

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**

**April 16, 2015
ODNR Fountain Square Campus
Building I, First Floor Conference Room**

The April 16, 2015 meeting consisted of Agency announcements, a presentation by Rob Darner about Green Infrastructure BMPs.

ATTENDANCE

Ohio EPA: Barb Lubberger, Jeff Patzke
ODNR: Jim Raab
ODH: Rebecca Fugitt, Rachel Townsend
BUSTR: David Israel
USGS: Rob Darner
PUCO: Sue Daly, Daryl Parks

AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Well Sealing Guidance. The well sealing document is posted on the SCCGW website and ODNR's website. Jim checked with State Printing on the cost to print the document to distribute to appropriate users; due to the color figures, it was \$10 per copy. Jim will ask about black-and-white copies.

Ground Water Levels. So far in 2015, ground water recharge has been good.

Ohio Department of Health, Bureau of Environmental Health:

Water Well Drillers. About 800 contractors have registered this year for certification to drill private (domestic) water wells.

Sewage Rules. The bureau is working on rule review and developing new rules for recycled water.

Trumbull County Spill. The bureau is sampling private wells in the vicinity of a brine/fracking fluids spill in Trumbull County, which entered tile drains and a wetland. So far, there have been no detections in drinking water wells.

Newcomerstown Spill. The bureau is also coordinating with Ohio EPA on an investigation of a small diesel spill caused by a train derailment near Newcomerstown. In this case, volatile organics were found in some private wells at levels above their MCLs, but it's not certain the constituents are related to the recent spill.

Indoor Radon Research. Recently the journal *Environmental Health Perspectives* published a study of indoor radon levels in Pennsylvania from 1989 to 2013, concluding that there is a statistically significant higher level of indoor radon in areas of Marcellus drilling (<http://dx.doi.org/10.1289/ehp.1409014>). However, the United States Geological Survey did a subsequent study that discounted this research (E.L. Rowan and T. F. Kraemer, Radon-222 Content of Natural Gas Samples from Upper and Middle Devonian Sandstone and Shale Reservoirs in Pennsylvania: Preliminary Data, Open-File Report Series 2012-1159).

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio:

Staff Changes. Former PUCO Chairman Johnson has resigned as chair but remains a Commissioner. Andre T. Porter has been appointed the new chair, with Jason Rafeld the chief of staff.

Camplands Water LLC. Camplands, in Ashtabula County, might tie in with the Village of Andover.

Bureau of Underground Storage Tank Regulation:

Spill Investigation. The Bureau recently investigated a site in Damascus, Ohio where 9-10 homes complained of gas vapors in their basements. A hand-dug well was discovered to hold free product gasoline from a nearby gas station, which had spread to the storm sewer. Monitoring wells will be installed within 90 days.

Sensitive-Area Rule. The Bureau is evaluating possibly eliminating the sensitive-area rule, which required double walled containment in sensitive areas, because all USTs should have double-walled containment by now.

Ohio EPA, Division of Drinking and Ground Waters:

Reorganizing for HABS. The Division of Drinking and Ground Waters is developing a more structured program for preventing, detecting and responding to hazardous algal blooms, which will involve staff from the source water protection program, both at Central Office and in the districts. A great deal of training will need to be provided in 2015. [ODH has asked to attend some of the trainings.]

Nutrient Reduction Workgroup. The Division of Surface Water has not yet requested an extension from U.S. EPA yet. Once the extension has been granted, the workgroup will be convened.

Strontium Technical Paper. The Ground Water Quality program has completed a draft technical paper and Fact Sheet on strontium in Ohio's ground water. Meanwhile, U.S. EPA is considering developing an MCL for strontium and possibly also for manganese. [ODH noted that this will be of interest to them, as their CDC grant project will involve identifying interventions for people living in areas with high levels of hydrogen sulfide, arsenic, manganese, strontium, and barium in their drinking water.]

DISCUSSION

Updating the Well Construction Guidance Document. Now that the well sealing guidance document is updated, the question arose whether another SCCGW guidance document, on well construction standards, also needs to be updated. Since the original version was published, much additional detail regarding well construction has been added to the rules. Some questioned whether the guidance has outlived its usefulness. However, the guidance could focus more on drilling in unique geologic conditions and drilling methods that are not covered in the rules. It was agreed that SCCGW members should consult with colleagues at OWWA and AIPG, and ask them what kind of document they would like to have. The topic will be discussed more at the June SCCGW meeting.

PRESENTATION

Rob Darner (USGS) gave a presentation on Green Infrastructure BMPs, discussing the measured efficacy of rain gardens that were constructed for research purposes along the Scioto River.

NEXT SCCGW MEETING

Will be held June 18th at ODNR's Building E, Assembly Center East, 8:30 am -11:30 am.

REMINDER:

Meeting agendas and final meeting summaries are posted on the SCCGW Web site:

<http://wwwapp.epa.ohio.gov/ddagw/SCCGW/>