

# STATE COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GROUND WATER

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Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Ohio Department of Natural Resources

Ohio Department of Health

Ohio Department of Commerce-SFM

Lazarus Government Center  
Columbus, Ohio 43215-1049

Fountain Square  
Columbus, Ohio 43224-1387

246 North High Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43266-0588

8895 East Main Street  
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Ohio Public Utilities Commission  
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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

September 15, 2005

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

### **ABSTRACT**

The September 2005 meeting consisted of Agency announcements and a presentation by Craig Smith (OEPA) titled "Recommended Setbacks for Human and Animal Waste Management Near Drinking Water Supply Wells and Intakes"

### **ATTENDANCE**

OEPA: Tom Allen, Barb Lubberger, Craig Smith  
ODNR: Mike Hallfrisch, Christine Kasselmann  
ODH: Rebecca Fugitt  
ODA: Bill Goodman  
PUCO: Sue Daly  
USGS: Jeff deRoche  
NRCS: John Armentano

### **REVISIONS of JULY DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY**

None requested.

### **AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

***Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Water, Mike Hallfrisch announced:***

- Phase II of the Well Rehabilitation Project has begun. This involves drilling ten new observation wells (in new locations), re-drilling four existing wells, cleaning five wells, and upgrading the wellhead on one well. Also, five wells will be equipped with satellite telemetry, bringing to ten the number of observation wells in the real-time network.
- The on-line filing program has been released to about six drillers for their review and comment.

***Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Chris Kassermann announced:***

- The Source Water Environmental Education Team training workshops will begin on Tuesday, September 20<sup>th</sup>. Altogether, five workshops will be held across Ohio during the next four weeks.

- The Watershed Coordinator Grants Program is being reevaluated. The workgroup developed a survey, which they sent out last Friday. Responses are due back September 27<sup>th</sup>. Revisions are expected to be implemented in February.

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

- The emerald ash borer is still being spotted in Ohio, in Delaware and Auglaize Counties. The Feds are providing \$9 million to cut down trees.

- ODA approved significant funding recently for the Balanced Growth Initiative in the Lake Erie watershed. This program encourages orderly growth by working with local governments and watershed stakeholders to develop local balanced growth plans. Three pilot projects were awarded approximately \$200,000 each, in the Chagrin River watershed, the Swan Creek watershed, and the Rocky River watershed

***Natural Resources Conservation Service, John Armentano announced:***

- The Upper Great Miami Watershed and the Shenango Watershed have been selected for participation in the Conservation Security Program (CSP) in 2006. This program rewards farmers in the target watersheds for continuing their environmental protection activities. The amount of payment (up to \$45,000) depends on the type of conservation practice and the length of the contract (usually 5 to 10 years).

- New hires:

Starting October 16, 2005,

- **Richard Ellsmore** will become Ohio's new State Resource Conservationist.

Starting October 30,

- **Lindsay Carter** will be the Area 5 Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations in Chillicothe

- **Alan Rees** will be the District Conservationist in Jackson.

Starting October 2,

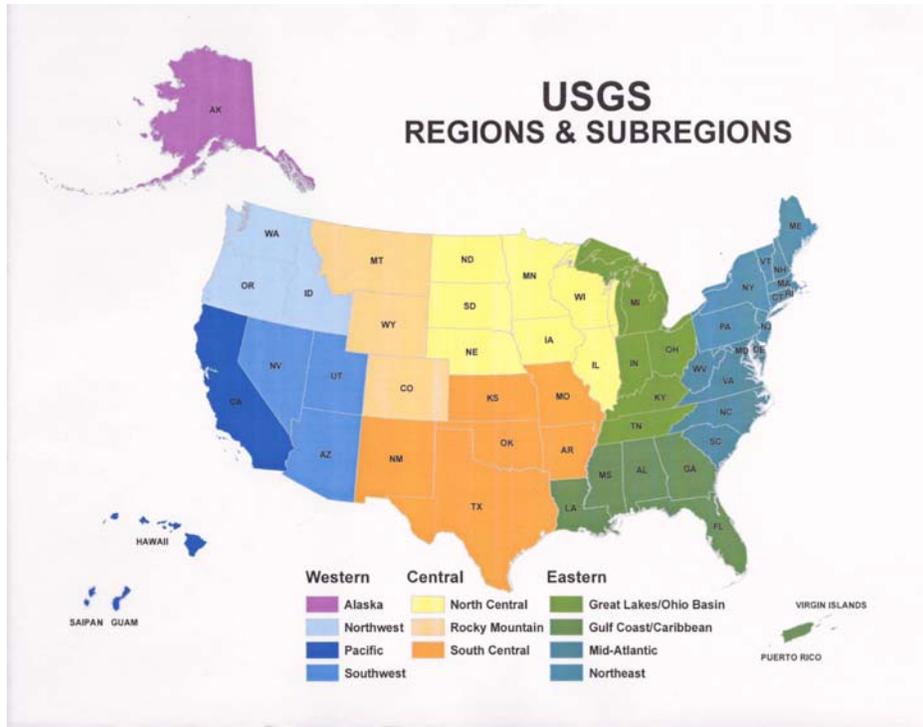
- **Mary Williams** will be the District Conservationist in Findlay

- **Felicity Weatherspoon** will be the District Conservationist in New Philadelphia.

- Hurricane Katrina disrupted the New Orleans-based finance center for several federal programs (including NRCS and USGS), causing some problems with electronic payments.

***United States Geological Survey, Ohio Water Science Center, Jeff deRoche announced:***

- The restructuring continues but is currently on hold pending review of differing options



by the new Director Patrick Leahy. A May 26, 2005 memo from former Director Chip Groat focused on reorienting the Regional Executives from a single discipline basis to a geographic basis, and suggests that the work of the scientists, and the local management structure, will go on much as before. However, the restructuring of USGS' offices into regions and subregions concerns many staff. According to the memo, the intent is to provide more interdisciplinary services at a more local (customer) level. This change was scheduled to be implemented October 1, 2005 but likely will occur later

in the year.

- USGS has published a report titled *Ground-Water Modeling of Pumping Effects near Regional Ground-Water Divides and River/Aquifer Systems in the Great Lakes Basin—Results and Implications of Numerical Experiments*. R.A. Sheets, D.H. Dumouchelle, and D.T. Feinstein, Scientific Investigations Report 2005-5141. 2005. This report may also be viewed at <http://www.usgs.gov>

- After Hurricane Katrina, the Ohio District Microbiology Lab sent a crew down to New Orleans to sample the water for pathogens (viruses and bacteria).

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

- Sue has been reappointed as vice-chair to the NARUC (National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners) Staff Subcommittee on Water.

She will be attending the third annual Drinking Water Symposium at the end of October. The Symposium will bring together the principal stakeholders; NARUC, ASDWA and USEPA, to explore critical drinking water issues, present examples of selected solutions and exchange ideas for the further development of continued progress.

***Ohio Department of Health, Bureau of Environmental Services, Rebecca Fugitt announced:***

- Steve Schmidt recently was hired into the Department, so they are finally fully staffed again and are looking forward to finishing up surveys and doing more enforcement.

- Revisions of the private water well rules will start in a couple months, once the sewage rules are out.

During the last two weeks of September and the first week of October, ODH will be doing down-hole camera work in private wells on South Bass Island, focusing on 64 sites with noncompliant wells. Ottawa County Health Department will follow up with inspections.

- The ODH Director has reissued an Interim Report on the South Bass Island gastrointestinal illness outbreak in the late summer of 2004.

- Federal funding has been obtained to run a water line (but not a sewer line) across the island.

- Two more Sewage Advisory Committee meetings are scheduled (for September 20<sup>th</sup> and October 19<sup>th</sup>). Draft rules should be available for public comment by mid-November. Homebuilders are expressing opposition, and solid support by Ohio EPA's Division of Surface Water will be needed to uphold the Clean Water Act.

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

- In January, the Source Water Protection Program plans to begin "surveying" all of Ohio's high-susceptibility community public water systems) regarding their implementation of source water protective strategies. The effort currently is expected to take at least six months. This will provide the Program with information on what is actually being done at the local level.

- Meanwhile, the Source Water Protection Program continues to encourage public water systems to complete a local Protection Plan. A fill-in-the-blank Small Systems Template has been developed, at the request of Ohio Rural Water Association staff and others, to make this task easier.

- The Water Management Association of Ohio (WMAO) Fall Conference will take place November 2-3. Focusing on water impacts, it will feature a keynote speech by David Jones (director of Storm Center) and a presentation by Rebecca Fugitt on the South Bass Island incident in 2004.

- With Michele Hoffer's move to Deputy Director of ODNR, Gail Hesse is the new State Agency Coordinating Group Leader and Greg Nageotte is the assistant group leader.

**PRESENTATION**

Craig Smith gave a presentation titled "Recommended Setbacks for Human and Animal Waste Management near Drinking Water Wells and Intakes". This was an overview of recommendations drafted by a workgroup chartered about a year ago by Ohio Water Resources Council. The goal was to standardize setbacks and other restrictions on application of wastes or storage/treatment of wastes (human or animal) in the vicinity of Source Water Protection areas.

**NEXT SCCGW MEETING:**

November 17th, at the Horace R. Collins Conference Room, 8:30-11:30 am. Linda Slattery (OEPA/DDAGW) will give a presentation on “Volatile Organic Compounds in Ohio’s Ground Water: Relationship between Land Use and Sensitive Aquifers”, which she will be presenting at the Midwest Ground Water Conference on November 2nd.

**December Meeting scheduled for December 12<sup>th</sup> :**

Although it was agreed that SCCGW meetings would be held every other month (which would mean skipping December), we traditionally have a December SCCGW ‘holiday meeting’ at the Dutch Kitchen in Plain City. The group agreed to continue this tradition. Wayne Jones is scheduled to provide a presentation on the Mad River watershed nitrate problem.

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**November 17, 2005**

**Horace R. Collins Conference Center, ODNR Repository  
Delaware, Ohio**

8:30 - 8:35	CALL TO ORDER - Introductions
8:35 - 8:40	REVISIONS TO SEPTEMBER DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY
8:40 - 10:00	AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
10:00 - 10:10	BREAK
10:10 - 11:00	PRESENTATION Linda Slattery will give a presentation on "Volatile Organic Compounds in Ohio's Ground Water: Relationship between Land Use and Sensitive Aquifers"
11:00 - 11:25	DISCUSSION OF SCCGW PRIORITIES
11:25 - 11:30	DECEMBER MEETING AGENDA
11:30	ADJOURN