

# **Source Water Protection and Planning for the City of Barrie**



## **Risk Management Official Staff Report**

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## Clean Water Act – Basic Framework

- **Identify and assess risks** to the quality and quantity of drinking water sources.
- **Develop a source protection plan** that sets out how the risks will be addressed.
- **Carry out the plan** through existing land use planning and regulatory requirements or approvals, or voluntary initiatives.
- **Stay vigilant through ongoing monitoring and reporting.**
- **Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority (lead agency).**
- **Barrie staff part of Source Protection Committee and working groups.**



# Areas Affected by Significant Threat Policy



Wellhead Protection Areas (WHPAs) – areas around the wellheads that contribute groundwater to the wells and where land use activities have the greatest potential to affect the quality of water that flows into the well.

Intake Protection Zones (IPZs) – areas around surface water intake.



## **Risk Management Official & Inspectors**

- **Responsible for:**
  - **Site inspections, issuing permits, screening development applications, technical reviews, education and outreach.**
  - **Issue orders and negotiating and establish Risk Management Plans. All orders are appealable to the Environmental Review Tribunal (ERT).**
  - **Issue notices of failure to comply, including fines similar to Provincial offences.**
  - **Annually report to the Source Protection Authority (SPA) on progress of implementation.**
  - **Considered Provincial Offences Officer under the Provincial Offences Act.**

## **What resources will be required?**

- **City of Barrie**
  - **546 potential significant threats.**
  - **Associated with 477 land parcels.**
- **Region of York**
  - **Approximately 1100 potential significant threats.**
  - **Associated with 650 land parcels.**
  - **1 RMO, alternate RMO and 3 RMI (not fully committed).**
  - **May need enforcement support in the future.**
  - **Contacted 150 businesses to date.**
- **Region of Waterloo**
  - **Approximately 2,613 potential significant threats**
  - **Utilizing existing staff from Hydrogeology and Source Water Department**

## **Fees – Cost Recovery**

- **Under the Act, municipalities are permitted to charge for activities related directly to Part IV, including:**
  - Requiring the payment of fees for receiving an application with a RMP, Restricted Land Uses or risk assessments;
  - For agreeing to/establishing a RMP;
  - For issuing a notice;
  - For accepting a risk assessment;
  - For entering property or exercising any other power; and
  - Requiring the payment of the costs of doing any “thing” under section 64 (“causing things to be done”).

## **RMO/RMI Recommendation**

- Initiate the recruitment one full time dedicated RMO with funding from the Water Rate Reserve.
- RMO to determine future requirements for RMI position along with development of any other process and administrative coordination.
- Establish a new fee in the City's 2013 Fees By-law for Source Protection with a minimum charge of \$700 plus a rate of \$140 per hour for any time over the minimum fee.

## **Threat Verification**

- Initial stages of program will not be able to recover any costs through fees.
- Typically 1/3 of the threats are confirmed, 1/3 are not significant threats and the remaining 1/3 land parcels have additional threats that were not captured in the Assessment Report.
- Costs not captured through fees would be funded from Water Rate Reserve.
- Current SPP suggests RMPs need to be established for significant threats within 5 years of approval of the Plan



## **Fee Revenue**

- Using the Fee Revenues Calculation:
  - Minimum \$700 fee based on 5 hours.
  - Time to complete a plan could be 15 - 20 hours, for average Risk Management Plan (\$2,100 - \$2,800).
  - Could generate \$50,000 – \$140,000 in revenue depending on complexity of plans.
- Property owners responsible for:
  - Preparation of the Risk Management Plan based on a proposed City of Barrie template.
  - May require services of a consulting firm for complex plans.
  - Cost to upgrade/implement protection measures.

## **Where other municipalities at in process?**

- Region of York – Considering fees for screening development applications and developing RMP for new developments. Not proposing fees for establishing RMP for existing threats.
- Region of Waterloo – Drafting fee structure for new construction only. No fees proposed for existing threats.
- Other municipalities (such as Guelph, County of Brant, Bradford, Oxford County) are still evaluating options for implementation.

# Questions?

