

Summary of Regional Recommendations from Groundwater Studies / Protection Plans

Development Recommendations	Priority / Comments
Identify and protect future municipal residential drinking water supplies (e.g. land purchase, official plans, zoning)	
Identify groundwater quantity and quality constraint areas through regional characterizations (testing and analysis)	
Require the installation of a treatment system for bacteria on private water supplies	
Update D-series procedures to account specifically for sensitive groundwater areas	
Impose lot size restrictions based on site-specific groundwater sensitivity	
Adopt Ministry of Transportation Corridor Control Policy for setback guidelines to minimize road salt impacts on wells	

Well and Septic System Recommendations	Priority / Comments
Enhance well construction standards in sensitive groundwater areas (provincial or municipal by-laws)	
Develop site-specific septic sewage disposal standards	
Increase required pilot testing prior to new sewage treatment system technology approval	
Establish variable well and sewage system minimum separations reflective of groundwater sensitivity	
Submit bacteriological and chemical water sample results with water well record	
Prohibit chipped, blasted and dug well in Plans of Subdivision	
Properly decommission (plug) unused wells	
Require mandatory inspections of wells and sewage disposal systems at time of property transaction	
Enhance Regulation 903 compliance in vulnerable areas	

Data and Monitoring Recommendations	Priority / Comments
Establish a centralized georeferenced groundwater data portal	
Conduct research on karst limestone and fractured bedrock	
Improve soil data in WHPAs (make-up, depth etc.)	
Explore the relationship between surface water and groundwater	
Increase regional groundwater monitoring	
Fill data gaps for basic aquifer characterization	
Prioritize water quality testing per bedrock unit / predominant land use	

Education Recommendations	Priority / Comments
Create Groundwater Protection Plan for rural residents (water use, well maintenance, well inspections, operation of water well supply system, water quality testing, treatment, transport pathways and reduce threat of potential contaminants.	
Establish a centralized education resource portal for groundwater protection	
Provide Ministry-lead municipal staff and Councillor groundwater management sessions	
Revitalize a Well Aware-Type Program	

Incentive Recommendations	Priority / Comments
Provide financial incentives to unserved areas to reduce the risk to groundwater quality from transport pathways (i.e. sub-standard or abandoned wells, old fuel storages and septic systems)	
Prioritize incentives for upgrading wells constructed prior to 1974	
Subsidize water quality treatment systems in high-risk areas	
Fund residential well water testing in gap areas / areas of concern	