

# DRINKING WATER SOURCE PROTECTION

ACT FOR CLEAN WATER



## Source Protection Report

*By Janet Stavinga, Chair*

Prior to our meeting on June 4, the Committee had a tour of Perth's municipal water treatment plant located on Sunset Boulevard. Municipal staff showed us how water drawn in from the Tay River is filtered, disinfected, tested and piped out as drinking water to over 6,000 people in Perth.

At our meeting, the Committee reviewed *preliminary draft groundwater studies* for **Almonte, Munster, Richmond and Westport**. The Committee approved the study findings as "draft for public consultation" so **Open Houses will be held in July** to present these studies to the public for feedback. We strongly encourage municipalities, businesses, and residents in the study areas to review the draft findings and provide comments. The more information we have as a committee, the better equipped we will be to create successful Source Protection Plans by 2012. All open houses run from 6 to 9 pm with a formal staff presentation at 7 pm and include light refreshments.

Open Houses held in early June in **Carp, Kemptville and Merrickville** gave local property owners an opportunity to review draft groundwater study results for these communities which the SPC had reviewed and approved in April. Those in attendance asked questions and staff recorded their comments. This feedback will be considered by the Committee when completing our final technical Assessment Report. You still have an opportunity to review draft study findings as **comments are being accepted until August 10, 2009**. Visit our website or contact staff for more details.

The Ministry of the Environment awarded another **Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Program** grant in the Mississippi-Rideau region. The Mississippi Valley Field Naturalists received \$14,000 to engage Grade 8 students in an experiential learning process about the *Clean Water Act*, the quality and quantity of local municipal drinking water sources, potential threats to these, and the development of Source Protection Plans in their municipality. This grant program was created by the *Clean Water Act* to provide funding for activities that promote the protection of municipal source water including the implementation of best management practices as well as outreach and education.

We are accepting applications until June 15 to fill **two vacancies on the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee**. These two positions are to represent industry/commercial interests on the Committee. Application forms can be found at [www.mrsourcewater.ca](http://www.mrsourcewater.ca).

Our **next SPC meeting** is on Thursday, **July 9 at 7 pm** in Ottawa at the Britannia Water Purification Plant, 2731 Cassels Road, Ottawa. Committee members will be there early for a "Meet and Greet" session from 6 pm. If you can join us, we'd love to see you! Visitors always welcome.

### Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Region

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