



# Home Heating Oil

Activities on land and in water near municipal wells and surface water intakes may adversely affect drinking water sources. Small amounts of fuel can contaminate vast amounts of water, so great care must be taken with its handling and storage. Fuel spill cleanups can be costly, lengthy and difficult to remediate.

## Home Heating Oil as a Drinking Water Threat

The average home heating oil tank holds approximately 1,000 litres of oil and are considered a drinking water threat in the most vulnerable areas. The Quinte Source Protection Plan has policies to address these threats. Each policy pertains to different circumstances including the volume of the oil being handled and/or stored, whether the fuel is above, partially below, or below grade, and what type of vulnerable area the activity is taking place in.



## Where is Fuel a Drinking Water Threat?

Fuel handling and storage activities are considered significant drinking water threats when they occur in the most vulnerable areas around a municipal drinking water source such as Wellhead Protection Areas (WHPAs) A and B and Intake Protection Zone (IPZ) 1. There are significant drinking water threats for the handling and storage of fuel in:

- WHPA A and B for wells in Deloro, Madoc, Peats Point, Point Anne, and Tweed.
- IPZ 1 in Ameliasburgh, Belleville, Deseronto, Picton, and Point Anne.
- The Hamlet of Point Anne has both WPHAs and IPZs because of the infrastructure of the system. Due to the uniqueness of this system, significant threats can occur in both WHPAs A and B as well as IPZ 1.

## What to do in the Event of a Spill?

Call the Ontario Spills Action Centre at 1-800-268-6060 and your fuel supplier.

## Maintaining Your System

- Keep your maintenance and filling records.
- Do visual inspections of your system regularly.
- Ensure the home heating oil emergency response tag is placed on your fill pipe, and the emergency response sticker is placed on your tank.

## Risk Management Plans

Where existing fuel storage activities are significant drinking water threats, Risk Management Plans (RMPs) are negotiated with the people engaged in the threat activity and Risk Management Officials. RMPs include management measures related to the threat(s) on the property. These measures may include regular inspections and maintenance of storage tanks and fill/vent pipes, and placing informative stickers to ensure people know their responsibilities in the event of a spill.



## Restricted Land Use

Restricted land use allows municipalities to identify areas where the handling and storage of fuel should be either prohibited or require a RMP (WHPAs A and B, and IPZ 1). This allows municipalities to create their own process to ensure that future development complies with the Quinte Source Protection Plan.



## Prohibition

In the future, the installation of fuel storage tanks located within WHPAs and IPZs, where the threat is considered significant, will be prohibited. This policy applies to new and first time installations, but does not apply to replacements or upgrades to existing tanks.

## Specify Action

Where small tanks near municipal wells are considered to be moderate threats and are located outside and above grade, the municipality is directed to require that these tanks be replaced with double walled storage tanks. Monitoring spills and fuel related inspections and investigations show the effectiveness of fuel policies.