

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

December 19, 2002
held at the Dutch Kitchen, Plain City

ABSTRACT

The December 2002 meeting included Agency updates and announcements and presentations on GIS applications at ODNR and Ohio EPA-Division of Drinking and Ground Waters

ATTENDANCE

ODA: Larry Berger
ODH: Rebecca Petty, John Smith
ODNR: Mike Hallfrisch, Ted Lozier, Rick Pavey, Rosida Porter
OEPA: Tom Allen, Michael Eggert, Barb Lubberger
USGS: Ralph Haefner, Jeff de Roche

OWRC: Steven Hindall, Michele Willis

Presenters:

ODNR: Paul Spahr, Wayne Jones
OEPA: Kristy Hunt, David White

NOVEMBER MEETING SUMMARY

No changes to the draft summary were requested.

AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ohio EPA, Division of Drinking and Ground Waters, Michael Eggert announced:
-The Source Water Assessment and Protection (SWAP) Program recently printed 250 copies of its guidance document titled *Developing Local Drinking Water Source Protection Plans in Ohio*. The document is intended primarily for community public

water systems serving over 500 people. Most of the printed copies have been distributed to OEPA's District Offices, but another printing will likely be arranged.

- The SWAP program sent a letter to USEPA Region V requesting an extension for completing assessments. (The Safe Drinking Water Act amendments of 1996 specify that assessments should be complete by May 2003, but few states expect to meet that deadline and most have requested extensions.)

- The SWAP program is working with Ohio EPA's Division of Surface Water on incorporating restrictions for application of Class B sludges and recycled wastewater in drinking water source protection areas.

US Geological Survey, Water Resources Discipline, Ralph Haefner and Jeff deRoche announced:

- The 319 project for establishing a web site for meta-data on Ohio's ground water resources data is making good progress. The work group currently is developing an input form that various agency staff can fill out describing their data. Other issues are developing a long-term funding mechanism and deciding which agency will be responsible for long-term maintenance. ODNR, OAS, OGRIP, and USEPA have been proposed, among others.

- At a recent National Ground Water Association meeting, Ralph was named chair of a group that is tasked with completing a similar project at the national level. The Ohio Meta-data project will be a pilot for this larger effort.

- Since the federal FY 2003 budget still is not finalized, the current fiscal policy is to allow spending up to last year's levels.

- The division has recently published three new reports:

- 1) Water Resources Inventory Report 02-4167, "Hydrogeology, Ground-Water Use, and Ground-Water Levels in the Mill Creek Valley Near Evendale, Ohio"

- 2) Water Resources Inventory Report 02-4216, "Water Quality and Geochemical Modeling of Water at an Abandoned Coal Mine Reclaimed with Coal Combustion By-Products"

- 3) Water Resources Inventory Report 02-4246, "Water and Bed-Sediment Quality in the Vicinity of Berlin Lake, Ohio".

ODNR, Division of Soil and Water Conservation, Rosida Porter announced:

- There are now 28 watershed coordinators in Ohio working on 6-year contracts, and another eleven working on 2-year contracts.

- Recently Division staff revised Appendix A of the guidance for developing watershed

plans, which specifies what watershed plans should contain.

- Under the new Farm Bill, 40% of the EQUIP funds are set aside for improvement of areas with water quality impairments.

Ohio Department of Agriculture, Pesticide Registration Section, Larry Berger announced:

- ODA Deputy Director Joe Haynes is retiring and will not be replaced immediately.
- The pesticide container recycling program recycled 45,000 pounds of containers in 2002.
- The MCL for atrazine is under special review. It is anticipated that the MCL could eventually be raised from its current value of 3 ppb to 12 or 12.5 ppb. No public drinking water systems in Ohio are currently finding such high values of atrazine in their water samples.

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

- One phase of the monitoring well rehabilitation project has just ended. New wells have been drilled or old wells rehabilitated at about 18 locations around the state. In addition, wells have been installed at six new locations.
- Retirements:
 - Patsy Cutler, Administrative Assistant, who currently will not be replaced.
 - Mike Schiefer, surface water hydrologist.

Ohio Department of Health, Bureau of Environmental Health Services, Rebecca Petty announced:

- Staff from ODH and from Ohio EPA's Division of Surface Water are sending separate letters to the Trumbull County Board of Health, outlining deficiencies in the Board's oversight of on-lot seepage issues in Trumbull County.
- Representative Niehaus recently released a draft of his new on-lot sewage legislation; Rebecca will forward it by e-mail to SCCGW members.
- ODH has initiated an investigation into apparent high cancer rates in a community in Newbury Township, Geauga County. ODH, along with Ohio EPA, will sample the ground water to see if there is a credible link between the cancer cluster and the community's water quality.
- Currently 30 counties in Ohio have inspection programs for newly permitted septic systems. They do not routinely inspect existing septic systems. Given this, ODH suggests that 319 applicants be encouraged to propose more programs for completing inventories of septic systems, and focus less effort on costly "alternative systems"

projects.

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

- Four staff have agreed to take early retirement.

PRESENTATIONS

ODNR: “Using Available ODNR GIS Coverages to Maximize Hydrogeologic Information”, presented by Wayne Jones and Paul Spahr.

ODNR has been using GIS extensively to make hydrologic and geologic information more accessible and usable. The presentation focused on GIS-based conversions of: (1) bedrock aquifer maps; (2) unconsolidated aquifer maps; (3) maps of ground water pollution potential (DRASTIC maps); and (4) digital well locations.

Ohio EPA: Resource Characterization Database and Options for Obtaining SWAP Information Via the Internet, presented by Kristy Hunt and David White.

Ohio EPA has packaged many of the ODNR electronic maps, along with electronic tables of geographically-referenced hydrogeologic data, into a “Resource Characterization” database/coverage. This enables a user to locate any hydrogeologic value (hydraulic conductivity, transmissivity, recharge, etc.) that was obtained near a given site. The program was developed for the SWAP program, but would be useful to anyone doing hydrogeologic work in the state.

January 16, 2003 SCCGW Meeting

Will be held at the Horace R. Collins Conference Room in the ODNR Repository Building, Delaware, Ohio.

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January 16, 2003

Ohio Department of Natural Resources
Horace R. Collins - Conference Room
Ohio Department of Natural Resources Repository Building
3307 South Old State Road, Delaware, OH

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

8:35 - 8:40 DECEMBER DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY

8:40 - 9:50 AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
-Legislation/Rules/Policies
-Program Developments/Organizational Changes/New Hires
-Miscellaneous

9:50 - 10:00 BREAK

10:00 - 11:00 CLEAN OHIO PRESENTATION

11:00 - 11:30 AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS, CONT./DISCUSSION

11:30 ADJOURN