

How will the Source Protection Plan affect activities on my property?

Residents

Area: Cataraqui Source Protection Area (CSPA)

Water Source: Groundwater

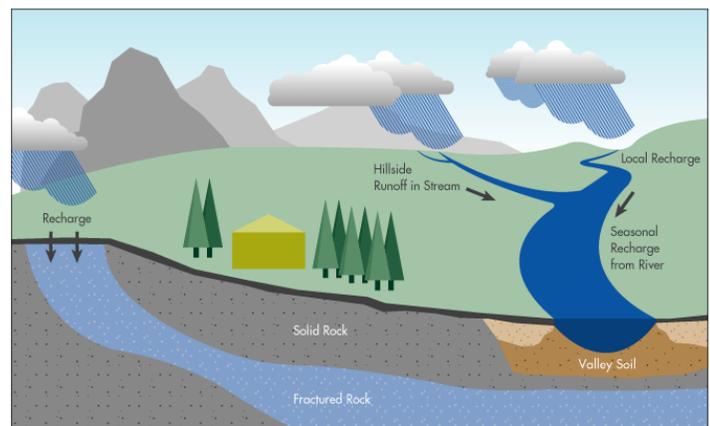
Why is source protection important?

Source water protection means protecting our sources of drinking water such as lakes, rivers and groundwater from being contaminated or overused. Source water protection is important because water treatment is not always enough and some chemicals are not removed from water, even with a water treatment system. In some cases when the pollution cannot be cleaned up, the resulting contamination can ruin a water source forever. It is much easier to keep water clean than it is to try and clean it up after it has been polluted. Further details about the benefits of source protection can be found on the clean water cataraqui website at www.cleanwatercataraqui.ca.

Highly Vulnerable Aquifer and Significant Groundwater Recharge Area

Highly Vulnerable Aquifers (HVAs) and Significant Groundwater Recharge Areas (SGRAs) are types of sensitive regional groundwater areas where actions should be taken to protect the drinking water supply. In HVAs, the quality of groundwater is easily impacted by contaminants such as liquid fuel spills/leaks, or poor on-site sewage systems (e.g. a septic system). SGRAs are areas where water on the ground surface can more easily soak into the ground and reach a groundwater aquifer.

HVAs and SGRAs are found across the Cataraqui Source Protection Area (CSPA). A technical study classified more than 90 percent of the CSPA as a highly vulnerable aquifer; much of the landscape is also a significant groundwater recharge area. Therefore, the Source Protection Plan has a focus on protecting regional groundwater that could be used as a drinking water source.



Recharge Area

What can you do?

Everyone across the CSPA can help protect the drinking water supply in HVAs and SRGAs.

You can:

- Handle and dispose of waste properly
- Maintain heating oil tanks and fill lines
- Maintain and use septic systems properly
- Maintain wells and upgrade as necessary
- Hire a licensed well contractor to properly plug unused wells
- Avoid or limit use of chemicals such as fertilizer, pesticides and road salt

If you would like to learn more about how you can help protect your drinking water, check out these websites:

- **Green Communities Canada**
 - [Waste management](#)
- **Canadian Oil Heat Association**
 - [Heating your home with oil](#)
- **Smart About Salt Website**
 - [Winter salt management information](#)
- **Well Aware**
 - [How to be well aware](#)
- **Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority**
 - [Private wells](#)
 - [Septic Systems](#)
- **Ontario Groundwater Association**
 - [Information for well owners/operators](#)
- **Ontario Pesticide Education Program**
 - [Learn more about pesticide safety and training](#)



Spilled oil can seep into soils and groundwater and flow into the rivers and lakes that supply your drinking water, causing contamination.



Take care when handling, storing or using chemicals, pesticides and fertilizers. Spills of these products can make our water supplies unsafe for consumption.

The Cataraqui Source Protection Plan might apply to you if you:

- Have a septic system or holding tank
- Have a well
- Have a fuel tank

Specific requirements that apply to residents in HVAs and SGRAs:

If you have a septic system or holding tank in an HVA or SGRA:

On-going maintenance of a septic system or holding tank, or repair of an unsafe system, is necessary to ensure proper function and prevent pollution. Owners/operators of a septic system/holding tank are responsible for maintaining their septic system/holding tank. Your municipality **may establish** an on-site sewage system maintenance inspection program, as well as a local incentive program to support replacements and repairs suggested as part of the on-site sewage system maintenance inspection program.

If you have a fuel tank or a well in an HVA or SGRA:

Making improvements to liquid fuel storage tanks, as well as the proper plugging of unused wells and upgrade of existing wells, is important to protect water sources in HVAs and SGRAs. A local incentive program to support improvements to liquid fuel storage tanks and wells, and the plugging of unused wells **may be established**.

Would you like to learn more about the Source Protection Plan?

The information included in this fact sheet is a summary only. For complete details, view the [Source Protection Plan](#) or contact staff at the Cataraqui Source Protection Authority.

Holly Evans, Environmental Technician
613-546-4228 ext. 233 or hevans@crca.ca



**CATARAQUI REGION
CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**

1641 Perth Road, P.O. Box 160
Glenburnie, ON K0H 1S0
Phone: (613) 546-4228 Toll-free: 1-877-956-2722
Email: info@crca.ca Web: cleanwatercataraqui.ca



Made possible through the support of the
Government of Ontario.