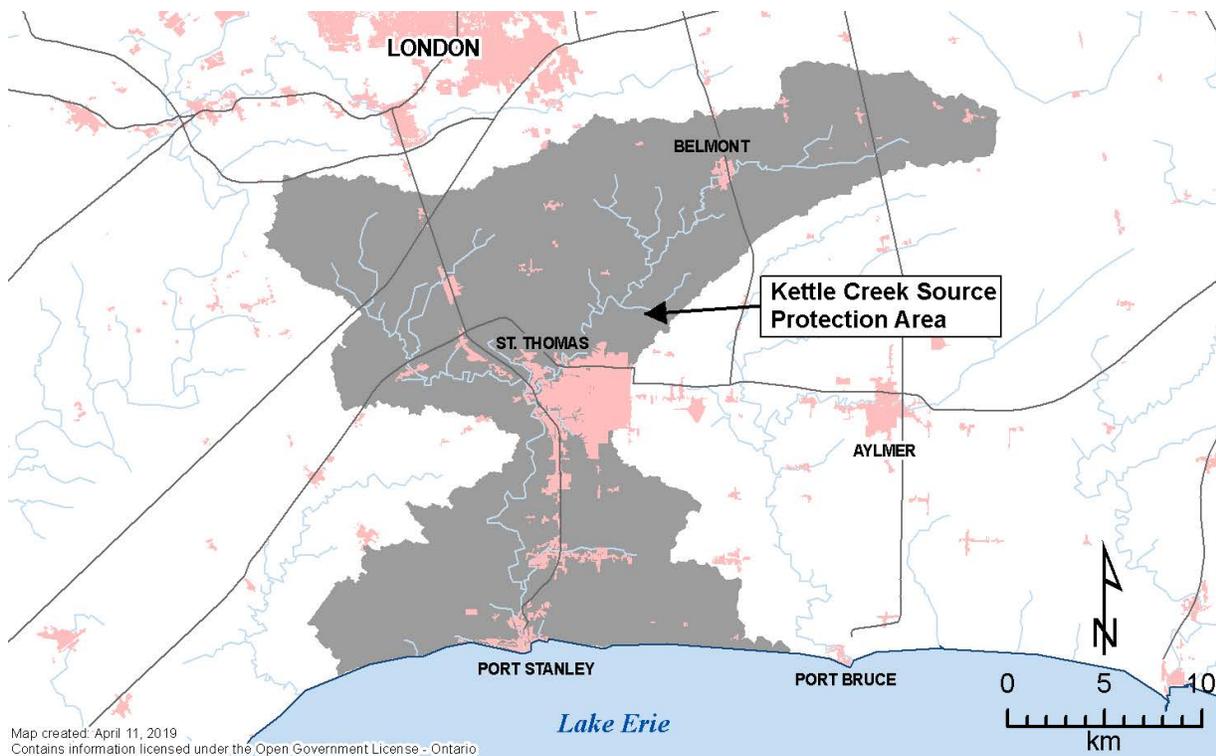


Source Protection Annual Progress Report

I. Introduction

This annual progress report outlines the progress made in implementing the source protection plan for the Kettle Creek Source Protection Area, as required by the Clean Water Act and regulations.

We acknowledge and recognize the tremendous efforts made by our local municipality, stakeholders and Source Protection Committee in the development of the Source Protection Plan and implementation of Source Protection policies.



II. A message from your local Source Protection Committee

P: Progressing Well/On Target – The majority of the source protection plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing.

Only two existing significant drinking water threats were identified in the Kettle Creek Source Protection Area when the plan took effect. Since implementation of the plan, both threats (100%) have been addressed: one no longer exists and the other is being managed through a Risk Management Plan (RMP). 86% of legally-binding plan policies that address significant drinking water threats are either implemented, in progress, or implemented because policy outcomes have been evaluated and require no further action(s); 13% of policies do not require a response/are not applicable.

III. Our Watershed

To learn more, please read our assessment report(s) and source protection plan(s). The Kettle Creek Source Protection Area (watershed) includes Kettle Creek and its tributaries. They drain 520 square kilometres of agricultural and urban lands before entering Lake Erie at Port Stanley. The area includes parts of Elgin County, Middlesex County, the City of St. Thomas, and the City of London.

The watershed has two municipal drinking water systems: two wells in Belmont and the Elgin Area Primary Water Supply System (EAPWSS) in Port Stanley.

Only two significant drinking water threat activities were identified in the Kettle Creek Source Protection Area when the plan went in to effect. Since that time, both threats have been addressed.

IV. At a Glance: Progress on Source Protection Plan Implementation

1. Source Protection Plan Policies

P: Progressing Well/On Target

86% of legally binding plan policies that address significant drinking water threats are either implemented, in progress, or implemented because policy outcomes have been evaluated and require no further action(s); 13% do not require a response/are not applicable.

2. Municipal Progress: Addressing Risks on the Ground

Three municipalities (Malahide, Central Elgin and Thames Centre) in the Kettle Creek Source Protection Area have vulnerable areas where significant drinking water threat policies apply.

P: Progressing Well/On Target

Municipalities in the Kettle Creek Source Protection Area are required to review and update their Official Plan to ensure it conforms with the Kettle Creek Source Protection Plan the next time they undertake an Official Plan review under the Planning Act. The Municipality of Thames Centre has completed their Official Plan update; the Municipality of Central Elgin and Township of Malahide Official Plan updates are currently in progress/underway.

3. Septic Inspections

Not applicable as there are no on-site sewage systems requiring inspection in the Kettle Creek Source Protection Area.

4. Risk Management Plans

P: Progressing Well/On Target

One risk management plan has been negotiated in the Kettle Creek Source Protection Area since the source protection plan took effect. There are currently no risk management plans needed or pending.

No inspections were carried out or planned by a Risk Management Official/Inspector for prohibited or regulated activities in the 2021 annual reporting period. In the past, there has been a 100% compliance rate with the risk management plans negotiated in the Kettle Creek Source Protection Area.

5. Provincial Progress: Addressing Risks on the Ground

P: Progressing Well/On Target

Ontario ministries are reviewing applications for new or amended and previously issued provincial approvals (e.g., Environmental compliance approvals issued under the Environmental Protection Act) where they have been identified as a tool in the Kettle Creek Source Protection Plan to address activities that pose a significant risk to source water. The provincial approvals are either being issued, denied, amended, or revoked, where necessary, to conform with plan policies. Kettle Creek Source Protection Plan policies set out a time line of 3 years to complete the review and make any necessary changes to previously issued approvals, the timeline for new or amended PIs has been in effect since the approval date of our plan. Thus, while ministries are implementing a review protocol to screen all (100%) applicable approval applications, they have

completed this for 100% of previously issued provincial approvals in the Kettle Creek Source Protection Area.

6. Source Protection Awareness and Change in Behaviour

There have been no measurable or quantifiable outcomes in this 2021 annual reporting period.

7. Source Protection Plan Policies: Summary of Delays

Policy PS-NB-8.1 has not been implemented because of communication challenges among the implementing bodies. The policy states that the municipality should provide mapping of the Intake Protection Zone (IPZ) to the Canadian Coast Guard and that the Elgin Area Primary Water Supply System Board and the Canadian Coast guard work together to develop a protocol to report boating accidents within the IPZ.

The policy is being reviewed by Lake Erie Source Protection Region staff and will be amended through a s.36 Kettle Creek Source Protection Plan update.

8. Source Water Quality: Monitoring and Actions

No issues have been identified in the local science-based assessment report regarding the quality of the source(s) of municipal drinking water in the Kettle Creek Source Protection Area.

9. Science-based Assessment Reports: Work Plans

An order was received from the Ministry on July 22, 2019 regarding the Section 36 workplan for updates to the Kettle Creek Assessment Report and Source Protection Plan.

Examples of tasks that are included in the Section 36 workplan:

- technical rule changes, e.g., review and consider Phase II Technical Rule changes for incorporation into the assessment report and source protection plan
- transport pathway changes, e.g., consider any identified transport pathways for incorporation into the assessment report and source protection plan
- climate change considerations, e.g., review and assess potential climate change additions to the technical framework and make appropriate updates as applicable to the assessment report and source protection plan.

The tasks identified in the s.36 workplan are in the process of being incorporated into a s.36 Kettle Creek Source Protection Plan update. The plan update is expected to be completed and submitted to the Ministry for review and approval in 2022.

10. More from the Watershed

To learn more about the Kettle Creek Source Protection Area, visit the [Lake Erie Source Protection Region website](#).