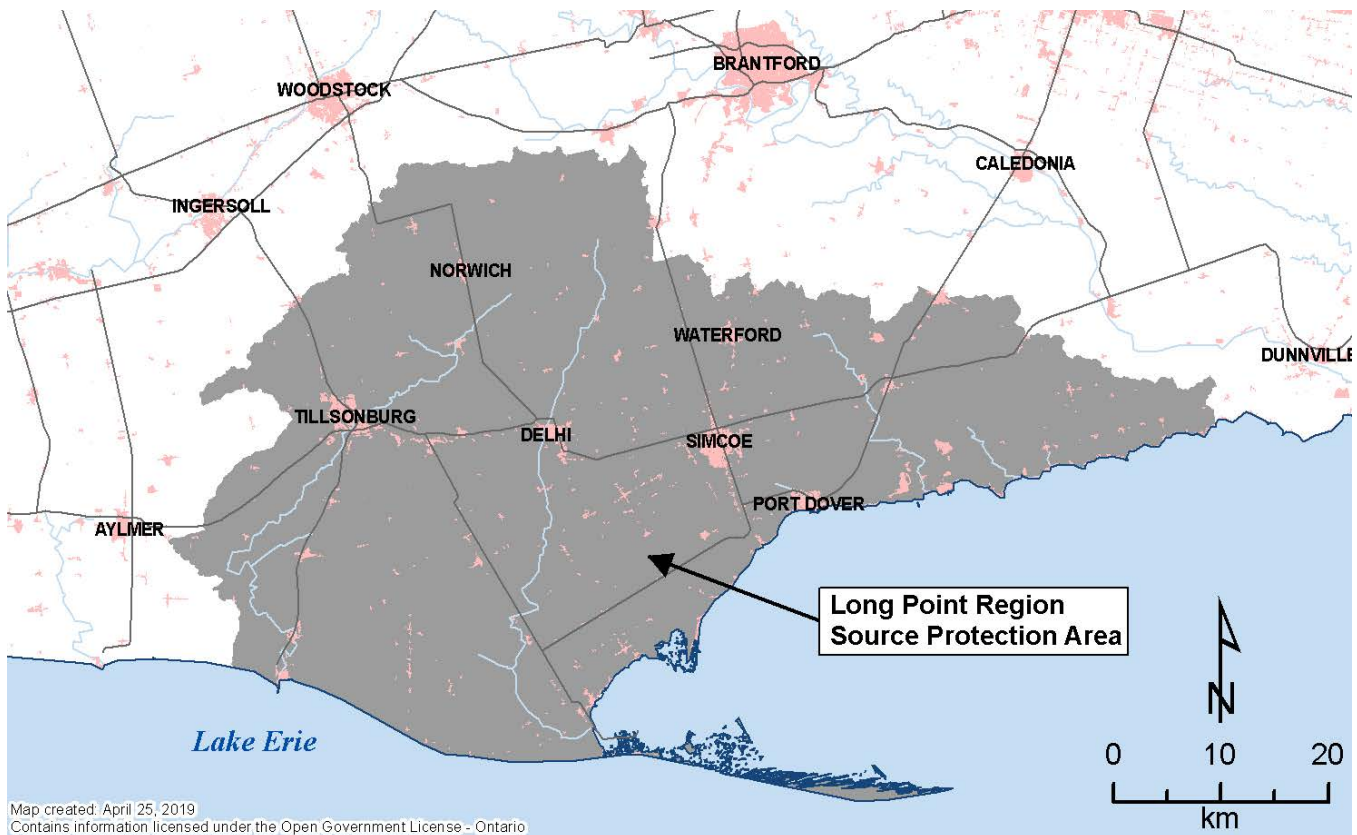


Source Protection Annual Progress Report

I. Introduction

This annual progress report outlines the progress made in implementing the source protection plan for the Long Point Region 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.
- S : Satisfactory – Some of the source protection plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing.**
- L : Limited progress – A few of source protection plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing.

685 significant drinking water threats were identified in the Long Point Region Source Protection Area when the Plan took effect. The percentage of overall progress made in addressing threats is 8%. Additionally, 12 threats have been removed through field verification. Progress has been limited in large part due to technical work that was completed in 2017 and included in the Draft Updated Long Point Region Source Protection Plan that has remained draft until the plan was approved on March 11, 2019.

Ninety-eight percent of legally binding applicable plan policies that address significant drinking water threats are implemented or in progress, while for two percent of the policies, no progress was made.

III. Our Watershed

To learn more, please read our assessment report(s) and source protection plan(s)

The Long Point Region Source Protection Area (watershed) is drained by 14 major watercourses that empty into Lake Erie. They drain 2,780 square kilometres in portions of Elgin, Norfolk, Oxford, Brant and Haldimand Counties.

The watershed has ten municipal drinking water systems. Three systems are located in Oxford County in the communities of Dereham Centre, Oxford South (communities of Norwich, Otterville and Springford) and the Town of Tillsonburg, all of which are groundwater systems. Norfolk County has five municipal-residential drinking water systems in the communities of Delhi, Port Dover, Port Rowan, Simcoe and Waterford. Haldimand and Elgin County each have one municipal-residential drinking water system, respectively.

685 drinking water threat activities were identified in the Long Point Region Source Protection Area when the plan went in to effect. Since that time, 66 threats have been removed through field verification or addressed because policy is implemented.

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

1. Source Protection Plan Policies

P: Progressing Well/On Target

The majority of the applicable legally binding policies (98%) that address significant drinking water threats are implemented or in progress and have been evaluated, or determined to require no further actions, while for two percent of the policies, no progress was made.

2. Municipal Progress: Addressing Risks on the Ground

Eight upper/lower and single-tier municipalities (County of Oxford, Town of Tillsonburg, Township of Norwich, Township of South-West Oxford, Norfolk County, Haldimand County, Township of Malahide and Township of Bayham) in the Long Point Region Source Protection Area have vulnerable areas where significant drinking water threat policies apply.

P: Progressing Well/On Target - Five municipalities in the Long Point Region Source Protection Area are required to review and update their Official Plan to ensure it conforms with the Long Point Region Source Protection Plan the next time they undertake an Official Plan review under the Planning Act. Two Official Plan amendments have been completed, two are in process, and one has not been started.

3. Septic Inspections

L: Limited Progress

12% of on-site sewage systems have been inspected in accordance with the Ontario Building Code. The percentage is relatively low because the municipalities have not yet initiated an inspection program. Results found 21% of the inspections required minor maintenance, e.g., pump-outs and only 5% required major maintenance such as tank replacement.

4. Risk Management Plans

S: Satisfactory

No risk management plans have been established since the Long Point Region Source Protection Plan took effect.

40 inspections have been carried out or planned by a Risk Management Official/Inspector for prohibited or regulated activities.

5. Provincial Progress: Addressing Risks on the Ground

P: Progressing Well/On Target

Ontario ministries are reviewing previously issued provincial approvals (i.e., prescribed instruments, such as environmental compliance approvals under the Environmental Protection Act) where they have been identified as a tool in the Long Point Region Source Protection Plan to address existing activities that pose a significant risk to sources of drinking water. The provincial approvals are being amended or revoked where necessary to conform with plan policies. The Long Point Region Source Protection policies set out a timeline of 3 years to complete the review and make any necessary changes. The ministries have completed this for 100% of previously issued provincial approvals in the Long Point Region Source Protection Area.

6. Source Protection Awareness and Change in Behaviour

Twelve Drinking Water Protection Zones signs have been installed in the Long Point Region Source Protection Area.

The Risk Management Official/Risk Management Inspector have noted a change in property owner behaviour during site inspections. People appear interested in protecting source water and are willing to change swap out chemicals for more environmentally-sensitive options.

7. Source Protection Plan Policies: Summary of Delays

Implementation of source protection plan policies is on track for the municipalities of Bayham, Oxford County, and Haldimand County.

In Norfolk County no progress has been made on several education and outreach policies because wellhead protection areas in the communities of Simcoe, Waterford and Delhi were recently updated and awaiting approval by the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks. The education and outreach program has been developed to include mail-outs to landowners engaged in agricultural significant drinking water threats. These mail-outs will now be delivered following the approval of the Draft Updated Long Point Region Source Protection Plan on March 11, 2019.

8. Source Water Quality: Monitoring and Actions

The Richmond and Simcoe (Cedar St. Well and Chapel St. Well) drinking water systems have identified nitrate drinking water Issues; Tillsonburg drinking water system has identified nitrogen as an Issue.

Not enough data has been collected for the Richmond and Tillsonburg drinking water systems to assess long-term trends. There has been no change in concentrations at the Cedar St. and Chapel St. Wells in Simcoe.

9. Science-based Assessment Reports: Work Plans

No workplans were required to be implemented for the Long Point Region Assessment Report.

10. More from the Watershed

To learn more about the Long Point Region Source Protection Area, visit <http://www.sourcewater.ca>