

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

January 19, 2006

Horace R. Collins Conference Room
ODNR Repository, Delaware, Ohio

ABSTRACT

The January 2006 meeting consisted of Agency announcements and a presentation by Steve Davis (USDA-NRCS) on the Western Lake Erie Basin Watershed Project

ATTENDANCE

OEPA: Tom Allen, Brian Hall, Bob Knipmeyer, Barb Lubberger
ODNR: Chris Kasselmann, Rick Pavey, Jim Raab
ODH: Rebecca Fugitt
ODA: Bill Goodman
PUCO: Sue Daly
USGS: Ralph Haefner
NRCS: John Armentano
Presenter: Steve Davis (NRCS)

REVISIONS of DECEMBER DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY

No revisions requested.

AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ohio EPA Directors Office, Bob Knipmeyer announced:

Recently a complaint was filed under 6103.17 (Safe Drinking Water Act), charging that apparent septage releases along Batdorf Road (Wayne County) are resulting in drinking water contamination, as evidenced by levels of nitrate and *E. coli* in local private wells. Efforts in 2004 to address this problem as surface water contamination under 6117.34 (Clean Water Act) failed to alleviate the problem.

Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Geological Survey, Rick Pavey announced:

OGS has hired a new mapping geologist—Eric Venteris.

Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water, Brian Hall announced:

- The Clean Water Act Chapter 208 Water Quality Management Plan (incorporating areawide wastewater management plans) is scheduled to be published by the end of January, and focuses on statewide growth issues.

- The TMDL for the Big Darby is nearly ready to send to U.S. EPA.

- The Division has uploaded surface water quality data to the federal STORET system for the first time in five years. Biological data is being converted so that it can be included.

- The next 319 Request for Proposal (RFP) for nonpoint source projects is set to come out in early February.

Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Soil and Water Conservation, Chris Kasselmann announced:

- The RFP for the Watershed Coordinator grants program should go out in February. Applications are due in April/May, awards should be decided by July 1st, and coordinators should be hired by October.

- A Watershed Coordinators Workshop will be held February 22nd at The Ohio State University.

United States Geological Survey, Ohio Water Science Center, Ralph Haefner announced:

- Jeff DeRoche retired on January 3rd, along with seven other staff.

- In cooperation with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Mineral Resource Management, USGS recently published a study titled: *Chemical and Biological Characterization of the Headwaters of the Rush Creek Watershed, Perry County, Ohio*, Scientific Investigations Report 2005-5196, authored by Robert A. Darner, John S. Tertuliani, and Ralph J. Haefner.

- In cooperation with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, USGS is working on the Tuscarawas Basin Study, which will look at the influences of land use on water quality. There is some concern regarding the way the local press is presenting this effort, as there is a tendency to link it to the local landfills, to the exclusion of other issues.

- Ralph will be giving a talk on Advances in Internet Ground Water Data at the Geological Society of America's conference in April, to be held in Akron.

- There is significant interest at the national level in Ohio's Ground Water Metadata project that was completed in 2003. Currently it is housed on a commercial Website to avoid the security issues for government databases, but plans are to eventually move it to ODNR, where the public will find it more easily and use it more frequently.

Ohio Department of Agriculture, Plant Industry Division, Bill Goodman announced:

- The emerald ash borer is still a concern. Funds for cutting down ash trees are very limited, however, and in some areas diseased trees are falling into streams and causing jams.

- Bill distributed a flier with maps of gypsy moth quarantine areas and emerald ash borer quarantine areas.

Natural Resources Conservation Service, John Armentano announced:

- The NRCS 2006 budget is finally complete, and looks generally OK.

- NRCS lost quite a few staff to retirement at the end of December, 2005. A number of vacancies are being posted.

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

- The Home Sewage Rules will be introduced to the Public Health Council on January 26th.

- The ODH Bureau Chief position has been posted.

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, Sue Daly announced:

- The Mid-Atlantic Regulatory Commission (MARC) conference will be held here in Columbus in March, at the Hilton Hotel. For the first time, there will be a full session on water.

- Sue has obtained on loan the 30-minute version of the video "Running Dry", a project of the late Senator Paul Simon.

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

The Division's Source Water Protection Program staff will begin providing ODNR's Division of Mineral Resources Management with maps showing locations of public drinking water source protection areas and public water supply wells near sites for which mining permits have been requested.

- Drinking Water Source Protection areas have been delineated for nearly all of Ohio's ~5,400 public water systems. All community public water systems were assessed by 2004, and the nontransient noncommunity systems were assessed by 2005. During 2005, the 3,000 transient systems were assessed. At this point 98% of these have been delineated and over 92% have received their assessment report.

- The Solid Waste Rules are facing challenges from the utilities industries, who are appealing the 100 gallon-per-minute aquifer rule.

PRESENTATION

Steve Davis (NRCS) gave a presentation on the Western Lake Erie Basin Study.

NEXT SCCGW MEETING:

The next SCCGW meeting is scheduled for **March** 16th at the **Ohio Department of Agriculture's Animal Industry meeting room**, 8:30 - 11:30 am. Sandy Eberts (USGS) will give a presentation on transport of contaminants to public water supply wells. Also, the video "Running Dry" will be presented.

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March 16, 2006
ODA, Plant Industry Conference Room
Reynoldsburg, Ohio

8:30 - 8:35	CALL TO ORDER - Introductions
8:35 - 8:40	REVISIONS TO JANUARY DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY
8:40 - 10:00	AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
10:00 - 10:10	BREAK
10:10 - 10:50	PRESENTATION (Sandy Eberts, USGS, on transport of contaminants to public water supply wells)
10:50 - 11:20	PRESENTATION - video, "Running Dry"
11:25 - 11:30	MAY MEETING AGENDA
11:30	ADJOURN