



Pesticides

According to Ontario's *Pesticides Act, 1990*, pesticides are defined as “any organism, substance or thing that is manufactured, represented, sold or used as a means of directly or indirectly controlling, preventing, destroying, mitigating, attracting or repelling any pest or of altering the growth, development or characteristics of any plant life that is not a pest and includes any organism, substance or thing registered under the *Pest Control Products Act (Canada)*”.

Pesticides as a Drinking Water Threat

In 2009, the Province banned cosmetic pesticides to reduce the risk of health issues for the population (Ontario Regulation 63/09). Several pesticides are still in use on both agricultural and non-agricultural lands. Pesticides can enter groundwater and surface water sources as a result of application to land, or spills/leaks from handling and storage. Pesticides are potentially toxic to humans and other animals because they could cause acute and delayed health effects including cancer.



Where are Pesticides Drinking Water Threats?

The application, handling and storage of pesticides 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 (IPZs) 1 and 2. There are significant drinking water threats for the application, handling, and storage of pesticide in:

- WHPA A and B for wells in Deloro, Madoc, Peats Point, Point Anne, and Tweed.
- IPZ 1 and 2 in Ameliasburgh, Belleville, Deseronto, Napanee, and Picton.
- The Hamlet of Point Anne has both WHPAs and IPZs because of the infrastructure of the system. Due to the uniqueness of this system, significant threats can occur in WHPAs A and B, and IPZ 1.

How are Pesticide Threats Being Addressed?

The Quinte Source Protection Plan contains policies that address both agricultural and non-agricultural activities. The policies address existing and future application, handling and storage of pesticides that are or would be considered significant drinking water threats in vulnerable areas.

Risk Management Plans

Risk Management Plans (RMPs) are required for agricultural and non-agricultural pesticide uses that are considered significant drinking water threats in vulnerable areas. RMPs are negotiated with the people engaged in the threat activity and Risk Management Officials. The RMPs include management measures related to the threat(s) on the property. These measures may include relocation of storage facilities, application guidelines, and/or adoption of best management practices.



Restricted Land Use

Restricted land use allows municipalities to identify areas where the application, handling, and storage of pesticides should be either prohibited or require a risk management plan (WHPAs A and B, and IPZ 1 and 2). This allows municipalities to create their own process to ensure that future development complies with the Quinte Source Protection Plan.



Prohibition

The existing and future application, handling and storage of pesticides will be prohibited in the areas immediately surrounding municipal wells (WHPA A) in Deloro, Madoc, Tweed, Peats Point, and Point Anne. Exemptions to this policy are only permitted where pesticides are applied to protect public health or safety, or in instances where the pesticide is named on the List of Active Ingredients Authorized for Cosmetic Uses.

Education and Outreach

The Quinte Source Protection Plan includes a policy for general education and outreach. This policy exists to raise awareness about the drinking water concerns related to the application, handling, and storage of pesticides in vulnerable areas.