

## **Protecting Raisin-South Nation Region Drinking Water**

*Ontario Supports Actions to Safeguard Drinking Water*

October 31, 2014 1:30 P.M.

Ontario has approved the [Raisin-South Nation Source Protection Plan](#) to strengthen local source-to-tap drinking water protection.

The plan, developed by local municipal and community partners on the Raisin-South Nation source protection committee, will take effect April 1, 2015.

Source protection plans are designed to protect the water quality of the lakes, rivers and sources of underground water that supply municipal drinking water systems. The plans set out actions to eliminate, manage or reduce potential risks to drinking water sources.

The Raisin-South Nation plan will:

- Establish maintenance and inspection programs for septic systems close to drinking water systems to meet building code requirements.
- Create risk-management plans for handling and storing pesticides, fertilizers, road salt, fuel and manure.
- Produce and place road signs to identify drinking water protection zones.

Protecting drinking water is part of the government's economic plan for Ontario. The four part plan is building Ontario up by investing in people's talents and skills, building new public infrastructure like roads and transit, creating a dynamic, supportive environment where business thrives and building a secure savings plan so everyone can afford to retire.

### **QUOTES**

" Few things are as important to our health and well-being as having safe water to drink. Protecting the sources that supply our drinking water is the first step in keeping our drinking water safe and helps ensure we never have another Walkerton incident."

- Glen Murray

Minister of the Environment and Climate Change

" We are very happy that the Raisin-South Nation Source Protection Plan has been approved. This plan reflects a lot of hard work from our Source Protection Committee. The staff have done

an outstanding job and our source protection plan contains the most up-to-date science and policies to protect local drinking water."

- Claude Cousineau

chair of the Raisin-South Nation source protection committee

## QUICK FACTS

- The Clean Water Act established 19 local committees across Ontario. Each committee developed science-based plans that address contamination risks to the water that supplies municipal drinking water systems.
- The Raisin-South Nation source protection region includes two source protection areas: Raisin Region and South Nation.
- Raisin Region is made up of five watersheds: Rigaud River, Delisle River, Rivière-Beaudette, Raisin River and an interior lake system comprised of three connected lakes, including Loch Garry, Middle Lake and Mill Pond.
- South Nation includes four watersheds: Upper South Nation, Castor River, Bear Brook and the Lower South Nation River.
- There are 26 drinking water systems in the Raisin-South Nation source protection region, 13 ground water systems and 13 surface water systems.

## LEARN MORE

- [Find out more about other source protection areas.](#)