

# STATE COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GROUND WATER

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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

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## TO PROMOTE AND GUIDE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A COORDINATED, COMPREHENSIVE AND EFFECTIVE GROUND WATER PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FOR THE STATE OF OHIO

November 18, 2004

Horace R. Collins Conference Room, ODNR Repository  
Delaware, Ohio

### **ABSTRACT**

The November 2004 meeting consisted of Agency announcements and a presentation by Mac Swinford (ODNR-Division of Geological Survey) on 3-D Bedrock mapping of Ohio.

### **ATTENDANCE**

OEPA: Tom Allen, Bob Knipmeyer, Barb Lubberger  
ODNR: Ted Lozier, Mac Swinford  
ODA: Bill Goodman  
ODH: Rebecca Fugitt  
PUCO: Sue Daly

### **SEPTEMBER DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY**

No corrections requested.

### **AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### ***Ohio Department of Health, Rebecca Fugitt announced:***

- The Sewage Bill was voted out of Senate Committee yesterday with only three minor amendments. (A township representative expressed concern that this bill will increase urban sprawl by requiring extensions of sanitary sewage lines.) It is anticipated that the bill can come to a Floor vote in the next day or so.

- ODH is busy completing the final report for a joint 319 project (with USGS) to study the effectiveness of septic systems in Ohio's soils.

- On November 4, the Public Health Commission raised fees for private water systems. Permits to install private wells were raised from \$40 to \$50, and well contractor registration fees have jumped from \$100 to \$145. These fees help support ODH's Private Water System program, which is now entirely fee-based.

- ODH is still working to fill positions vacated in July by John Wells (private water program) and John Smith (sewage program). John Smith's position has been transferred to the private water program because of budget issues in the sewage program.

***Ohio Department of Agriculture, Bill Goodman announced:***

- ODA has recently hired a third inspector for the CAFO program. To date this year 26 Permits-to-Install and 51 Permits-to-Operate have been issued.

- ODA is concerned about the continuing spread of the emerald ash-borer, especially throughout northwest Ohio. Originating overseas, this pest was brought to the United States by Great Lakes shipping vessels, and has recently spread from Michigan into Ohio.

***Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, Sue Daly announced:***

- The National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) recently held its annual conference. A panel discussion on interdependencies presented the view that the water sector is more aware than the energy sector of the interdependencies between energy and water.

- Also discussed and adopted at this conference was the Findings and Action Plan for the National Drinking Water Symposium. This plan was developed by Symposium sponsors (USEPA, NARUC, ASDWA, and NAWC) and is a flexible, working document providing guidelines for assessment of stakeholder progress.

***Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Geological Survey, Mac Swinford announced:***

- The division is preparing budgets based on a 2.5% and a 5.0% GRF cut.

- The Ohio Aggregates Association has proposed a bill to reduce the aggregate severance tax by 30%. The severance tax on Ohio's mineral industries funds much of OGS's mapping work and various activities of the Division of Mineral Resources Management-- so this is an additional budget concern for both divisions.

- The Division of Geological Survey is tentatively scheduled to move from Building B to Building C during the last week of December.

- The new oil and gas fields map is available digitally and on CD.

- Three or four staff in the Division of Geological Survey are eligible to take a buy-out, leaving only 27 staff.

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

- The Division of Water also is preparing budgets based on a 2.5% and 5.0% cut (i.e., a loss of \$85,000 or \$170,000 from the division's previous budget). They are requesting language allowing them to charge "reasonable fees" for some of their products and services (such as mapping and well log searches). Up to now, ODNR's

legal staff have approved charging only for costs of reproduction.

- The Division is submitting applications to NOAA for Coastal Management grants.
- Pollution Potential (DRASTIC) maps are planned for three more counties: Paulding, Putnam and Van Wert Counties.
- Also, potentiometric surface maps will be completed for eight more counties.
- Upgrade of Ohio's well log retrieval system has been initiated, funded by a \$135,000 grant from ODOT. (Ted expressed thanks to SCCGW member Rob Lang, who championed the grant). This grant provides for (x,y) locational geocoding of all well logs, as well as computer programming that will enable the public to file and search for well logs on the Web. The project is scheduled to be complete by August, 2005.
- The Great Lakes Annex Charter is stalled because the Province of Ontario refuses to sign unless the charter expressly provides for no water diversions from the Great Lakes basin.
- The City of Celina is still trying to resolve its public water issues. Two years ago they contacted ODNR about doubling their withdrawal of water from Grand Lake St. Marys. ODNR advised them to explore other options first. Celina eventually located a satisfactory wellfield, but its location ran counter to an ODNR regulation against diverting water across watersheds (the wellfield is located on the Great Lakes side of Ohio's central water divide and the City of Celina's customers are located on the Ohio River side). Such a diversion would require the signature of all Great Lakes governors. Celina's current permit to use Grand Lake expires in 2005.

***Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Soil and Water Conservation, John Kessler announced (via e-mail submittal):***

- The Scioto River Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program is approved. This can provide \$150 to 200 million in conservation works over 10 years.
- Two new watershed coordinators are on board: Chagrin River Partners, and Three Valley Conservation Trust (Twin Creek, Five mile Creek, and Seven Mile Creek.)
- The next RFP for coordinators is expected to be issued in Spring 2005.
- The State NPS Plan (a USEPA requirement) goes out for agency comment in late November with comments due New Year's Eve. Public comment is to begin in January. Submittal to USEPA is scheduled for February.
- DSWC has been awarded a \$310,000 grant from OWDA for work on the storm-water and stream morphology program; details to follow at future meetings. Ohio EPA will be involved with coordination of grant activities and the NPDES Surface Water Program.
- DSWC, in cooperation with ODA and Ohio EPA, has just completed training sessions for county staff and crop advisers on winter manure application. Over 200 people were

trained on the environmental and legal aspects of safe winter manure application. Let's hope we see a marked decrease in winter manure spills off application fields this year.

**Ohio EPA, Directors Office, Bob Knipmeyer announced:**

- The Ohio Rural Development Partnership and Ohio Farm Bureau will host a convention at the Hyatt Regency in early December.

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

- An interactive online training module for Ohio's Source Water Protection Program is available through the DDAGW Web page and on CD. The package provides training in how to create a drinking water source protection plan. (Tom distributed CDs and a brochure.)

- At an Ohio Water Resources Council (OWRC) meeting on November 17, Greg Nageotte presented the recent revision of Ohio's Non-Point Source Plan. The document is available for review on the Division of Surface Water's Web site.

- The OWRC is forming an Education and Outreach workgroup. One of their first agenda items is to make recommendations about hiring Storm Center to develop topical Ohio-based environmental film clips for TV weather-casters throughout Ohio to air.

**PRESENTATIONS**

Mac Swinford (ODNR, Division of Geological Survey), gave a presentation titled "New Maps and Digital Datasets to Characterize Ohio's Glacial Framework".

**NEXT SCCGW MEETING:**

SCCGW's traditional December holiday meeting is scheduled for **December 9<sup>th</sup>**, at the Dutch Kitchen in Plain City. The morning meeting (8:30 - 11:30 am) will be followed by the opportunity to socialize over lunch.

Rebecca Fugitt (ODH) will give a presentation summarizing findings from the investigation into the South Bass Island outbreak of gastrointestinal illness during July-August, 2004.

NOTE: Please contact/RSVP Tom Allen or Barb Lubberger if you plan to attend the meeting and lunch.

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The Dutch Kitchen  
Route 42, Plain City  
December 9, 2004

NOTE: Please contact/RSVP Tom Allen or Barb Lubberger if you plan to attend the meeting and stay for lunch

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| 8:00 - 8:30   | COFFEE AND DONUTS PROVIDED   |
| 8:30 - 8:35   | CALL TO ORDER<br>- Introductions   |
| 8:35 - 8:40   | NOVEMBER DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY   |
| 8:40 - 10:15  | AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS   |
| 10:15 - 10:25 | BREAK  |
| 10:25 - 11:15 | Presentation by Rebecca Fugitt on the 2004 South Bass Island investigation     |
| 11:15 - 11:30 | 2005 SCCGW Agenda - discussion of proposed revisions to SCCGW meeting schedule |
| 11:30         | ADJOURN  |