

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
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Ohio Public Utilities Commission
180 East Broad Street
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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

May 15, 2003

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

ABSTRACT

The May 2003 meeting consisted of Agency updates and announcements and a presentation by Tom Allen, representing the Mad River Watershed Group.

ATTENDANCE

ODH: Rebecca Petty
OEPA: Tom Allen, Michael Eggert, Kristy Hunt, Bob Knipmeyer,
Heather Raymond
ODNR: Mike Hallfrisch, Ted Lozier
ODA: Larry Berger
PUCO: Sue Daly
NRCS: John Armentano
USGS: Jeff DeRoche

APRIL MEETING SUMMARY

No revisions provided.

AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ohio EPA, Director's Office, Bob Knipmeyer announced:

- Representative Colliers' office is working on language for Home Sewage legislation. The current proposal calls for oversight by ODH of all systems discharging 2500 gallons/day or less. Ohio EPA's Director's Office recently met with Representative Collier's office to discuss Ohio EPA's concerns with the legislation. Representative

Collier will discuss this meeting with interested parties and will possibly consider proposing that ODH oversight be more limited, i.e., cover systems that discharge up to a limit less than 2500 gallons/day.

- On May 13th, Director Jones provided budget testimony to the Senate Finance Committee. The testimony showed how Ohio EPA is attempting to save money (i.e. waste out program, motor fleet cut down, etc.).

- Steve Skinner has been assigned to the District Chief Position at Ohio EPA's Southeast District Office. Craig Butler has been assigned to the Assistant District Chief Position also at the Southeast District Office. Steve Skinner has been the Assistant District Chief of Southeast District Office for the past ten years. Craig Butler recently served as the Manager of Industrial Relations in the Director's Office.

- Bob Knipmeyer provided the following comments for John Kessler, Ohio EPA Division of Surface Water:

- The 401 Wetlands Section in the Division of Surface Water - Central Office has been reorganized by watershed. This is consistent with an increasing overall emphasis on transitioning programs to a watershed basis. Also, the Section has proposed to the Director that a clearinghouse for streambank/wetland mitigation projects be set up. This enables Ohio EPA and key partners to better target mitigation projects toward the areas most in need of restoration or protection and link the program to the TMDL and comprehensive watershed planning effort.

- Intensive biological and chemical surveys will be conducted in the following TMDL watersheds - Touissant, Wakotomica, Tuscarawas, Mad and Olentangy. Volunteer sampling, with DSW oversight and 319 support, will be conducted in the following watersheds - Vermillion, Leading, Salt Creek, and tributaries to the Lower Muskingum and Upper Scioto Rivers.

- The Federal Fiscal Year 2003 319 Grant package is under review by USEPA. No ground water projects were nominated. The Federal Fiscal Year 2004 application period closed on April 30, 2003. Eleven Drinking Water Protection Planning Projects were submitted. Ohio EPA DSW intends to submit the 2004 319 Grant package to USEPA in August 2003. Federal Fiscal Year 2005 request for proposals is scheduled for release in January 2004.

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

- A meeting will be held April 30th to design a monitoring network to sample for pesticides and possibly degradation products in Fulton County's Oak Openings shallow aquifer. ODNR is delineating the boundaries of this aquifer. ODA has agreed to fund analysis of 100 samples.

- The May 8-9 (OWWA) outdoor well drilling demonstration was successful. Clear PVC casing was installed and the down hole camera was used to evaluate the bentonite. OWWA still has some leftover PVC casing, which could be used for a future well drilling demonstration.

- The ODH Web page for the Sewage and Water Programs is being updated. Several fact sheets are available on the Web page (Know Your Septic Tank, Treatment of Arsenic in Ground Water for Private Water Wells, Financial Resources for the Replacement and Management of Household Sewage Systems, Ultraviolet Light for Continuous Disinfections, Household Sewage Systems Ohio's Decentralized Wastewater Infrastructure, Know How to Select a Home Site, Know Your Household Sewage System, Know What to do after a Sewage Back-up.

- Last month ODH discovered ten drillers who were working without certification.

- Representative Olman has asked for a copy of the Licensing Legislation.

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, Sue Daly announced:

- PUCO has developed a brochure discussing the conservation of water.

-PUCO put on a water festival to celebrate National Drinking Water Week. Sue passed out a "Test Your Awareness of Water" quiz. Please review the quiz and let Sue know if you have any comments concerning additions or edits.

US Geological Survey, Water Resources Discipline, Jeff DeRoche announced:

- Jim Morris has started his new position as District Chief, replacing Steve Hindall, who recently retired.

- Currently the USGS is under a hiring freeze and the Fair Act is being evaluated to determine which jobs are inherently governmental and which jobs should be sent out to the private sector. Full Time Equivalents (FTEs) are also now being enforced.

- Barbara Bekins from the USGS National Research Program (NRP) will be providing a lecture on Monday May 19th. Her lecture is titled "How Ground Water Flow Controls Subsurface Microbial Habitat". The talk will begin at 10 a.m. at the USGS Ohio District Office. The lecture will be 45 minutes long.

- Dr. Cindy Kolar, a biologist from the USGS Upper Midwest Environmental Sciences Center, will present a lecture on invasive species on June 10 at the USGS Ohio District office. Contact Jeff for additional details.

USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service, John Armentano announced:

- This year's application period for the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) has opened.

- The Budget is not yet finalized.

ODNR, Division of Water, Ted Lozier and Mike Hallfrisch announced:

- Dick Bartz is now the Chief of the ODNR Division of Water. Dick served as Assistant Chief of the Division while Jim Morris was Chief. Jim Morris recently took the position of Chief of the USGS Ohio District.

- Some Division of Water staff have changed positions. Mike Hallfrisch, former Supervisor of the Mapping and Resource Characterization Section, is now the Supervisor of the Water Planning and Watershed Hydrology Section. Paul Spahr has also been moved into the Water Planning and Watershed Hydrology Section. Jim Raab, former Supervisor of the Technical Services Section, is the new Supervisor of the Mapping and Resource Characterization Section. Dennis Crist has come over from the Division of Mineral Resources Management to be the Supervisor of the Technical Services Section.

- Some of ODNR's stream gauges are in jeopardy of losing their maintenance funding. ODNR received permission to solicit for letters of support to request that funding for the stream gauges not be cut.

- The Northeast Ohio Four County (NEFCO) Planning Agency has invited ODNR to attend an organizational meeting for specific public water systems located in northeast Ohio.

- Ted Lozier asked the committee members to assist him with making sure that the OWRC watershed plan appropriately addressed the integration of ground water.

Ohio EPA, Division of Drinking and Ground Waters, Michael Eggert and Tom Allen announced:

- The Ground Water Quality program is designing a monitoring network and sampling plan for the GW Rule sampling program for microbial contaminants. This is a two year effort and sampling began last week.

- DDAGW staff have completed source water assessments for 63% of the community and 15% of the non-transient non-community ground water systems and 25% of the surface water systems. The Program's goal is to have 75% of the community ground water systems completed by June 2003 and 100% of the community ground water systems completed by December 2003.

- The Source Water Assessment and Protection (SWAP) Program is beginning to conduct outreach to those ground water based community public water systems that have received Source Water Assessment Reports. The first of these meetings will be held next week in Medina. Municipal community ground water systems have been invited. Each system will receive a poster size map that will show the geology and water resources within their delineated Drinking Water Source Protection Area.

- Drinking water staff are working with the Northwest District Office to address continuous nitrate MCL violations that are occurring seasonally.
- Mike Eggert requested that the Ground Water Meta Data Group hold an organizational meeting. Jeff de Roche will have Ralph Haefner arrange the meeting.
- DDAGW is hoping to complete its strategic plan by July 1, 2003. The Division is currently getting input from stakeholders (staff and customers) concerning customer service. They are also conducting a SWOT (Strengths, Weakness, Opportunities, and Threats) analysis to assist with the planning.
- Revisions have been made to Chapter 8 (Monitoring Well Development, Maintenance, and Redevelopment) of DDAGW's Technical Guidance Manual. A copy of the revised Chapter 8 will be provided to SCCGW representatives.
- The OWRC Advisory Group met to discuss Watershed Management. The meeting was very well attended. The OWRC State Group will meet next Wednesday to discuss the outlined priorities of Data and Information Management, Education and Outreach, and Watershed Management. These priorities will be presented to the Agency Directors at the OWRC July 23, 2003 meeting.
- A discrepancy in data has been noticed from water quality samples collected with low flow pumps versus water quality samples collected using a bailor. DDAGW is considering placing a requirement on the equipment that should be used for collecting water quality samples.
- Mike Baker is in Washington D.C. representing the National Drinking Water Advisory Council. The Council is concerned because USEPA's Strategic Plan for the Clean Water Act does not mention ground water. Other states are voicing their concerns as well.
- The Water Management Association of Ohio (WMAO) will hold its "Connecting the Watershed" conference on June 3rd and 4th. This conference will be attended by local watershed representatives instead of just state agencies. Tom Allen will check with the planning committee to see if some space would be available to allow for state agencies to put up their displays.
- **Heather Raymond provided the following announcements concerning 319 grant proposals geared towards ground water protection:**
- The 319 grant applications were redesigned for the 2004 request for proposals to include drinking water protection priorities. All water systems that were eligible for the grant funding were notified of the available funding. Eleven of the eligible public water systems applied for grant funding. If this program continues next year, the 319 grant funding will be geared towards systems that, according to their SWAP assessment, are highly susceptible to contamination.

- Heather will provide the eleven 319 planning grant proposals to SCCGW members. SCCGW members are asked to review each of the proposals and provide their opinion on whether the project should or should not be funded or provide recommendations if some of the proposal should be funded but not all of the proposal. Time will be allotted at the June 2003 SCCGW meeting to allow for the SCCGW representatives to discuss the project proposals. Heather will complete the first tier of the review, which concerns basic, nonsubjective criteria, and then will pass the proposals on to SCCGW representatives.

- Heather noted that if the SCCGW identifies additional ground water priorities prior to the FY05 RFP, the Division of Surface Water may be willing to consider those priority projects for funding. Ted Lozier agreed that it would be good to bring this discussion into later SCCGW meetings.

Ohio Department of Agriculture, Larry Berger announced:

- Barb Lubberger had requested that someone from ODA attend the SWAP outreach meeting for Medina County public water systems. Mike Eggert explained that it would be good to have someone from ODA there to answer questions. Larry will give Barb Lubberger a call to discuss.

- ODA is on track for having 100 wells sampled by June 2003.

- ODA has scheduled a conference call with Syngenta. The company signed on with USEPA as the general registrant for atrazine, and is therefore obliged to address potential impacts to rural private wells. USEPA is looking for state input on what should be done.

PRESENTATION

Tom Allen gave a presentation that provided insight on dealing with environmental issues on a local level, with reference to the Mad River Watershed.

JUNE 19, 2003 SCCGW MEETING

The meeting will be held at the ODNR Repository Building, Horace R. Collins Conference Room in Delaware, Ohio from 8:30 am - 11:30 am. The meeting will consist of agency updates and announcements, discussion of the 319 proposals for Drinking Water Protection planning, and a presentation by Scott Kell on new rules regarding the use of ground water flow models to determine the impacts of pumping wells in mine areas

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Delaware, OH**

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|---------------|---|
| 8:30 - 8:35 | CALL TO ORDER
- Introductions |
| 8:35 - 8:40 | MAY 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 - 10:30 | Presentation by Scott Kell: Rules regarding the use of ground water flow models to determine the impacts of pumping wells in mine areas |
| 10:30 - 11:25 | Discussion of 319 proposals for Source Water Planning for protection of community drinking water systems |
| 11:25 - 11:30 | AGENDA for July |
| 11:30 | ADJOURN |