO ORDER -Introductions
8:35 - 8:40 am	DECEMBER DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY
8:40 - 10:45 am	AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS -Legislation/Rules/Policies -Program Developments/Organizational Changes/New Hires -Miscellaneous -Workgroup Updates - Ground Water Strategy - Midwest Ground Water Conference Planning - 319 NonPoint Source -Status of USGS proposal
Break	
10:55 - 11:25 am	SPEAKER PRESENTATION: On-Lot Sewage Rules Tom Grigsby, Ohio Department of Health
11:30 am	FEBRUARY MEETING AGENDA
11:35 am	Adjourn