

STATE COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GROUND WATER

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
Lazarus Government Center
Columbus, Ohio 43215-1049

Ohio Department of Natural Resources
Fountain Square
Columbus, Ohio 43224-1387

Ohio Department of Health
246 North High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43266-0588

Ohio Department of Commerce-SFM
8895 East Main Street
Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068

Ohio Public Utilities Commission
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43266-0573

Ohio Department of Agriculture
8995 East Main Street
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

TO PROMOTE AND GUIDE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A COORDINATED, COMPREHENSIVE AND EFFECTIVE GROUND WATER PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FOR THE STATE OF OHIO

July 17, 2003

Horace R. Collins Conference Room
Ohio Department of Natural Resources Repository Building
3307 South Old State Road
Delaware, Ohio

ABSTRACT

The July 2003 meeting consisted of Agency updates and announcements.

ATTENDANCE

ODH: Rebecca Petty
OEPA: Tom Allen, Bob Knipmeyer, Barb Lubberger,
ODNR: Mike Hallfrisch
ODA: Matt Beal
ODOT: Rob Lang
USGS: Jeff DeRoche
NRCS: John Armentano

MAY MEETING SUMMARY

Corrections:

Under OSU Extension:

- First paragraph has been removed, as the name change occurred some years ago and is not newsworthy.
- Third paragraph, last sentence should read: *Some pesticides are labeled for this purpose but the environmental groups want to require a Clean Water permit.*

Under ODH:

- Second paragraph should read: *ODH has developed guidance for local health districts on **local administration of private water systems.***

- Fifth paragraph, second sentence, should read: “*Small*” is defined as systems designed for up to **2500 gallons per day**. The next sentence has been removed.

These edits have been incorporated into the final June meeting summary.

AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ohio EPA, Director’s Office, Bob Knipmeyer announced:

-So far this year in Ohio there have been no confirmed cases of West Nile virus in humans or horses, and far fewer positive detects in birds compared to this time last year. Possible reasons may be growing immunity and/or the continuous heavy rains and flooding, which disrupt the breeding cycle.

-ODA is getting numerous calls to spray for mosquitos.

- The Association of Health Commissioners will meet this afternoon to discuss House Bill 152 regarding CAFOs.

-ODA recently ordered Buckeye Egg to shut down, based in part on environmental data provided by Ohio EPA. They are appealing the order, arguing that it is impossible to safely dispose of many thousands of animals within the given deadline.

US Geological Survey, Water Resources Discipline, Jeff DeRoche announced:

The National Council for Science and the Environment (NCSE) has joined with 37 scientific organizations to launch a new coalition to support the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). With the USGS facing budget cuts again this year, the immediate goal of the coalition is to demonstrate the breadth of USGS's constituency and provide a mechanism for coordinated action, uniting organizations concerned with the health and effectiveness of the agency. Through statements, briefings, visits and supporting materials, the Coalition will help make the case for USGS within the administration and on Capitol Hill. More information and a list of charter members of the USGS Coalition is available at www.NCSEonline.org/updates.

- Under a 319 project, USGS is assisting ODH with evaluating home septic system performance. They are installing monitoring wells, and doing genomic fingerprinting of water samples to identify the types of microbes that leach through the soils.

Natural Resources Conservation Service, John Armentano announced:

- With only two months left to FFY03, NRCS is still unable to write contracts with Technical Service Providers because rules are not finalized yet for how the \$423,000 in Technical Assistance money may be spent. Rules are supposed to come out within the next two weeks.

- A Grasslands Reserve Program has been initiated. The sign-up period for this fiscal year ends August 8th. Scoring is based 55% on risk of conversion to other uses. In Ohio the rental rate is \$16.50/acre.

Ohio Department of Health, Bureau of Environmental Health Services, Rebecca Petty announced:

-House Bill 231, the Home Sewage Treatment System (HSTS) legislation, has been introduced. It gives local health districts authority over HSTSs handling up to 2500 gallons of wastewater per day.

- Ohio EPA's Division of Surface Water and Division of Environmental Financial Assistance (DEFA) had a joint meeting recently on leveraging DEFA and 319 funds to address sewage issues. A template for grant applications has been developed. Applicants will be required to develop an on-site sewage management plan or incorporate into a watershed plan.

- ODH is working with the Department of Development to develop criteria for water-tight septic tanks.

- In response to recent flooding in northwest Ohio, the governor declared an emergency in several counties, making OEMA funds available. At the request of a local health department, ODH conducts total coliform testing in private wells that have been exposed to flooding.

- On July 1st the first round of private well sampling was completed in the Oak Openings Sand unit of northwestern Ohio. The samples will be analyzed for coliform bacteria, *E. coli*, inorganics and pesticides. A second round of sampling is scheduled for September.

- The Water Management Association of Ohio (WMAO) Fall Conference is scheduled for November 5-6.

Ohio Department of Agriculture, Matt Beal announced:

- At ODA, Dr. Bev Byrom is heading up the Consumer Analytical and Animal Diagnostic laboratory work.

Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water, Barb Lubberger (for John Kessler) announced:

- The State Selection Committee for 319 proposals will meet at ODA on July 24 from 9-3. They will be taking comments from interested parties.

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

- DDAGW is close to finalizing the update of its workplan for the next two years.
- The Ohio Water Resource Committee (OWRC) recommendations will be presented to the agency Directors next week.

NEXT SCCGW MEETING:

Is scheduled for August 21st at the Horace R. Collins facility. SCCGW members will review the ground water-related action items recommended by OWRC.

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August 21, 2003

Horace R. Collins - Conference Room

Ohio Department of Natural Resources Repository Building

3307 South Old State Road

Delaware, OH

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| 8:30 - 8:35 | CALL TO ORDER
- Introductions |
| 8:35 - 8:40 | JULY DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY |
| 8:40 - 10:10 | AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS |
| 10:10 - 10:20 | BREAK |
| 10:20 - 11:20 | Discussion of OWRC recommendations on critical water issues and state ground water protection.
<i>--Please come prepared to present to the group your agency/program updates (accomplishments for SFY03) to the OWRC Strategic Plan action items</i> |
| 11:20 - 11:30 | AGENDA for September
-C8 presentation
-Evaluate ground water protection-related goals and objectives of the OWRC Strategic Plan in reference to SFY04 planned activities |
| 11:30 | ADJOURN |

Other Potential Future Presentations to SCCGW:

- Update from USGS on metadata project
- Elizabethtown Investigation by Ohio EPA DDAGW Ground Water Program
- SWAP guidance for Protective Strategies
- Direct push technology guidance (Jeff Patzke and Sydney Poole, Ohio EPA)