

Ossipee Watershed – Drinking Water Protection Ordinance (DWPO)
Work Session & Best Management Practice Workshop
August 13, 2009
Tamworth, NH

Meeting Minutes

Present:

Jean Hansen	Ossipee Conservation Comm, OLNA, LSA
Roger ter Kuile	Ossipee Aquifer Steering Committee
Bill Piekut	Effingham Planning Board & Selectman
Susan Wiley	NH Representative
Peter Park	Freedom Planning Board
Lee & Peg Custer	TLEC Tamworth Local Energy Committee
Pat Farley	Tamworth Ec. Dev. & Planning Board Alternate
Kamal Nath	Effingham Conservation Commission, OASC
Al Levesque	Effingham Conservation Commission, OASC
Adam Shoukimas	AWWA
Ned Hatfield	Freedom Code Officer
John Shipman	OWC, GMCG
T. Morton Leavitt	Ossipee Selectman
Bob Gillette	Ossipee Planning Board
David Little	Tamworth Planning Board
Erica Anderson	Lakes Region Planning Commission
Tara Schroeder	Green Mountain Conservation Group
Angela Mrozinski	Green Mountain Conservation Group
Molly Newton	Green Mountain Conservation Group
Steve Whitman	Jeffrey H. Taylor & Associates

Adam Shoukimas of Acton Wakefield Watersheds Alliance gave a presentation on Best Management Practices (BMP) for homeowners to promote erosion control. He spoke about the Youth Conservation Corps (YCC), which is a group of high school and college students who implement low cost designs incorporating BMPs. They've done about 45 projects, installed about 143 BMPs which have prevented 51 tons of sediment and 44 pounds of phosphorus from entering water bodies. He then shared photos of BMPs which included: Dripline Trench, Dry Well, Erosion Control Mix, Infiltration Steps – new and retrofitted, Infiltration Trench, Riprap Stabilization, Open Top Culvert, Retaining Wall, Path/Walkway Stabilization, Buffer Strip, Native Vegetation, Rain Garden, Rubber Razors, Turn Outs, and Water Bars. For more information about AWWA's work on BMPs, visit: www.awwatersheds.org or email techdirector@awwatersheds.org.

Steve Whitman of Jeffrey H. Taylor & Associates presented GMCG's BMP Strategic Plan. The audience for the plan is town staff, businesses and homeowners. He defined BMPs as a strategy or combination of strategies to prevent the release of pollutants. The four main areas of the BMP strategic plan include road salt, nutrients & sediment, septic systems, and hazardous chemical use & storage. He requested input from the participants to see what they considered priorities within the watershed. Discussion topics included:

- Rt 16 which travels the length of the aquifer and associated road salt ** *The 11/5 Road Salt Workshop was mentioned, targeting road agents with officials from DES, DOT and*

T2 (UNH's Technology Transfer Center - <http://www.t2.unh.edu/>) present to share successful salt reduction techniques.

- Septic systems that aren't adequate or have failed, or are in close proximity to water bodies
- Excess nutrients that lead to milfoil infestations
- Sediment and erosion from roadways
- Implementation of YCC in this area was discussed. It is a very affordable and timely way to implement many BMPs (most projects <\$1000 and installed in 1 day).
- Low Impact Development
- Need for an inventory of problem areas, particularly washouts and runoff which many code officers know the locations of. *** The BMP Nomination Form was mentioned for site nominations to receive potential grant funding for future project work.*
- Adam mentioned a watershed survey done in the Acton-Wakefield region that has led to a Master Plan. It involved sending letters to all home/land owners and a visit to every parcel to inspect for problem areas.

A survey was distributed to participants to prioritize the areas of this BMP strategic plan and future efforts in the watershed. 19 surveys were returned, with the response as follows:

1. The draft BMP Strategic Plan identifies four types of nonpoint source pollution considered the greatest threats to water quality in the Ossipee Watershed based on water quality research, potential threats, and professional & community feedback. They are: road salt; sediment/nutrients; septic systems; and hazardous chemical use & storage. *Which of these threats do you feel is most important to address in the next two to three years?*

Salt (9); Sediment/Nutrients (6); Septic (5); Hazardous Chemical Use & Storage (5)

2. Please prioritize the order in which these issues should be addressed (1-4): *(Results indicate how many people indicated these should be the first priority)*

8 Road Salt
4 Sediments/nutrients
4 Septic Systems
2 Hazardous Chemical Use & Storage

3. Are there other water quality threats or issues you feel should be addressed by the BMP Strategic Plan or by GMCG in the future?

Recreation, mercury, junk vehicles, marinas, development & zoning restrictions, LID, town ordinances, an inventory of sites with runoff issues across the watershed – an active inventory

4. Please select what you feel are the top three priorities for the Ossipee Watershed: *(Results indicate how many people checked the item)*

8 Strengthen site plan review and subdivision regulations to include BMPs.
6 Protect shoreland habitats & include riparian buffer BMPs in town zoning.

- 10 Provide education and outreach about BMPs to residents and businesses.
- 3 Perform BMP audits and provide education to PCSs.
- 9 Ensure BMPs for road salting and salt storage.
- 6 Ensure BMPs for commercial and industrial uses.
- 2 Promote low impact development techniques.
- 6 Promote solutions for regional water quality issues.
- 8 Assist towns, businesses & residents with BMP structural and non-structural work to mitigate and prevent water quality issues.

Erica Anderson of Lakes Region Planning Commission facilitated the 2nd Ossipee Aquifer Protection Ordinance work session. She began by presenting a timeline for towns to submit these ordinances to be finished by town meeting. The last day for ordinance petitions to the towns from planning boards is 12/09/09. The meeting dates scheduled line up with the steering committee meetings. Work is typically done on the overlay districts first, followed by the ordinance work. Public outreach will occur from January to March. Discussion of the timeline included concern that work should be finished by October to avoid getting caught up in budget discussions that occur later in the year.

Erica then discussed towns that have multiple aquifers within town lines. She said ordinances typically do not mention aquifer or watershed names although there may be issues if towns protect more than just primary recharge areas, since Ossipee is the only area that has secondary or tertiary recharge areas mapped. She recommends starting with protecting primary recharge areas first, then adding well head protection areas and/or secondary/tertiary recharge later, once towns have had a chance to see how the ordinance works in their town.

Erica then began going through the criteria sheet. Suggestions for additional definitions include “bulk” “recharge area” and “transmissivity.” For the Aquifer Protection Districts section, there was discussion of whether it would be better to simplify the district by protecting only primary recharge or to simply include the whole town with greater restrictions in higher risk areas (3 levels- aquifer, well head protection areas, and everything else). However, town wide may be considered no longer an aquifer overlay and more like town zoning. It was pointed out this ordinance is targeted to restricting commercial uses, but some residential may want to be considered, particularly housing developments and the associated septic systems. The question was raised as to whether this ordinance should include surface water. While this ordinance is designed for aquifer only, and some surface water is included in wetlands ordinances, this ordinance could potentially include aquifer, surface, and wetlands if the towns choose. Tara Schroeder raised the point that some surface water is protected later in the criteria sheet under the stormwater section. Discussion of the stormwater section included the % impervious cover area, listed at 15% proposed to be 10%.

The next meeting will be held on **September 11, 2009**.

*Towns need to send their feedback of the criteria sheet to Erica, who will compile them and help this process move quicker to stay on our timeline schedule.

*Towns should also discuss whether they wish protect primary recharge area or if they want to implement greater protection (such as well head protection areas, secondary/tertiary recharge).