



Nickel District
Conservation
Authority

SOURCE WATER
PROTECTION

SWP NEWS

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Submission to the Standing Committee on Social Policy

On August 25, 2006 the NDCA sent in a submission with suggestions for improving the proposed *Clean Water Act* to the Standing Committee on Social Policy.

The Standing Committee on Social Policy met to consider the *Act* and to make any necessary amendments. The proposed *Clean Water Act* was created to protect existing and future sources of drinking water.



The Committee held hearings on the *Act* in Toronto, Walkerton, Cornwall, Bath and Peterborough the week of August 21, 2006. Those who could not attend the hearings and make an oral presentation were able to hand in a written submission.

Here is a brief summary of NDCA's suggestions:

1. An Integrated Approach – The pro-

posed *Clean Water Act* must establish a relationship between source water protection and all other activities, legislation and agencies managing water.

2. Private Water Supplies – Everyone has a right to clean drinking water including people on private systems. The *Act* must provide protection for individual non-municipal surface water and groundwater systems.

3. Source Water Protection Plan Implementation – A more holistic approach to source water protection is needed to ensure SWP Plans address non-regulatory tools (e.g. education programs, best management practices, stewardship initiatives, research) to complement the regulatory instruments under the *Act*.

4. Funding – The province is encouraged to establish a long-term funding mechanism for implementing the source water protection program.

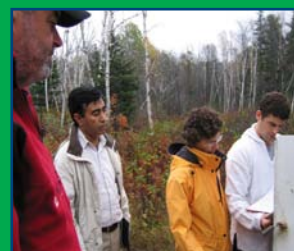
IN THIS ISSUE

- ◆ Submission to the standing Committee on Social Policy
- ◆ Join Us

- ◆ The Careful Hunter
- ◆ A Helping Hand

- ◆ Technical Studies
- ◆ A Good Read

JOIN US!



Employment alert! The NDCA SWP team is looking to hire. Check out our website at www.nickeldistrict.ca. Click on the Source Water Protection button and go to News & Events for opportunities.💧



5. Conflict with other Provincial Legislation – The Mining Act must conform to the proposed *Clean Water Act* and associated regulations.

6. Clear and Consistent Communications – Wording used throughout the proposed *Clean Water Act* must be consistent and the associated regulations and related promotional and educational material produced by the Province must mirror the full intentions of the *Act*.

For more details on NDCA’s submission to the Standing Committee on Social Policy visit www.nickeldistrict.ca. Click on the Source Water Protection button and go to News & Events. ♣

THE CAREFUL HUNTER

Where did our summer go? The mornings and evenings are cool and soon it will be time to close the windows. Summer is over and a hint of fall is peeping through the trees. With fall come brilliant colours, less daylight hours, birds flying south and hunting.



Bear hunting season is upon us with other wildlife animals soon to follow. Folks in northern Ontario are all too familiar with the orange vests, camouflage pants and as bullets pierce the air that loud Bang! Bang! Hunting wildlife is a tradition for many City of Greater Sudbury residents. It’s a sport that can reap great reward.

No matter what you are hunting, a good practice to keep in mind is the proper disposal of animal carcasses. This is especially important due to the potential for soil, groundwater and

surface water contamination. Which means bacteria from a dead animal can penetrate a drinking water supply.

Hunting tip: please ensure wildlife carcasses are not positioned near a source of water. They should be left above the high water mark. Scavengers will eventually clean up the scene. ♣

A HELPING HAND

With the help of two summer students, the SWP team completed several projects over the summer.

Amber Larivière, a local fish and wildlife graduate from Sault College, mapped out several potential water contaminants, and constructed pathways such as storm sewers that can carry contaminants to drinking water sources.

Shannon Field, a student from Western’s business program prepared several communications pieces that will be distributed during our open houses in the year to come.



A special thanks goes out to the girls for their hard work. ♣

TECHNICAL STUDIES

A local consulting firm is conducting a study to delineate protection zones around three municipal surface water intakes - these are in Ramsey Lake, the Wanapitei River and the Vermilion River.

Also, Golder Associates completed a study identifying local aquifers and providing direction for protecting and managing groundwater. ♣

For more information, if you’re interested in a presentation on Source Water Protection or to subscribe/unsubscribe from our newsletter please contact:

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A GOOD READ

If you’re looking for something educational, thought provoking and inspirational to read, there are many interesting books on water that deserve your attention. Try to get your hands on any of the following:

- Water - The Faith of Our Most Precious Resource by author Marq De Villiers;
- When The River Runs Dry - Journey’s Into The Threat of The World’s Water Crisis by author Fred Pearce;
- Blue Gold - the Fight To Stop The Corporate Theft of The World’s Water by author Maude Barlow. ♣

