



## **NOTICE OF MEETING Lower Trent Source Protection Authority**

**Administration Office, 714 Murray Street, Trenton  
Virtually [Join Meeting HERE](#)**

**Thursday, April 9, 2026 | Time: 3:00 p.m.**

### **AGENDA**

**1. Meeting called to order by the Chair**

**2. First Nation Acknowledgement**

**3. Disclosure of pecuniary interests**

**4. Approval of the Agenda**

RECOMMENDED:

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

**5. Delegations**

There are no requests for delegations received for this meeting.

**6. Adoption of the Minutes:**

Source Protection Authority Board Meeting Minutes of February 12, 2026

[Page # 3](#)

RECOMMENDED:

THAT the minutes of Lower Trent Source Protection Authority Meeting, dated February 12, 2026 be adopted.

**7. Business arising from these minutes**

**8. Correspondence**

2026-03-09 Ministers Letter Section 36 approval

[Page # 6](#)

RECOMMENDED:

THAT the correspondence as provided in the agenda package be received as information.

**9. Lower Trent Source Protection Authority 2025 Annual Progress Report – Anne Anderson, Lower Trent Source Protection Authority Lead**

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RECOMMENDED:

THAT the Lower Trent Source Protection Authority Annual Progress Report for the period January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025 be received as information.

**10. 2025 Trent and Ganaraska Source Protection Plans Annual Progress Reports** – Keith Taylor, Source Protection Program Coordinator Page # 19

RECOMMENDED:

THAT the 2025 Trent and Ganaraska Source Protection Plan Annual Progress Reports be received as information; and

THAT staff be authorized to submit the 2025 Trent and Ganaraska Source Protection Plans

**11. Program Update** – Keith Taylor Page # 34

RECOMMENDED:

THAT the Program Update Report be received as information.

**12. Members Inquiries/Other Business**

**13. Adjournment**

**PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE IF YOU WILL BE UNABLE TO ATTEND THIS MEETING**

**Chitra Gowda 613-394-3915 ext. #215**

[chitra.gowda@ltc.on.ca](mailto:chitra.gowda@ltc.on.ca)



**6. Adoption of the Minutes**RES: SPA2/26

Moved by: Eric Sandford

Seconded by: Lynda Reid

THAT the minutes of Lower Trent Source Protection Authority Meeting, dated December 11, 2025, be adopted.

Carried

**7. Business arising from these minutes**

None.

**8. Correspondence**

A 2026-Letter from CAO, Kawartha Conservation - Municipal Representation on the Trent Conservation Coalition Source Protection Committee – Municipal Replacement and Appointment (appended to Item # 9) was presented.

**9. New Members on Source Protection Committee**RES: SPA3/26

Moved by: Jeff Wheeldon

Seconded by: Sherry Hamilton

WHEREAS, the Kawartha-Haliburton Source Protection Authority has nominated Jenna Stephens to be appointed to the Source Protection Committee, as a Municipal Representative;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lower Trent Source Protection Authority Board approve the appointment of Jenna Stephens to the Trent Conservation Coalition Source Protection Committee, as a Municipal Representative.

Carried

**10. Submission of the Section 34 Amendment Packages for the New Wells at Wood's of Manilla and Grafton**RES: SPA4/26

Moved by: Eric Sandford

Seconded by: Bob Mullin

WHEREAS, the Trent Conservation Coalition Source Protection Committee has completed an email poll on January 30, 2026, passing the following motion;

“THAT BY CONSENSUS, the Trent Conservation Coalition Source Protection Committee approves moving forward with the Wood's of Manilla and the Grafton Section 34 Amendments and approves requesting that the Lower Trent Source Protection Authority direct staff to prepare and submit the Section 34 Amendment Package to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks.”

BE IT RESOLVED that the Source Protection Authority Board approves directing staff to prepare and submit the Section 34 Amendment Package for the Woods of Manilla and Grafton wells.

**11. Lower Trent Region Conservation Authority/Trent Source Protection Authority Board Members and Signing Authority**

Director Mullin asked if this is a replacement or a new position. CAO Rhonda Bateman clarified that it is a replacement.

RES: SPA5/26

Moved by: Bobbi Wright

Seconded by: Lynda Reid

Whereas, the Lower Trent Region Source Protection Authority (SPA) Source Protection Area requires a member from the participating municipality of Havelock-Belmont-Methuen (HBM),

BE IT RESOLVED that the SPA Board membership include the current slate of executives of the Lower Trent Region Conservation Authority Board (LTRCA) and an additional member from HBM (once appointed) be approved; and

THAT the signing officers for the SPA be the same two of the four signing officers of the LTRCA being the Chair, Vice Chair, CAO/Secretary-Treasurer and Manager of Corporate Services and Water Resources be approved.

**12. Members Inquiries/Other Business**

Director Alyea asked how the Source Protection Committee would operate after the consolidation of the conservation authorities. Rhonda Bateman responded that it is unknown for now and hopefully there will be more information in the summer.

**13. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

RES: SPA6/26                      Moved by: Jim Alyea                      Seconded by: Sherry Hamilton

THAT the Source Protection Authority meeting be adjourned.

Carried

Time: 1:11 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair Gene Brahaney

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rhonda Bateman, CAO/ST

## Agenda item #8.

**Ministry of the Environment,  
Conservation and Parks**

**Ministère de l'Environnement,  
de la Protection de la nature et  
des Parcs**



Office of the Minister

Bureau du ministre

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357-2025-3114

March 9, 2026

Colin McLellan, Chair  
Crowe Valley Conservation Authority  
70 Hughes Lane, Box 416  
Marmora, ON K0K 2M0

Gene Brahaney, Chair  
Lower Trent Conservation Authority  
714 Murray Street, R.R. 1  
Trenton, ON  
K8V 0N1

Pat Warren, Chair  
Kawartha Region Conservation Authority  
277 Kenrei Road  
Lindsay, ON K9V 4R1

Michael Metcalf, Chair  
Otanabee Region Conservation Authority  
250 Milroy Drive  
Peterborough, ON  
K9H 7M9

Vicki Mink, Chair  
Ganaraska Region Conservation  
Authority  
2216 County Road 28, Box 328  
Port Hope, ON  
L1A 3V8

Dear Mr. McLellan, Mr. Brahaney, Ms. Warren, Mr. Metcalf and Ms. Mink:

I am pleased to inform you that the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks has approved the updated Trent Source Protection Plan and Ganaraska Source Protection Plan, and their associated assessment reports. These updates will take effect on the day a notice of this decision is posted on the Environmental Registry.

When the initial plans were approved in 2014, an order was given under section 36 of the *Clean Water Act, 2006* governing the future review of the plans, with an amended order issued on May 21, 2019, outlining the specific requirements. The amended Order allowed for the Trent Conservation Coalition Source Protection Authority, along with the affected municipalities, to determine if the required updates could be completed and submitted as future amendments to the assessment reports and source protection plans under section 34 of the *Clean Water Act, 2006*. On November 8, 2024, I directed that the updated source protection plans submitted to the ministry be revised, i.e. to remove specific minimum requirements in prescribed instruments issued by the MECP where they address a significant drinking water threat.

Thank you for the resubmission of your updated plans. I am advised that the set of updates required have been completed. With the approval of these updates, compliance with the amended section 36 Order and alignment with the direction outlined in the November 8, 2024 letter has been achieved.

...2

Colin McLellan, Gene Brahaney, Pat Warren, Michael Metcalf and Vicki Mink  
Page 2.

To ensure your source protection plans remain current and continue to protect sources of drinking water, future updates to the plans can be made through locally initiated amendments under section 34 of the Act. This would include updates to reflect new or expanding drinking water systems, new scientific or technical information, revisions to policies to address implementation challenges, and any other updates that are necessary to ensure your source protection plans are achieving their objective to ensure that activities cease to be, or never become, significant threats to sources of drinking water.

I appreciate the dedication of the local municipalities, source protection authorities and committees, and all our partners and stakeholders for their work and contributions to these updates. Our strong protection framework will continue to help ensure Ontario's drinking water is held to high safety standards and that sources of drinking water in the province are protected for future generations.

Sincerely,



Todd McCarthy  
Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

c: Keith Taylor, Program Coordinator, Trent Conservation Coalition Source Protection Authority  
Linda Laliberte, General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer, Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority  
Mark Majchrowski, Chief Administrative Officer, Kawartha Region Conservation Authority  
Rhonda Bateman, Chief Administrative Officer, Lower Trent Region Conservation Authority  
Janette Loveys Smith, Chief Administrative Officer/ Secretary-Treasurer, Otonabee Region Conservation Authority and Crowe Valley Conservation Authority  
Kirsten Service, Director, Conservation and Source Protection Branch, Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks



## STAFF REPORT

**Date:** March 30, 2026  
**To:** Lower Trent Source Protection Authority  
**Re:** Lower Trent Source Protection Authority 2025 Annual Progress Report  
**Prepared by:** Anne Anderson, Manager, Community Outreach and Special Projects

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### PROPOSED RESOLUTION:

THAT the Lower Trent Source Protection Authority Annual Progress Report for the period January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025 be received as information.

### BACKGROUND:

Section 46 of the *Clean Water Act* and Section 52 of Ontario Regulation 287/07 articulates that the Source Protection Authority must prepare and submit an Annual Progress Report to the Source Protection Committee at least 30 days prior to submitting it to the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) by May 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.

To prepare this annual progress report, information was provided by the various implementing bodies to the Source Protection Authority by the due date of February 1, 2026. This information was consolidated into the attached report and includes commentary on the implementation of policies.

Within the Lower Trent Source Protection Area, overall implementation of the Trent Source Protection plan is "progressing well / on target". Most of the source protection plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing according to the timelines in the source protection plan.

The completed Lower Trent Source Protection Authority template was rolled up with the other three Source Protection Authority templates into an Annual Progress Report for the Trent Source Protection Plan and provided to the Source Protection Committee at its meeting on March 19, 2026.

The following is a summary of the progress for the Lower Trent Source Protection Authority for the period between January 1, 2025 and December 31, 2025:

- All municipalities (100%) within the Source Protection Area have established standard operating procedures to ensure that day-to-day planning decisions conform to the Source Protection Plan.
- 78% of municipalities have ensured amendments to Official Plans and Zoning By-Laws conform to the Source Protection Plan. The remainder have plans in place to complete this within the

timeframes specified in the Trent Source Protection Plan.

- 100% of municipalities have ensured updates to Emergency Management Plans are complete.
- In 2025, no septic system threat inspections were completed in the second round of the 5-year cycle for mandatory inspections.
- 6 Risk Management Plans addressing 9 significant drinking water threats were established by Risk Management Officials in the Lower Trent Source Protection Area (total of 62 Risk Management Plans addressing 94 significant drinking water threats since implementation).
- 26- Section 59 Restricted Land Use notices have been issued (total of 433 since January 2015).

Lower Trent Conservation delivers Education and Outreach for all applicable municipalities. In 2024 activities included:

- 22 social media posts reaching over 14,000 people
- Supported the provincial source protection social media campaigns and maintained information on LTC website
- Reached ~1000 students, teachers and parents through the Tri-County Children's Water Festival
- Reached ~300 children through school and community programming
- Reached over 1000 people through presentations and participation at local community events
- Held 4 responsible road salt workshops at local libraries



LOWER TRENT CONSERVATION



# Lower Trent Source Protection Authority

## 2025 Annual Progress Report

(April 2026)

### 1. Introduction

This annual progress report has been prepared to comply with the *Clean Water Act* and regulations. It outlines the progress made in implementing the Trent Source Protection Plan as it applies to the Lower Trent Source Protection Area. The Lower Trent Source Protection Authority Annual Progress Reporting was rolled up with the other three Source Protection Authority templates into an Annual Progress Report for the Trent Source Protection Plan.

### 2. Lower Trent Source Protection Area

The Lower Trent Source Protection Area includes the area under the jurisdiction of the Lower Trent Region Conservation Authority (2,070 km<sup>2</sup>) and area outside of Conservation Authority jurisdiction between the Lower Trent, Otonabee, and Crowe Valley watersheds (28 km<sup>2</sup>). The Lower Trent Source Protection Area is bordered on the south by Lake Ontario and the Bay of Quinte. Rice Lake forms the northwestern boundary of the region. Several tributary streams including Cold, Rawdon, Salt, Squires (Hoards), Percy, Burnley (Mill), Trout, and Mayhew Creeks empty into the Trent River. Shelter Valley, Barnum House, Lakeport/Colborne and Butler Creeks empty into Lake Ontario while DND and Meyers Creeks empty into the Bay of Quinte.

There are nine municipalities located within or partially within the Lower Trent Source Protection Area. The total population of these municipalities is 112,469 (Statistics Canada, 2021) and more than 87,000 of them are located within the source protection area boundary

Approximately 60% of the source protection area population (67,500 people) in the Lower Trent Source Protection Area obtains their drinking water from 10 municipal residential drinking water systems.

There are six municipal residential surface water supply systems in the source protection area that serve about 36,600 people. These include:

- Bayside
- Campbellford
- Frankford
- Hastings (this is shared with Otonabee-Peterborough Source Protection Area)
- Trenton
- Warkworth



There are four municipal residential groundwater supply systems in the source protection area that obtain their water from groundwater sources. These systems serve about 11,800 people and include:

- Brighton
- Colborne
- Grafton
- Stirling

The Stirling residential drinking water system draws water from a total of four wells that are considered to be groundwater under the direct influence of surface water (GUDI).

The Alderville First Nation, located south of Rice Lake, is the only First Nation in the Lower Trent Source Protection Area. The reserve has a population of approximately 575 and a population density of 50 people/km<sup>2</sup> with most residents of Alderville First Nation being serviced by private wells.

### 3. At a Glance: Progress on Source Protection Plan Implementation

#### 1. Source Protection Plan Policies

All of the policies (100%) that address significant drinking water threats are implemented, in progress, or have been evaluated and determined to require no further action(s).

Our progress score on achieving source protection plan objectives in this reporting period is as follows:

✓	<p><b>P: Progressing well / on target:</b> Most of the source protection plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing according to the timelines in the source protection plan.</p>
	<p><b>S: Satisfactory:</b> Some of the source protection plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing according to the timelines in the source protection plan.</p>
	<p><b>L: Limited progress made:</b> A few source protection plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing according to the timelines in the source protection plan.</p>



**2. Municipal Progress: Addressing Risks on the Ground**

Municipalities and Approval Authorities under the *Planning Act* are the Implementing Body for a 56 policies in the Trent Source Protection Plan.

<i>Compliance Date Summary</i>
5 years Official Plan + 3 years Zoning By-Law

There are 7 lower tier and 2 upper tier municipalities in the Lower Trent Source Protection Area.

All municipalities (100%) within the Source Protection Area have established standard operating procedures to ensure day-to-day planning decisions conform to the Source Protection Plan.

78% of the municipalities have completed amendments to Official Plans and Zoning By-Laws, ensuring that they conform to the Source Protection Plan. The remaining municipalities have their amendments in progress with plans in place to complete the update within the timeframe specified in the Trent SPP.

100% of municipalities have ensured updates to Emergency Management Plans are complete.

Our progress score on achieving source protection plan objectives in this reporting period is as follows:

	<b>P: Progressing well / on target:</b> Most of the source protection plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing according to the timelines in the source protection plan.
	<b>S: Satisfactory:</b> Some of the source protection plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing according to the timelines in the source protection plan.
	<b>L: Limited progress made:</b> A few source protection plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing according to the timelines in the source protection plan.



### 3. Septic Inspections

The Trent Source Protection Plan polices for septic systems, rely on the Ontario Building Code requirements. The Ontario Building Code requires that septic system that have been identified as significant threats are subject to a mandatory inspection program. Based on the location of individual septic systems, the responsibility to undertake these inspections may be that of the local Health Unit/department, municipality, or Conservation Authority depending on which body is empowered by the principal authority (municipalities).

<i>Compliance Date Summary</i>		Compliance dates for existing septic inspections (those constructed by the following date) are set by the s. 1.10.2.4 (2)(a)(i)(A) of <a href="#">O. Reg. 315/10: BUILDING CODE</a> to be five years after the date of publishing of the Assessment Report on the Environmental Bill of Rights. The EBR Registry Number is <a href="#">012-2699</a> and was posted November 3, 2014 therefore the compliance date for existing septic's is November 3, 2019.
Existing	5 years from notice on EBR (November 3, 2019)	
Future	When the plan takes effect (January 1, 2015)	

As of 2020, a total of 100% percent of existing septic threats were inspected in accordance with OBC, of which 94% passed inspection and are functioning as designed or carrying out the required pump-outs. In 2025, no inspections of septic threats were completed.

Compliance dates for existing threats are set by the s. 1.10.2.4 (2)(a)(i)(A) of [O. Reg. 315/10: BUILDING CODE](#) to be five years after the date of publishing of the Assessment Report on the Environmental Bill of Rights, November 3, 2014 and are required to be re-inspected every five years.

100% of municipalities and/or health units have standard operating procedures to ensure OBC compliance and thus ensure that future septic systems do not become significant threats.

Our progress score on achieving source protection plan objectives in this reporting period is as follows:

	<b>P: Progressing well / on target:</b> Most of the source protection plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing according to the timelines in the source protection plan.
	<b>S: Satisfactory:</b> Some of the source protection plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing according to the timelines in the source protection plan.
	<b>L: Limited progress made:</b> A few source protection plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing according to the timelines in the source protection plan.



**4. Risk Management Plans**

Risk Management Officials (RMOs) are the Implementing Body for 39 policies in the Trent SPP, and utilize the following tools which were established under Part IV of the Act, to manage threats: Prohibition (s.57); Risk Management Plans (s.58); and, Restricted Land Uses (s.59).

<i>Compliance Date Summary</i>		Existing threats have a 5 year compliance date. Future threat policies are effective when the plan takes effect.
Existing	5 years from plan taking effect (January 1, 2020)	
Future	When the plan takes effect (January 1, 2015)	


The total number of Risk Management Plans (RMPs) established in the Lower Trent Source Protection Area in 2025 was 6 (for a total of 62 since implementation). These 62 plans collectively manage a total of 94 significant drinking water threats.

The total number of inspections carried out by a Risk Management Official / Inspector was 32 (for a total of 150 since implementation). The compliance rate with the risk management plans established is 100% with any minor contraventions addressed and corrected with the person engaged in the activity.

RMOs within Lower Trent SPA issued 26 Section 59 notices in 2025 for a total of 433 from the effective date (January 1, 2015). The processes to screen development applications is reported to be working well and some municipalities continue to fine tune their screening processes to improve efficiencies.

The contact details for the Risk Management Officials can found on the Trent Conservation Coalition website Risk Management Official webpage (<http://trentsourceprotection.on.ca/risk-management/contact-your-risk-management-official-inspector>).

Our progress score on achieving source protection plan objectives in this reporting period is as follows:

	<b>P: Progressing well / on target:</b> Most of the source protection plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing according to the timelines in the source protection plan.
	<b>S: Satisfactory:</b> Some of the source protection plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing according to the timelines in the source protection plan.
	<b>L: Limited progress made:</b> A few source protection plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing according to the timelines in the source protection plan.



## 5. Provincial Progress: Addressing Risks on the Ground

Five provincial ministries reported on progress of 27 policies in our Source Protection Plan.

<i>Compliance Date Summary</i>	
Existing	5 years from plan taking effect (January 1, 2020)
Future	When the plan takes effect (January 1, 2015)

For existing threats, 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 Trent 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 the Trent Source Protection Plan policies. Our policies set out a timeline of 5 years to complete the review and make any necessary changes.

The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks reports that the percent progress made on prescribed instruments (PI) review is 100% for the following categories:

- Waste disposal sites – landfilling and storage
- Sewage Works/Wastewater
- Municipal Drinking Water Licences & Drinking Water Works Permits

The Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs reports that the percent progress made on prescribed instruments (PI) review is 100% for the following categories:

- Nutrient Management Strategies (NMS)
- Non-Agricultural Source Material (NASM) Plans

The Ministry of Transportation reports that a process is in place to ensure Prescribed Instrument holders comply with the terms and conditions of their Prescribed Instrument.

For future threats, Ministries reported that 100% are implemented, with standard operating procedures in place where applications are reviewed to ensure the proposed activities conform to our policies.



	<p><b>P: Progressing well / on target:</b> Most of the source protection plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing according to the timelines in the source protection plan.</p>
✓	<p><b>S: Satisfactory:</b> Some of the source protection plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing according to the timelines in the source protection plan.</p>
	<p><b>L: Limited progress made:</b> A few source protection plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing according to the timelines in the source protection plan.</p>



**6. Source Protection Awareness and Change in Behaviour**

Ten (10) policies in each of the Trent SPP recognize the importance of using the education and outreach tool to change behavior to better protect sources of municipal drinking water.

<i>Compliance Date Summary</i>	
Existing / Future	5 years from when plan takes effect (January 1, 2020)


Signage was identified an effective tool for raising awareness of the DWSP program and the importance of protecting sources of municipal drinking water. To date, 98 Drinking Water Protection Zone signs have been installed in the Lower Trent SPA. One new sign was installed in the Township of Cramahe in 2024.

- 4 signs were installed by the Ministry of Transportation along provincial highways in 2016
- 94 signs have been installed by Municipalities on county and municipal roads by 2016

Education and outreach activities included:

- 22 social media posts reaching over 14,000 people
- Supported the provincial source protection social media campaigns and maintained information on LTC website
- Reached ~1000 students, teachers and parents through the Tri-County Children's Water Festival
- Reached ~300 children through school and community programming
- Reached over 1000 people through presentations and participation at local community events
- Held 4 responsible road salt workshops at local libraries.

Our progress score on achieving source protection plan objectives in this reporting period is as follows:

	<b>P: Progressing well / on target:</b> Most of the source protection plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing according to the timelines in the source protection plan.
	<b>S: Satisfactory:</b> Some of the source protection plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing according to the timelines in the source protection plan.
	<b>L: Limited progress made:</b> A few source protection plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing according to the timelines in the source protection plan.



### More from the Watershed

Find out more information about Drinking Water Stewardship and what's happening in the Trent Conservation Coalition Source Protection Region at [trentsourceprotection.on.ca](http://trentsourceprotection.on.ca) including details on:

- The *Clean Water Act*
- The Trent Conservation Coalition Source Protection Region
- The five Trent Conservation Coalition Source Protection Areas
- Publications and resources e.g. the source protection plans and assessment reports
- Am I affected? / policy mapping tool



To learn more about Lower Trent Conservation, visit our homepage at <http://www.LTC.on.ca>.

# DRINKING WATER SOURCE PROTECTION

ACT FOR CLEAN WATER

TRENT  
CONSERVATION  
COALITION  
SOURCE PROTECTION  
REGION

## STAFF REPORT

**Date:** April 9, 2026  
**To:** Lower Trent Source Protection Authority  
**Re:** 2025 Trent and Ganaraska Source Protection Plans Annual Progress Reports  
**Prepared by:** Keith Taylor, Program Coordinator

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### PROPOSED RESOLUTION:

THAT the 2025 Trent and Ganaraska Source Protection Plan Annual Progress Reports be received as information; and  
THAT staff be authorized to submit the 2025 Trent and Ganaraska Source Protection Plan Annual Progress Reports to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks as required by Section 46 of the Clean Water Act and Section 52 of O. Reg. 287/07, along with any comments received from the Source Protection Committee be approved.

### BACKGROUND:

All significant threat policies in the Source Protection Plan have a companion monitoring policy that requires the person or body responsible for implementing the threat policies to report every February 1<sup>st</sup>, on the progress made during the previous calendar year.

Lower Trent staff receive these reports from all five of the Trent Conservation Coalition Source Protection Areas. The Annual Report for the Trent Source Protection Plan and one for the Ganaraska Source Protection Plan has been rolled into one report this year (see attached Annual Report).

### DISCUSSION:

The results of the report were presented to the Source Protection Committee on March 19, 2026, to allow the Committee to assign a level of progress to the reports. By consensus, the Committee determined that for both reports, the program scored a "Progressing well / on target" rating and the Committee approved the information provided in the Annual Reports.

The Municipality of Minden Hills had previously been in a position of non-compliance with several threats that require Risk Management Plans not being addressed. However, in 2025 they hired a consulting firm to carry out this work and they are now in compliance.

Another issue identified in the Annual Report was the lack of sufficient reporting from the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks related to their managing of significant threats through Prescribed Instruments. Their reporting provides information about their processes but very few details about the

[www.trentsourceprotection.on.ca](http://www.trentsourceprotection.on.ca)

actual activities carried out to manage threats. As a result, the Committee chose to downgrade the Ministry's score from "Progressing Well/On Target" to "Satisfactory" with a note that the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks' commitment to improve their reporting will help to upgrade this score in the future.

This is the second year in a row that the Committee has assigned this lower score for the Ministry. However, the newly approved Prescribed Instrument Policies in the Source Protection Plans will require better reporting from the Ministry next year.

The next step in the process is to seek approval from the Lead Source Protection Authority (the Lower Trent Source Protection Authority) to submit the 2025 Trent and Ganaraska Source Protection Plans Annual Progress Report to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, as required by Section 46 of the Clean Water Act, along with any comments received from the Source Protection Committee. No comments have been received from the Source Protection Committee this year.

# Source Protection Annual Progress Report - 2025



Prepared by the Trent Conservation Coalition  
Source Protection Region



# I. Introduction

The Trent Conservation Coalition Source Protection Region's Annual Progress Report for the Trent and Ganaraska Source Protection Plans (SPP) provides a status update of implementation since the SPPs came into effect on January 1st, 2015 through to December 31st, 2025.

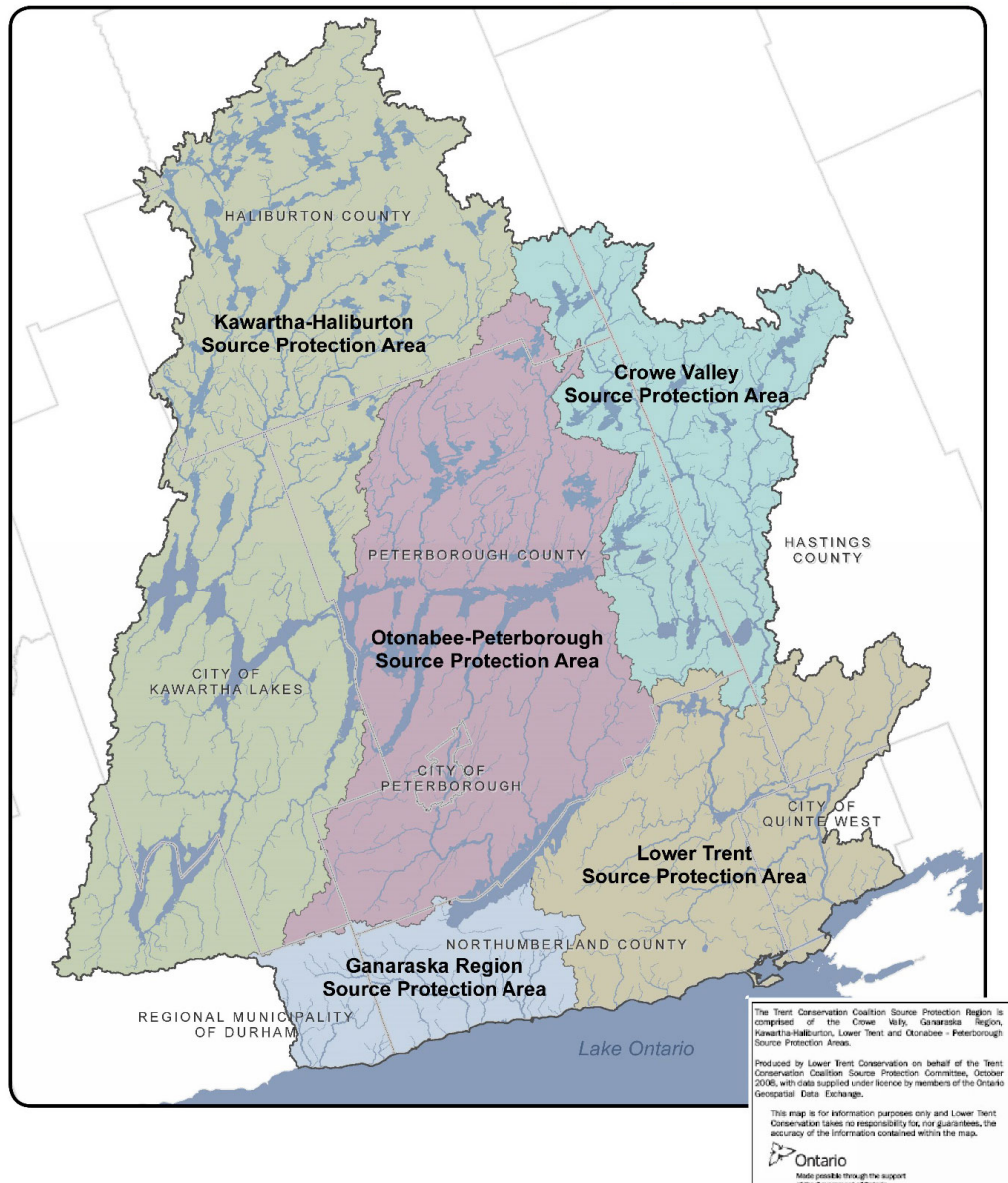
Five source protection authorities within this region have worked with the Source Protection Committee, local municipalities, and other stakeholders to facilitate the development of these plans. These are:

- Crowe Valley Source Protection Authority
- Ganaraska Source Protection Authority
- Kawartha-Haliburton Source Protection Authority
- Lower Trent Source Protection Authority
- Otonabee-Peterborough Source Protection Authority

This report is produced by the Trent Conservation Coalition (TCC) for:

- Residents and businesses within the watershed
- Trent Conservation Coalition Source Protection Committee (SPC), and
- Municipalities and other local stakeholders.

The format of this report is based on broad categories, identified by the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP), to facilitate legislative reporting and tracking of progress made towards the implementation of the Trent and Ganaraska Source Protection Plans, and other source protection plans across the province.



## 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.**

The Trent Conservation Coalition Source Protection Committee arrived at the above score upon reviewing all major facets of the source protection program from the previous reporting period, including:

- the implementation of source protection into municipal official plans and zoning by-laws;
- the progress of the septic inspection program;
- the progress on the use of risk management plans to manage drinking water threats;
- provincial progress on implementing our source protection policies where Ontario ministries are implementers;
- and progress on the education and outreach program for source water protection.

### III. Our Watershed

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

The Trent Conservation Coalition Source Protection Region includes both the Trent and Ganaraska watersheds.

Under the Act, Source Protection Areas were established based on the watershed boundaries of Ontario's 36 Conservation Authorities. The Crowe Valley, Ganaraska, Kawartha, Lower Trent and Otonabee Conservation Authorities have entered into a partnership for this region. These five Conservation Authorities, encompass a 14,500 square kilometre area stretching from Algonquin Park to Lake Ontario and the Bay of Quinte. Collectively they comprise The Trent Conservation Coalition Source Protection Region.

Population in the TCC: 400,000 (including Ganaraska)

Area: TCC = 14,500 km<sup>2</sup>

Area: Trent River Watershed= 12,900 km<sup>2</sup>

Number of drinking water systems in the TCC SPR: 53 (includes one planned groundwater system)

Number of surface water systems in the TCC SPR: 18

Number of groundwater systems in the TCC SPR: 35 (includes one planned system)

Population serviced by municipal residential drinking water systems in the Trent River Watershed: more than 150,000

Number of municipalities in the TCC SPR with residential drinking water systems: 27 (22 lower tier, 5 upper tier) Number of municipalities in the TCC SPR with at least part of a vulnerable area in their jurisdiction: 43 (38 lower tier, 5 upper tier)

Number of policies in the Trent Source Protection Plan: 138

Number of Issue Contributing Areas in the Trent Source Protection Plan: 1 (Stirling system)

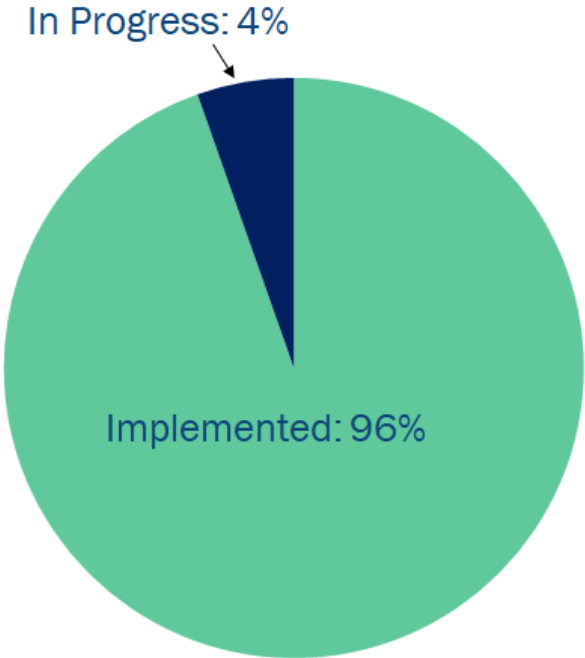
Effective date of the Trent Source Protection Plan: January 1, 2015

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

## 1. Source Protection Plan Policies

Our overall progress score across the Trent Source Protection Plan on achieving source protection plan objectives in this reporting period is as follows:

**P: Progressing well / on target:** Most of the source protection plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing according to the timelines in the source protection plan. 100% of policies addressing significant drinking water threats are reported as being implemented, in progress, or policy outcome(s) were evaluated with no further action(s) required.



## 2. Municipal Progress: Addressing Risks on the Ground

Our overall progress score on achieving source protection plan objectives for both the Trent and Ganaraska Source Protection Plans in this reporting period is as follows:

**P: Progressing Well / On Target: Most of the municipalities within the region have implemented source protection into the Official Plans and Zoning By-Laws, or are in the process of doing so.**

Municipalities and approval authorities under the Planning Act are the Implementing Bodies for 56 policies in the Trent Source Protection Plan. The jurisdictions of 43 municipalities lies within the Trent Conservation Coalition Source Protection Region, however of those, 27 municipalities (22 lower tier and 5 upper tier) contain vulnerable areas where Source Protection Plan polices apply.

The following numbers represent what was reported as "Implemented," however it should be noted that all municipalities reported at a minimum "In-Progress."

Otonabee-Peterborough SPA reported 100% (8/8) for official plan conformity implementation, and 86% (6/7) Zoning By-Law conformity.

Kawartha-Haliburton SPA reported 83% (5/6) for official plan conformity, and 80% (4/5) zoning by-law conformity.

Crowe Valley SPA reported 100% (4/4) for official plan conformity, and 100% (4/4) for zoning by-law conformity.

Lower Trent SPA reported 71% (5/7) for official plan conformity, and 67% (4/6) for zoning by-law conformity.

Ganaraska SPA reported 40% (2/5) for official plan conformity, and 50% (2/4) for zoning by-law conformity.

### 3. Septic Inspections

**P: Progressing Well / On Target: Most of the septic systems in the region have been inspected within their 5-cycle window, and a small number required minor maintenance.**

All Municipalities have an inspection program in place to ensure these don't become a danger to municipal drinking water systems. Compliance dates for existing sewage system inspections (those constructed by the following date) are set by the s. 1.10.2.4 (2)(a)(i)(A) of O. Reg. 315/10: BUILDING CODE to be five years after the date of publishing of the Assessment Report on the Environmental Bill of Rights. Or, five years after the construction of the sewage system, in the case of a sewage system constructed on or after the date of publication. The EBR Registry Number is 012-2699 and was posted November 3rd, 2014 therefore the compliance date for most existing sewage systems is November 3rd, 2019, and every five years after.

67 Septic inspections were completed this reporting period, and 8 required maintenance.

Over-due inspections: 2 in Otonabee-South Monaghan are overdue, and notices of violation have been issued. 1 in the City of Peterborough remains outstanding; while municipal staff met with the landowner in 2025, snow covered the tank during the visit. A spring 2026 visit is proposed to confirm tank was pumped in accordance with landowner comments. City staff to confirm septic systems and inspection status.

## 4. Risk Management Plans

A risk management plan is a document that outlines the measures required to address an activity that has the potential to contaminate drinking water. These measures manage the risk associated with the activity so that all threats to drinking water are properly managed.

A Risk Management Official (RMO) works with the person engaging in the threat activity to decide on the necessary components of the risk management plan. RMOs are the Implementing Body for 39 policies in the Trent Source Protection Plan, and utilize the following tools which were established under Part IV of the Act, to manage threats: Prohibition (s.57); Risk Management Plans (s.58); and, Restricted Land Uses (s.59).

In 2025, nine (9) risk management plans were established and 65 inspections occurred in the Trent Conservation Coalition Source Protection Region, including Ganaraska. All activities managed by risk management plans that were inspected were found to be in compliance.

RMOs are also responsible for reviewing building and planning applications in vulnerable areas, to ensure no new significant threats are created. Once there is confirmation that no new threats will be created, the RMO issues a Section 59 clearance notice. In 2025, 124 Section 59 notices were issued in the Trent Conservation Coalition Source Protection Region, including Ganaraska.

There are two (2) threats remaining to be managed in Otonabee-Peterborough, but they are not yet out of compliance. There is one (1) potential threat remaining in Ganaraska outstanding, requiring verification from the Township of Hamilton.

Source Protection Area	# RMP's Agreed to in Reporting Period	# Existing Significant Threats Managed through RMPs this Reporting Period	# of Threats remaining to be managed	# Inspections this Reporting Period	Section 59 Notices Issued this Reporting Period
Otonabee-Peterborough	0	0	2	0	50
Kawartha-Haliburton	3	3	0	31	35
Crowe Valley	0	0	0	1	13
Lower Trent	6	9	0	32	26
Ganaraska	0	0	1	1	0

The overall progress score on achieving source protection plan objectives in this reporting period is:

**P: Progressing Well/On Target -** Nine new Risk Management Plans were established this year to address 12 existing threats. Significant progress was made from last year, as the 9 outstanding threats in Minden Hills have now been addressed. There are 0 threats remaining that are out of compliance, and 1 requiring verification. Several new Risk Management Officials (RMOs) came onboard in the past year, and RMOs continue to work together across the region to share knowledge and address challenges.

## 5. Provincial Progress: Addressing Risks on the Ground

For existing threats, 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 Trent 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 the Trent Source Protection Plan policies. Our policies set out a timeline of 5 years to complete the review and make any necessary changes.

The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks reports that the percent progress made on prescribed instruments (PI) review is 100% for the following categories: Waste disposal sites –landfilling and storage Sewage Works/ Wastewater Municipal Drinking Water Licences and Drinking Water Works Permits The Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs reports that the percent progress made on prescribed instruments (PI) review is 100% for the following categories:

- Nutrient Management Strategies (NMS)
- Non-Agricultural Source Material (NASM) Plans

The Ministry of Transportation reports that a process is in place to ensure Prescribed Instrument holders comply with the terms and conditions of their Prescribed Instrument. For future threats, Ministries reported that 100% are implemented, with standard operating procedures in place where applications are reviewed to ensure the proposed activities conform to our policies.

Our progress score on achieving source protection plan objectives in this reporting period is as follows:

**S: Satisfactory: Most of the source protection plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing according to the timelines in the source protection plan. The MECP's reporting requirements will be enhanced next year due to the conditions stipulated in the new approved Prescribed Instrument Policies. Staff have determined that while these Prescribed Instrument reviews are 100% complete, the information provided from their reporting has not been sufficient. The MECP reporting at times lacks details and specifics beneficial to understanding issues regarding our drinking water systems and potential threats.**

## 6. Source Protection Awareness and Change in Behaviour

Ten (10) policies in the Trent Source Protection Plan utilize the education and outreach (E and O) tool to influence behavior and encourage the voluntary adoption of practices to better protect sources of municipal drinking water.

Road signage was identified as an effective E and O tool to raise awareness of the Drinking Water Source Protection Program (DWSPP) and the importance of protecting sources of municipal drinking water. Drinking Water Protection Zone signs have been installed in vulnerable areas across the Trent Conservation Source Protection Region. To date, all required Drinking Water Protection Zone signs have been installed in the four Source Protection Authorities, including 255 under the Trent Source Protection Plan.

Regionally, the threat from Road Salt continues to be key focus for E and O this year with the continuation of the Salt Responsibly campaign. This included stickers to be placed on road salt boxes; and a pilot project placing posters at stores selling de-icing salts.

Fuel threats, and specifically fuel oil tanks were again a key focus of education and outreach this reporting period. This included information products related to fuel storage and handling, and information provided to local fuel suppliers. Social media posts related to fuel threats were also used in 2024 to remind residents of their potential to impact drinking water sources. Social media posts were also used to communicate changes and solicit comments related to fuel policies as a result of the proposed Section 36 Amendments to the Trent Source Protection Plan.

Education and outreach activities were integrated into Risk Management Official activities and included best management practices as risk management measures in risk management plans. Specific activities related to fuel threats included the installation of fuel tank stickers and fill pipe tags identifying that the location is in a Vulnerable Area and providing provincial Spills Action Centre contact number.

The Best Practices initiative has been using the science and knowledge acquired from the Source Protection Program to provide owners of private drinking water systems such as wells and intakes with information about how to protect their sources of drinking water. 2025 was the third year of our “Drinking Water Wise Webinar” series. Five free webinars were conducted in 2025 to provide helpful information for the public, with over 800 registrants, and the youtube recordings reaching over 800 views online.

Our overall progress score on achieving source protection plan objectives in this reporting period is as follows:

**P: Progressing well / on target: The Education and Outreach policies have been implemented across the region and Source Protection Authorities continue to work with Municipalities and the public to implement them in meaningful and engaging ways.**

## 7. Source Protection Plan Policies: Summary of Delays

The Trent Conservation Coalition Source Protection Region, including Ganaraska, reports no significant delays in policy implementation. However, policy implementation challenges were addressed through our S.36 Amendment, submitted in December, 2023, which as of March 9th, has now been approved. Through this process, policy wording has been improved to assist in overall Trent Source Protection Plan implementation. Work will be required to implement the new Education and Outreach policies, and ensure the amended policies are properly implemented across the region this year.

## 8. Source Water Quality: Monitoring and Actions

A water quality issue, as identified by the Source Protection Committee, is where a contaminant is present at a level of concern or showing an upward trend and threatens the municipal drinking water source. The issue contributing area (ICA) is an area of land or water where activities are contributing to the water quality issue. These activities are classified as significant threats to drinking water.

**Stirling Water System:** Stirling wells were identified as having an E. coli issue in the raw untreated water. Observations this year showed decreasing concentration in Well #4. In response to the issue, the municipality engaged in the following activities:

- Reported annually by February 1st to the Lower Trent Source Protection Authority;
- A new less vulnerable well was brought on line in 2020 to reduce risk of E. coli.
- RMPs continue to be developed to reduce the amount of E. coli entering Rawdon Creek.
- Monitored the identified issue through data as provided in the Stirling-Rawdon annual water report. The report also identified the municipality continues to track Total Coliform (TC) hits. Undertook hydrological studies showing the wells are Groundwater Under the Direct Influence (GUDI) of surface water and there is in situ filtration.
- Completed all septic inspections in the Stirling Issue Contributing Area. All identified significant drinking water threats have been managed by RMPs;
- Completed Education and Outreach activities including advertorials in local newspaper, attendance at local events, updated factsheets and door-to-door visits in the Issue Contributing Area

## 9. Science-based Assessment Reports: Work Plans

Water Budget - Technical Rule #30.1 for Stirling-Rawdon a Tier 3 water budget was included in the 2018 Section 36 work plan, however requires MECP support and funding to proceed. To be reviewed in 2026 upon approval of new Assessment Report.

## 10. More from the Watershed

Find out more information about DWSP and what's happening in the TCC SPR at [trentsourceprotection.on.ca](http://trentsourceprotection.on.ca) including details on:

- The Clean Water Act
- The Trent Conservation Coalition Source Protection Region
- The Source Protection Authorities that make up the Trent Source Protection Plan
- Publications and resources such as the source protection plans and assessment reports
- Am I affected? / Interactive Policy Mapping Tool
- Best Practices for Non-Municipal Source Protection



## STAFF REPORT

**Date:** April 9, 2026  
**To:** Lower Trent Source Protection Authority  
**Re:** Program Update Report  
**Prepared by:** Keith Taylor, Program Coordinator

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### PROPOSED RESOLUTION:

THAT the Program Update Report be received as information.

### Program Update Report

#### Section 36 Amendments Approved:

On March 9, 2026, we received a letter from the Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks announcing the approval of our Section 36 Amendments to the Trent and Ganaraska Source Protection Plans and Assessment Reports.

Later that day the approval was posted on the Environmental Registry of Ontario, meaning that amendments took effect on March 9, 2026.

Staff have notified all Municipalities, Risk Management Officials and Ministries that are responsible for implementing policies that the amendments are now in effect.

The new Source Protection Plans and Assessment Reports have been posted on the Trent Conservation Coalition website.

#### Section 34 Amendments Submitted:

The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks asked staff to delay submitting the Section 34 Amendments for the new wells at Grafton and Woods of Manilla until the Section 36 Amendments were approved.

Since the Section 36 Amendments was approved on March 9, 2026, the Section 34 Amendment package was subsequently submitted on March 11, 2026. It typically takes 3 to 4 months for Section 34 Amendments to be approved by the Minister.

[www.trentsourceprotection.on.ca](http://www.trentsourceprotection.on.ca)

**Source Protection Committee Chair:**

Chair Jim Hunt's term as Chair of the Trent Conservation Coalition Source Protection Committee expired in August 2025. Jim Hunt has been informed by the Ministry that he will not be re-appointed for another term.

He had been the Chair of the Committee since the beginning of the program, and he was lawyer involved in the Walkerton Inquiry.

At the March 19, 2026, Source Protection Committee meeting Terry Rees was named Interim Chair until the Minister appoints a new Chair.

Jim Hunt is not the only original SPC Chair not being reappointed.