

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

January 15, 2004

Horace R. Collins Conference Room

Ohio Department of Natural Resources Repository Building

3307 South Old State Road

Delaware, Ohio

ABSTRACT

The January 2004 meeting consisted of Agency updates and announcements, discussion of the Nonpoint Source Plan Workgroup, and possible changes in SCCGW.

ATTENDANCE

OEPA: Tom Allen, Barb Lubberger
ODNR: Mike Hallfrisch, Ted Lozier, Rick Pavey
USGS: Jeff DeRoche
ODH: Rebecca Petty
BUSTR: Charles Zepp
PUCO: Sue Daly
NRCS: John Armentano
OSU: Cindy Folck

DECEMBER MEETING SUMMARY

The third item of the ODNR updates (concerning water usage in the Lake Erie watershed) is deleted. This will be updated in more detail in the future, as more information becomes available. Also, the second item of the OEPA DSIWM update is deleted.

AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

-The Division has published a new report titled *Subsurface Geology of the Serpent Mound Disturbance, Adams, Highland, and Pike Counties, Ohio*, Report of Investigations No. 146, 2003.

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

- At the February SCCGW meeting he will present the Division's Five-Year Strategic Statement, and the Annual Goals that are designed to implement the strategy.

- The Division is working on a proposal to create a statewide coverage of its well logs, using grants that are already proposed or in the works, combined with support from other agencies.

OSU Extension, Cindy Folck announced:

- The Pesticide Education program is now staffed by only two people (down from four), because federal funding—which was the main support of the program—was greatly reduced for fiscal year 2003.

- Applicators are required to have a management plan to apply fungicides. Also, a Security Plan is now required, which explains how pesticides are secured in the field as well as during storage.

- Chromium copper arsenate (CCA) treatment for wood will be taken off the market next year.

- The Ohio West Nile Virus Work Group is presenting a satellite conference titled "Educating the Public about West Nile Virus and Its Prevention" on March 24, 2004 at 2:00 pm. Access will be available at OSU Extension county offices and district offices, as well as OSU Leadership Centers.

- Seneca County Extension agent Clark Hudson has taken a position with ODNR's Division of Soil and Water Conservation.

Bureau of Underground Storage Tank Regulation, Charles Zepp announced:

- BUSTR continues to work on its five-year rule revisions. An effort to better align with OEPA's VAP cleanup standards—including VAP's broader definition of potential drinking water locations—could have a significant impact on tank owners.

Natural Resources Conservation Service, John Armentano announced:

- The Ohio office has applied to participate in the national Conservation Effectiveness Assessment Program (CEAP), which intends to quantify the benefits of conservation practices by studying six watersheds nationwide. John believes that Ohio's proposal for the Maumee River watershed probably will be approved.

United States Geological Survey, Water Resources Discipline, Jeff deRoche announced:

- Three staff are entering the Ohio Certified Manager Program, which is state-oriented but offers training specifically for federal employees.

- The heavy rains during the first weekend of January resulted in record floods in portions of Central Ohio.

Ohio Department of Health, Rebecca Petty announced:

- The Ohio On-site Wastewater Association held a conference in Akron during the second week of January.
- The ODH Midwest Conference is scheduled for March 22-25, 2004.
- The first draft of the private water systems rules will be out for comment in early March.
- ODH is conducting private well sampling in Wayne County, near Wooster, to investigate ground water contamination from the Astro-Harsco site, which has a history of releases dating back to the 1970s. There is a documented nitrates and VOCs plume. OEPA's hazardous waste, solid waste and remedial response programs are also involved at this site.
- ODH is conducting another investigation near Wooster regarding high levels of *E. coli* in private wells. ODNR has also been asked to identify the direction of ground water flow at this site.

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, Sue Daly announced:

- A company called Storm Center Communications, located in Florida, has developed an initiative to increase the public's "environmental IQ" by having TV newscasters discuss local watersheds during the weather report. The contact is:

Dave Jones 410-203-1316
Columbia Corporate Park 100
6021 University Blvd., Suite 140
Ellicott City, MD 21043
www.stormcenter.com <<http://www.stormcenter.com>>

- USEPA has placed a water system security guidance on its Website, called a "Response Protocol Toolbox".

The USEPA office sponsoring the watershed program is the Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds. The contact is Patricia Scott (202) 566-1292
scott.patricia@epa.gov <<mailto:scott.patricia@epa.gov>>

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

- The Source Water Assessment and Protection (SWAP) Program has distributed assessment reports to 99% of the community public water systems (using both ground water and surface water). This covers 94% of the Ohioans who obtain their drinking water from public water systems. To date, about 2,100 assessments have been completed and distributed.

- The SWAP Program will be developing a CD/Web-based training program on SWAP in Ohio for public water system operators. The Montana Water Resource Center is assisting, using a grant from USEPA. The SWAP Program plans to offer operator certification credits for completing the training. The project should be complete by autumn, 2004. The version of this training developed for the State of Illinois can be viewed on the Web at <http://www.tacnet.info/swp/IL>

- Tom Allen is the new Director of the Ground Water Division for the Water Management Association of Ohio (WMAO). In this capacity he hopes to continue tying ground water agency activities in with the Ohio Water Resources Council's goals.

- WMAO was successful in bringing in local watershed coordinators and other local staff to its latest conference. Tom hopes to continue this success at the 2004 Spring and Fall WMAO conferences.

DISCUSSION

Changes in SCCGW

Because so many SCCGW members are also involved in the various OWRC workgroups, Tom suggested that SCCGW members may need to consider holding meetings on a bi-monthly instead of monthly schedule.

In response, the group expressed concern that this would lead to SCCGW losing its identity. In addition to identifying issues that require cooperation, the monthly meetings have created a solid communications network that proves its value whenever such issues arise.

There was discussion also of rotating the chair. According to the SCCGW bylaws, the chair may rotate, but Ohio EPA-DDAGW is responsible for administration (i.e., meeting summaries, maintaining the files, etc.). This will be discussed further at the February meeting.

WorkGroup to Update Non-point Source Management Plan

Rebecca Petty distributed a Fact Sheet about Ohio's NPS Management Plan and a questionnaire intended to recruit additional partners. NPS update workgroup members have suggested that there are still research needs and statewide projects to be identified. Ohio EPA/ODNR staff coordinating the plan update have suggested that state/local agencies need to identify statewide projects and research needs for consideration by the plan update workgroup. Statewide research projects would need to be identified in the plan in order to be eligible for 319 project funds. Rebecca expressed concern that some state agency programs who have listed NPS program activities and needs in prior plans have not actively participated in this year's update process. Related NPS programs at the Division of Geological Survey and the State Fire Marshal's Office, BUSTR, may want to review their activities and see if they want to continue to be included in the state NPS plan update.

NEXT SCCGW MEETING

will be Thursday, February 19th, at the Horace R. Collins Conference Room, Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources Repository Building outside Delaware, Ohio. Agenda items include:

1. Presentation and discussion of ODNR Division of Water Five-Year Strategy and Goals;
2. Update of the State NPS Management Plan and completing the survey.
3. Discussion of possible changes in SCCGW; and
4. Presentation of the ground water concepts portion of the Source Water Assessment and Protection Web-based training CD.

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8:30 - 8:35 CALL TO ORDER
 - Introductions

8:35 - 8:40 JANUARY DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY

8:40 - 10:00 AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
 During Agency updates please provide status/update on OWRC
 Strategic Plan action items, being addressed by your agency or program

10:00 - 10:10 BREAK

10:10 - 10:40 ODNR-Division of Water Five-Year Strategy and Goals - Ted Lozier

10:40 - 11:10 NPS Management Plan Update - Information on Completing the Survey
 - Mike Eggert

11:10 - 11:25 SWAP interactive training CD - Barb Lubberger

11:30 ADJOURN