

21 Threats to Local Drinking Water

There are 21 drinking water threats identified in the regulations established under the *Clean Water Act, 2006* (Section 1.1 of O. Reg. 287/07).

1. A waste disposal site.
2. A system that collects, stores, transmits, treats or disposes of sewage.
3. Applying agricultural source material to land.
4. Storing agricultural source material.
5. Managing agricultural source material.
6. Applying non-agricultural source material to land.
7. Handling & storing non-agricultural source material.
8. Applying commercial fertilizer to land.
9. Handling and storing commercial fertilizer.
10. Applying pesticides to land.
11. Handling and storing pesticides.
12. Applying road salt.
13. Handling and storing road salt.
14. Storing snow.
15. Handling and storing fuel.
16. Handling and storing a dense non-aqueous phase liquid.
17. Handling and storing an organic solvent.
18. Managing runoff with aircraft de-icing chemicals.
19. Taking water from an aquifer or surface water without returning the water to the same place.
20. Reducing the recharge of an aquifer.
21. Livestock grazing or pasturing land, an outdoor confinement area or a farm animal yard.

DRINKING WATER SOURCE PROTECTION

Under the **Lake Erie Region – Grand River Source Protection Plan** and **Ontario's Clean Water Act**, Southgate has the responsibility and authority to implement source protection policies aimed to restrict activities that pose a threat to the quality and quantity of our drinking water sources.

Find the Source Protection Plan at sourcewater.ca

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Together,
we can
protect our
water

SOURCE WATER PROTECTION

Each of us has a responsibility to protect the quantity and quality of our drinking water sources. Small actions make a difference and protecting our water can be easy.

For practical information on how we can protect our drinking water sources, please refer to these supplemental information sheets:

WATER PROTECTION FAST FACTS

FERTILIZERS & PESTICIDES

PRIVATE WELLS

SEPTIC SYSTEMS

REDUCING WATER USE

ROAD SALT

FUEL TANKS

CHEMICAL STORAGE

Preventing pollution is essential.

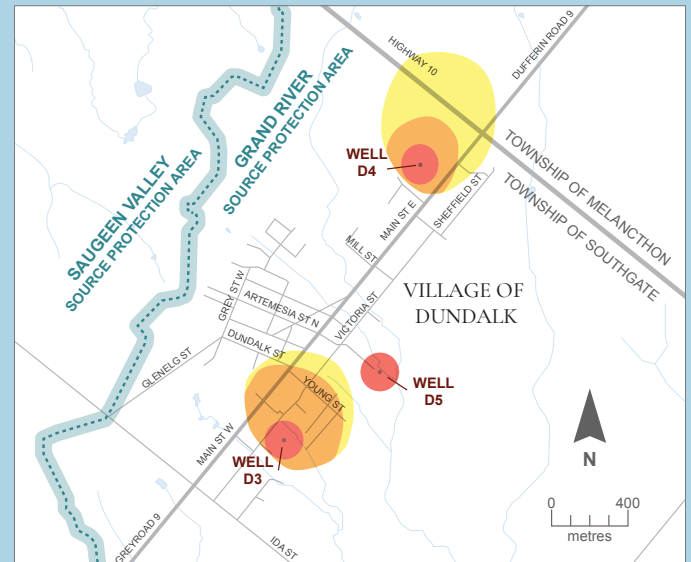
Clean, abundant drinking water is an irreplaceable part of our infrastructure. It costs less to avoid harm to our water sources than to try to repair damage after the fact, and water sources can be damaged permanently.

Protecting our drinking water can be as simple as knowing whether you are in an area where water sources are more vulnerable, being more careful of where and how chemicals are stored, or using more environmentally friendly materials.

Did you know? Our drinking water comes from a natural source. In the Village of Dundalk, we rely on wells to supply groundwater for us to drink. Groundwater comes from rain or snow that seeps below the surface and pools in cracks and spaces in the soil, sand, and rock. These underground sources of water are known as aquifers.

Some parts of Dundalk are identified as “highly vulnerable” to contamination, based on natural characteristics, like the type of soil and rock and how quickly water can travel through it. These **Wellhead Protection Areas (WHPA)** are where there is the potential to affect the quality and quantity of water that flows into our drinking water system and we need to take action to ensure they remain a safe source.

Are you in a Wellhead Protection Area?



You may be contacted if you live near a wellhead to ensure you take necessary steps to help protect our local drinking water. For example, homeowners may need their septic system inspected regularly; businesses may need to make some adjustments to operations; and builders will need to ensure that future developments do not create new drinking water threats.

Regardless of where you live, it's important that we all do our part to conserve and protect our water supplies.

Important Note: Undertaking a threat activity in a vulnerable area does not automatically subject it to source protection policies. In order for an activity to be subject to these policies, certain circumstances must exist, such as the activity's proximity to the wellhead or for example, the volume of fuel being stored.