



Kettle Creek Source Protection Authority
April 15, 2026

Agenda
11:00 a.m.

Audio/Video Recording Notice

Land Acknowledgement

Kettle Creek Conservation Authority wishes to acknowledge the treaty and traditional lands originally occupied by the Indigenous First Nation peoples of the Anishinabek, Attiwoonderonk and Haudenosaunee nations. KCCA strives to build meaningful relationships with Indigenous communities and recognizes the importance of respecting these treaties and lands.

Introductions and Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

Delegations

Election of Officers and Administrative Approvals

Recommendation: That the Chair, Vice Chair and all officers elected or appointed by the Kettle Creek Conservation Authority in 2026 serve in the same roles for the Kettle Creek Source Protection Authority in 2026.

Minutes of Meetings

a) Kettle Creek Source Protection Authority April 16, 20252

Recommendation: THAT the minutes of the April 16, 2025 Kettle Creek Source Protection Authority be approved.

b) Lake Erie Region Source Protection Committee Meeting October 30, 2025.....5

Recommendation: THAT the minutes of the October 30, 2025 Lake Erie Region Source Protection Committee Meeting be received.

New Business

a) Kettle Creek Annual Progress Report.....13

Recommendation: THAT the staff report on the Kettle Creek Annual Progress Report be received as information.

That in the opinion of the Kettle Creek Source Protection Authority implementation of the Kettle Creek Source Protection Plan is progressing well and is on target towards achieving plan objectives.

AND THAT the Kettle Creek Source Protection Authority direct Lake Erie Source Protection Region staff to submit the Kettle Creek Annual Progress Report to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks.

Next Meeting As required.

KETTLE CREEK SOURCE PROTECTION AUTHORITY

Wednesday, April 16, 2025

A meeting of the Kettle Creek Source Protection Authority was held on Wednesday, April 16, 2025 at 10:25 a.m. with members and staff joining in-person and electronically. The meeting was streamed live to Facebook.

The meeting came to order at 10:25 a.m. As some members attended virtually all votes were recorded and are included in the Recorded Vote Registry.

Audio/Video Record Notice

The Audio/Video Recording Notice was posted and made available to the public.

Land Acknowledgement

Kettle Creek Conservation Authority wishes to acknowledge the treaty and traditional lands originally occupied by the Indigenous First Nation peoples of the Anishinabek, Attiwonderonk and Haudenosaunee nations. KCCA strives to build meaningful relationships with Indigenous communities and recognizes the importance of respecting these treaties and lands.

Members Present:

Lori Baldwin-Sands	St. Thomas	In Person
Frank Berze	Middlesex Centre	In Person
Jim Herbert	St. Thomas	In Person
Grant Jones	Southwold	In Person
Sharron McMillan, Vice Chair	Thames Centre	In Person
Todd Noble, Chair	Central Elgin	In Person
Jerry Pribil	London	Virtual
JJ Strybosch	London	Virtual
John Wilson	Malahide	Virtual

Members Absent with Regret:

Sam Trosow	London
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Staff Present

Jennifer Dow	Water Resources Supervisor	In Person
Maisa Fumagalli	Planning and Regulations Supervisor	Virtual
Jessica Kirschner	Corporate Services Coordinator	Virtual
Betsy McClure	Manager Communications/Stewardship/Outreach	In Person
Jessy Van der Vaart	Communications and Outreach Coordinator	In Person
Elizabeth VanHooren	General Manager/Secretary Treasurer	In Person

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

Delegations

There were no delegations.

Election of Officers and Administrative Approvals

KCSPA1/2025

Moved by: Lori Baldwin-Sands

Seconded: Grant Jones

That the Chair, Vice Chair and all officers elected or appointed by the Kettle Creek Conservation Authority in 2025 serve in the same roles for the Kettle Creek Source Protection Authority in 2025.

Carried

Minutes of Meetings

a) Kettle Creek Source Protection Authority Meeting August 22, 2024

KCSPA2/2025

Moved by: Jim Herbert

Seconded: Frank Berze

That the minutes of the August 22, 2024 Kettle Creek Source Protection Authority be approved.

Carried

a) Lake Erie Region Source Protection Committee Meeting January 30, 2025

KCSPA3/2025

Moved by: John Wilson

Seconded: Sharron McMillan

That the minutes of the January 30, 2025 Lake Erie Region Source Protection Committee Meeting be received.

New Business

a) Kettle Creek Annual Progress Report

KCSPA4/2025

Moved by: Jerry Pribil

Seconded: Jim Herbert

That the staff report on the Kettle Creek Annual Progress Report be received as information;

That in the opinion of the Kettle Creek Source Protection Authority implementation of the Kettle Creek Source Protection Plan is progressing well and is on target towards achieving plan objectives;

And that the Kettle Creek Source Protection Authority direct Lake Erie Source Protection Region staff to submit the Kettle Creek Annual Progress Report to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and

Parks.

Carried

KCSPA5/2025

Moved by: Sharron McMillan

Seconded: Grant Jones

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 10:33.

Carried



Elizabeth VanHooren
General Manager/Secretary Treasurer

Todd Noble
Chair

Recorded Vote Registry KCSPA1/2025 to KCSPA5/2025

A=Absent Y=Yes N=No

Board Member	KCSPA1/2025	KCSPA2/2025	KCSPA3/2025	KCSPA4/2025	KCSPA5/2025
Baldwin-Sands	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Berze	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Herbert	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Jones	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
McMillan	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Noble	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Pribil	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Strybosch	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Trosow	A	A	A	A	A
Wilson	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Result	Carried	Carried	Carried	Carried	Carried

LAKE ERIE REGION SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

Date:	October 30, 2025
Time:	1:00 pm
Location:	Auditorium Grand River Conservation Authority 400 Clyde Road, Box 729 Cambridge, ON N1R 5W6
Members Present	A. Dale, L. Davis, L. Dickson, A. Domaratzki, N. Goucher, A. Henry, M. Jauernig, L. Jones, S. Lorenz, I. Macdonald, B. McNeill, G. Moroz, A. Piggott, G. Schneider, J. Sepulis, E. Stahl, L. Vandendriessche, B. Whitwell, P. Wilson
Members Absent	S. Curley-Smith, P. Emerson, C. Gerrits, K. Hunsberger, F. Sault
Liaisons	T. Black (Public Health), M. Lemke (Provincial), L. Rich (Conservation Ontario), D. Underhill (SPA Liaison)
Chair	S. Walsh
Lake Erie Region Staff	S. Bruce, J. Ivey, K. Rosebrugh, S. Strynatka

1. Call to Order

S. Walsh called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

2. Roll Call and Certification of Quorum – 14 Members Constitute a Quorum (2/3 of Members plus Chair)

The Recording Secretary called the roll and certified a quorum with 18 members present.

3. Chair’s Remarks

S. Walsh provided the following updates:

- Welcomed S. Bruce as temporary Source Protection Coordinator.

- Introduced S. Curley-Smith as a new Six Nations of the Grand River representative.

S. Walsh shared personal reflections on the importance of source water protection work, including the story of Robbie Schnurr, who experienced long lasting health impacts from the Walkerton water contamination event.

4. Updates

4.1 Source Protection Authority Liaison, Catfish Creek Conservation Authority (CCCA)

D. Underhill provided the following updates:

- Conservation authorities are reviewing and discussing multiple recent Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) postings related to source protection, including proposed amendments to the *Clean Water Act, 2006*.
- CCCA local initiatives include:
 - Hosting a Provincial Conservation Authority Coastal Network technical tour for Central Lake Erie in collaboration with Kettle Creek and Long Point Region, showcasing erosion and lateral cell dynamics along Lake Erie and plans for the Long Point Biosphere.
 - Opening of the Tisdale Conservation Area with restored tall grass prairie
 - Participation in the Annual Conservation Areas Workshop General Managers panel

4.2 Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP)

M. Lemke provided the following update:

- The Province has proposed amendments to the *Clean Water Act, 2006* and associated regulations, to accelerate and modernize source water protection. The changes simplify updates to local source protection plans, particularly when adding new wells or intakes to support growing communities.
- ERO comment deadlines:
 - Legislation #025-1060: November 19, 2025
 - Regulation #025-1104: December 4, 2025

4.3 Conservation Ontario (CO)

L. Rich provided the following updates:

- CO hosted a joint meeting on July 23, 2025 with Source Protection Program Managers, MECP staff, and Source Protection Committee

(SPC) Chairs to highlight Conservation Authority source water protection contributions and the value of the SPCs.

- CO released the [‘25 Years of Source Water Protection’ video](#), supported by a social media campaign, with over 1,000 views.
- Comments were provided on multiple ERO postings including:
 - ERO #025-0730 - Proposed Changes to Provide Flexibility for Water Taking Activities
 - Bill 17, Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025
- CO is currently drafting a response to:
 - Special Economic Zones Act, 2025 criteria
 - Bill 56, Building a More Competitive Economy Act, 2025 intended to accelerate and improve protection for Ontario’s drinking water sources
- An upcoming Program Managers meeting will be held on November 20, 2025 at Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA) with plans to discuss the proposed regulatory changes
- Congratulations to the SPC, SPAs and ministry staff on the approval of three Section 34 amendments

5. Review of Agenda

Res. No. 34-25

Moved By G. Schneider

Seconded By E. Stahl

THAT the agenda of October 30, 2025, be approved as distributed.

Carried

6. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary interests made in relation to the matters to be dealt with.

7. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Res. No. 35-25

Moved By J. Sepulis

Seconded By A. Henry

THAT the minutes of the previous meeting on June 12, 2025, be approved as circulated.

8. Hearing of Delegations

None.

9. Presentations

None.

10. Correspondence

- 10.1 T. McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks to Chair Challinor (GRCA) and Chair Walsh (LERSPC) regarding approval of the Section 34 amendments to the Grand River Source Protection Plan for the City of Hamilton (June 12, 2025)**
- 10.2 T. McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks to Chair Challinor (GRCA) and Chair Walsh (LERSPC) regarding approval of the Section 34 amendment to the Grand River Source Protection Plan for the County of Brant (July 25, 2025)**
- 10.3 T. McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks to Chair Challinor (GRCA) and Chair Walsh (LERSPC) regarding approval of the Section 34 amendment to the Grand River Source Protection Plan for the City of Brantford (July 25, 2025)**
- 10.4 Conservation Ontario to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing Provincial Planning Branch formal comments on ERO Postings #025-0461, #025-0462 and #025-0463 regarding the Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025 (June 11, 2025)**
- 10.5 Conservation Ontario to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks formal comments on ERO Posting #025-0730, "Proposed changes to provide flexibility for water taking activities" (July 31, 2025)**
- 10.6 T. McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks to Chair Williamson (CSPC) response to letter on Office of the Auditor General of Ontario's special report on Safety of Non-Municipal Drinking Water and Recommendation 15 (June 23, 2025)**
- 10.7 Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks to Chair Hunt (TCCSPR) and Program Manager Taylor (TCCSPR) response to letter regarding concerns about the number of water technician college science program courses (June 12, 2025)**
- 10.8 City of Guelph to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks formal comments on PTTW Applications for Wellington Quarry #0821-BCSLAK and Glen Christy Quarry #1000142989 (July 22, 2025)**

The following discussion was held with respect to Correspondence 10.8:

- The SPC asked MECP to provide a status update on the two applications, referencing a motion passed in January 2025 that supported concerns of the City of Guelph and the County of Wellington. MECP committed to provide a response at a future meeting.
- Pending additional information from MECP, the SPC may consider further action, such as a letter of support to the City of Guelph or a formal SPC response.
- It was clarified that MTE modeling supports only the Glen Christie application. The two applications were submitted separately; City of Guelph provided distinct comments in December 2024 and January 2025 following detailed review. Details are available in the ERO postings or by request from the Ministry. Cumulative impact modeling completed in spring 2025, indicated potential impacts on municipal water supply and housing development if both quarries operate at the proposed water-taking levels.

Res. No. 36-25

Moved By A. Domaratzki

Seconded By G. Schneider

THAT Correspondence from October 30, 2025, be received as information.

Carried

11. Reports

11.1 SPC-25-10-01 Source Protection Program Update

K. Rosebrugh presented the report.

It was clarified that the negotiated approach for prescribed instrument policy wording and annual reporting applies specifically to drinking water threat activities subject to Environmental Compliance Approvals (e.g. waste, sewage).

GRCA confirmed its participation in a coordinated response to the proposed *Clean Water Act, 2006* amendments through Conservation Ontario. Staff will also present a report to the Grand River Source Protection Authority in November to allow for separate comments prior to the December deadline. To submit comments requires Board resolution.

It was clarified that staff review of the changes are favourable with respect to streamlining the Source Protection Plan amendment process and improving approval timelines. The SPC was encouraged to review the ERO postings and provide any additional comments to staff, as needed.

The SPC expressed concern about the limited time available to review and respond to the proposed legislative changes before the consultation deadline, given their significance. There are aspects of the proposal (e.g. changes to prescribed instrument policies) that may not be fully supported.

It was decided that staff, on behalf of the Chair and SPC membership, will submit a letter to the Minister, expressing concern with the ERO consultation timelines and to request extensions for future ERO proposals related to source water protection.

Res. No. 37-25

Moved By J. Sepulis

Seconded By I. Macdonald

THAT the Committee is not pleased with the lack of time to provide comment on EROs that relate to source water protection and, [given] there is an expectation that this occur in the future, that extensions be provided on source water protection ERO postings so comments can be provided.

Carried

Res. No. 38-25

Moved By J. Sepulis

Seconded By A. Dale

THAT report SPC-25-10-01 Source Protection Program Update be received as information.

Carried

11.2 SPC-25-10-02 Section 36 Draft Updated Long Point Region Assessment Report and Source Protection Plan

K. Rosebrugh presented the report.

With respect to removal of the Source Protection Plan map Schedules, it was clarified that readers of the Plan will be directed to the Assessment Report and other appropriate resources (e.g. online Source Water Protection Information Portal) for mapping information.

Res. No. 39-25

Moved By A. Domaratzki

Seconded By L. Dickson

THAT report SPC-25-10-02 Section 36 Draft Updated Long Point Region Assessment Report and Source Protection Plan be received as information.

AND THAT the Lake Erie Region Source Protection Committee release the draft updated Long Point Region Assessment Report and Source Protection Plan for pre-consultation and public consultation.

Carried

12. Business Arising from Previous Meetings

12.1 Local aggregate threat request under Technical Rule 119: Discussion has been referred to the Lake Erie Region IWG for further consideration

12.2 MECP response on implementation of the Auditor General's recommendations concerning non-municipal drinking water systems

The SPC asked if there is potential for advanced release of measures related to Recommendation 15. MECP is still evaluating potential measures for implementation and will consult the public on any proposals with no advance release planned.

The SPC raised concerns about delays and lack of Ministry updates on various items, including aggregate threats and Tier 3 studies (despite completed work) and noting limited public consultation on regulatory postings. The need for timely updates and meaningful engagement with SPCs was emphasized.

Additional recent legislative developments were noted, as examples for why SPCs require more time to review regulatory proposals and to be active participants in consultation:

- Decentralization of water and wastewater systems to support rural growth, which may be tied to Recommendation 15.
- Dissolution of regional public utility ownership and creation of new public utilities

13. Other Business

None.

14. Closed Meeting

None

15. Next SPC Meeting

March 26, 2026, at 1:00 p.m.

16. Adjourn

The Lake Erie Region Source Protection Committee meeting of October 30, 2025, adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

Res. No. 40-25

Moved By A. Domaratzki
Seconded By J. Sepulis

THAT the Lake Erie Source Protection Committee meeting of October 30, 2025,
be adjourned.

Carried

DATE: April 15, 2026
TO: Kettle Creek Source Protection Authority
FROM: Elizabeth VanHooren
SUBJECT: Kettle Creek Annual Progress Report

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the staff report on the Kettle Creek Annual Progress Report be received as information.

That in the opinion of the Kettle Creek Source Protection Authority implementation of the Kettle Creek Source Protection Plan is progressing well and is on target towards achieving plan objectives.

AND THAT the Kettle Creek Source Protection Authority direct Lake Erie Region Source Protection staff to submit the Kettle Creek Annual Progress Report to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks.

SUMMARY:

- The Kettle Creek Source Protection Plan came into effect in 2015 providing a framework of policies to protect existing and future drinking water threats and ensure existing activities never become significant drinking water threats.
- In accordance with Ontario Regulation 287/07 s.52 Kettle Creek Source Protection Authority is required to submit an Annual Progress Report to the Director by May 1 in the year following to which the report applies.
- The Progress Report uses data provided by municipalities, Provincial ministries and other implementing bodies.
- KCSPA Annual Progress Report was reviewed by the Lake Erie Region Source Protection Committee at their March 26, 2026 meeting. In the Committee's opinion the plan is progressing well and is on target to achieve the plan objectives.
- Based on the Source Protection Committee's recommendation, KCSPA is now charged with submitting the Annual Progress Report and Supplemental Form to the Ministry of Environment Conservation and Parks (MECP) by May 1, 2026 with any additional comments it wishes to make.

BACKGROUND:

In accordance with Ontario Regulation 287/07 s.52 Kettle Creek Source Protection Authority is required to submit an Annual Progress Report and Supplemental Form to MECP by May 1 in the year following to which the report applies. The annual reporting requirement consists of two elements: the Annual Progress Report and the Supplemental Form.

Annual Progress Report

Appendix A: contains the 2024 Annual Progress Report for the Kettle Creek Source Protection Area. This is a public-facing document developed by MECP and prepared by Lake Erie Region staff. It provides a summary of progress on implementation of the Plan.

Appendix B: contains the Supplemental Form. This is a tool developed by MECP using a series of questions to collect information from implementing bodies that helps tell the story of the progress made in the Kettle Creek Source Protection Area.

Section II of the Annual Progress Report entitled “A message from your local Source Protection Committee” requires the SPC to provide their opinion on the extent to which progress has been made on Plan implementation in this reporting period. MECP has clarified that the intent is for the SPC to reflect on implementation progress since the Plan came into effect, despite the reference to “in this reporting period”.

The following options are provided to rate progress:

- P: Progressing Well/On Target – The majority of the Plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing.
- S: Satisfactory – Some of the Plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing.
- L: Limited Progress – A few Plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing.

Lake Erie Region Staff reviewed the results submitted by implementing bodies on the Supplement Form and formulated the Annual Progress Report. The two documents were presented at the Lake Erie Source Protection Committee Meeting on March 26, 2026.

It was the recommendation of staff that the plan is progressing well/on target as the majority of the source protection plan polices have been implemented and/or are progressing well.

All legally binding Plan policies that address significant drinking water threats (100 percent) are either implemented, in progress, or have been determined to require no further action.

At the time the Plan came into effect in 2015, two (2) significant drinking water threats were identified in the Kettle Creek Source Protection Area. One of the threats (storage of commercial fertilizer) no longer exists and ceases to be a threat.

At the March 26, 2026 the Lake Erie Source Protection Committee passed the following motion:

THAT report SPC-26-03-03 2025 Annual Progress Report for the Kettle Creek Source Protection Area be received as information;

THAT in the opinion of the Lake Erie Region Source Protection Committee, implementation of the Kettle Creek Source Protection Plan is progressing well and is on target towards achieving plan objectives;

AND THAT the Lake Erie Region Source Protection Committee direct staff to present the 2025 Annual Progress Report to the Source Protection Authority for submission.

With the Kettle Creek Source Protection Authority’s approval staff will now forward the Annual Report and Supplemental Form to the Province in advance of the May 1, 2026 deadline.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the staff report on the Kettle Creek Annual Progress Report be received as information.

That in the opinion of the Kettle Creek Source Protection Authority implementation of the Kettle Creek Source Protection Plan is progressing well and is on target towards achieving plan objectives.

AND THAT the Kettle Creek Source Protection Authority direct Lake Erie Region Source Protection staff to submit the Kettle Creek Annual Progress Report to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks.

March 27, 2026

Todd Noble
Chair, Kettle Creek Source Protection Authority
44015 Ferguson Line
St. Thomas ON, N5P 3T3

Dear Chair Noble,

RE: Annual Progress Reporting

The Kettle Creek Source Protection Plan (the Plan) has been in effect since 2015 with the primary objective to protect current and future sources of drinking water from contamination and overuse.

In accordance with Section 52 of Ontario Regulation 287/07, the Kettle Creek Source Protection Authority (SPA) is required to submit an Annual Progress Report on implementation of the Plan to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) by May 1st of each year.

This report is comprised of the Kettle Creek **Annual Progress Report** and the **Supplemental Form** and reflects implementation efforts from January 1 to December 31, 2025. The Annual Progress Report is a public-facing document that is provided as **Appendix A**. The Supplemental Form is not posted publicly, but is provided separately as supplemental information for the Authority's consideration.

On March 26, 2026 the Lake Erie Region Source Protection Committee (SPC) passed the following resolution:

THAT in the opinion of the Lake Erie Region Source Protection Committee, implementation of the Kettle Creek Source Protection Plan is progressing well and is on target towards achieving the plan objectives;

AND THAT the Lake Erie Region Source Protection Committee direct staff to present the 2025 Annual Progress Report to the Source Protection Authority for submission.

As such, this letter serves as notice of submission of the 2025 Annual Progress Report and Supplemental Form to the Kettle Creek SPA, as per the annual reporting administrative protocol adopted by the Lake Erie Region Management Committee (Report No. 17-01-03).

Achievement of Source Protection Plan Objectives:

Each year, the SPC considers information provided by policy implementors and rates the extent to which Plan objectives are being achieved. A key component to the SPC's approach is that the overall rating for meeting Plan objectives is determined by the percentage of policies that are implemented or in-progress.

It is the opinion of the SPC that implementation of the Plan is progressing well and is on target towards achieving Plan objectives. As of December 31, 2025, 100% of legally binding Plan policies that address significant drinking water threats are either implemented or in-progress for the Kettle Creek Source Protection Area.

The Kettle Creek SPA is now tasked with considering the Annual Progress Report and submitting it to MECP, along with any comments the SPA wishes to make.

If you have any questions regarding this letter or the Kettle Creek Annual Progress Report and Supplemental Form, please contact Kaitlyn Rosebrugh 519-621-2763 ext. 2318 or krosebrugh@grandriver.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steve Walsh', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Steve Walsh
Chair, Lake Erie Region Source Protection Committee

c.c. Elizabeth VanHooren, General Manager, Kettle Creek Conservation Authority

Appendix A

2025 Annual Progress Report – Kettle Creek Source Protection Area

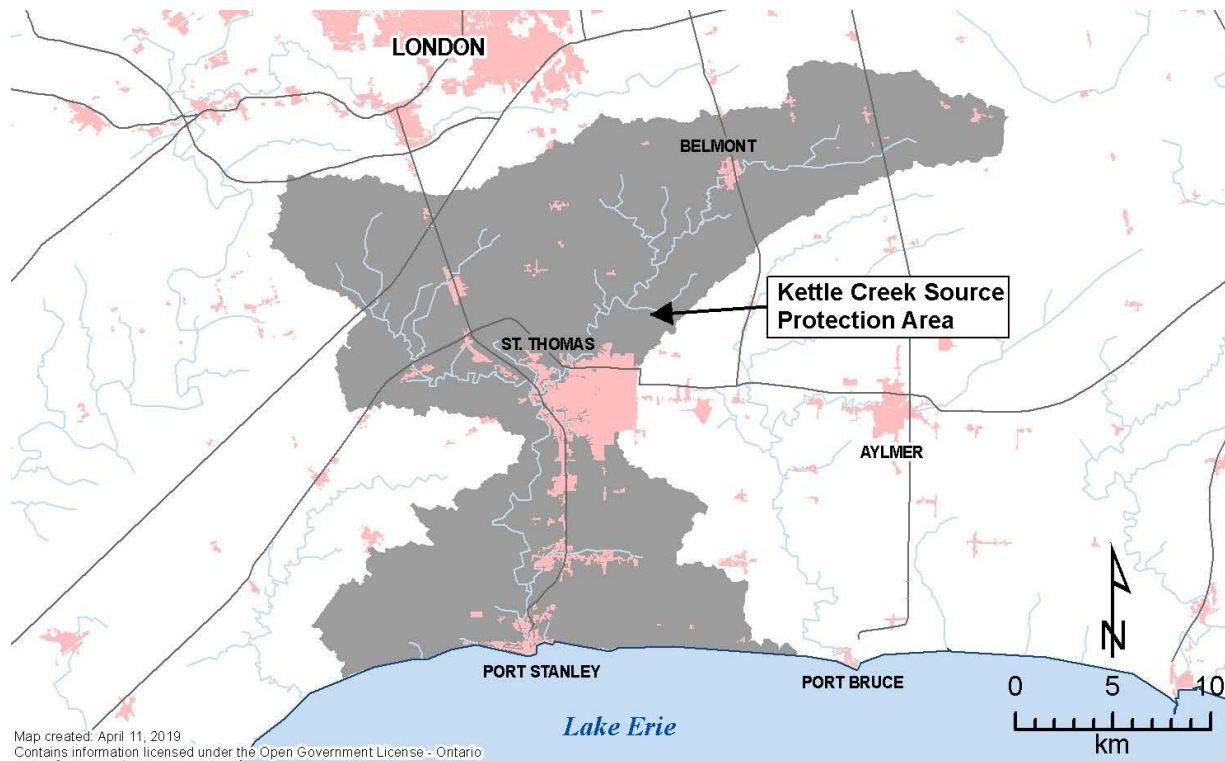
Kettle Creek Source Protection Area Annual Progress Report 2025

I. Introduction

This annual progress report outlines the progress made in implementing our Source Protection Plan for the Kettle Creek Source Protection Area, as required by the *Clean Water Act, 2006* and regulations.

The Source Protection Plan (the Plan) is the culmination of extensive science-based assessment, research, consultation, and collaboration with local stakeholders and the provincial government. When policies in the Plan are implemented, it ensures that activities carried out near municipal wells and surface water intakes will not pose significant risk to the sources of our drinking water.

We acknowledge and recognize the efforts made by our local municipalities, stakeholders, and Source Protection Committee in the development and implementation of the Plan.



Map 1 Kettle Creek Source Protection Area

II. A message from your local Source Protection Committee

P: Progressing Well / On Target – The majority of the Plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing.

Each year, the Source Protection Committee considers information provided by policy implementors and rates the extent to which Source Protection Plan objectives are being achieved. A key component to the Committee’s approach is that the overall rating for meeting Plan objectives is determined by the percentage of policies that are implemented or in-progress.

As of December 31, 2025, **100%** of legally binding Plan policies that address significant drinking water threats are either implemented or in-progress for the Kettle Creek Source Protection Area.

III. Our Watershed

The Kettle Creek Source Protection Area (watershed) includes Kettle Creek and its tributaries. The main branch of Kettle Creek originates at Lake Whittaker, an 11 hectare spring-fed kettle lake. The watershed is comprised of three subwatersheds: Dodd Creek, Upper Kettle Creek, and Lower Kettle Creek. These watercourses drain 520 square kilometres of agricultural and urban lands before entering Lake Erie at Port Stanley.

The Kettle Creek Source Protection Area includes the City of St. Thomas, the southern portions of Middlesex County (Township of Thames Centre and Townships of Middlesex Centre) and the City of London, and the central portion of Elgin County (Township of Southwold, Township of Malahide and Municipality of Central Elgin).

The watershed has two municipal drinking water systems: two wells in Belmont and the Elgin Area Primary Water Supply System in Port Stanley.

IV. At a Glance: Progress on Source Protection Plan Implementation

1. Source Protection Plan Policies and Addressing Significant Risks

P: Progressing Well / On Target

All legally binding Plan policies that address significant drinking water threats (100%) are implemented or in progress.

2. Municipal Progress: Addressing Risks on the Ground

P: Progressing Well / On Target

Three municipalities in the Kettle Creek Source Protection Area have vulnerable areas where significant drinking water threat policies apply: Township of Malahide, Municipality of Thames Centre, and Municipality of Central Elgin. Planning departments and building officials are screening applications for locations within vulnerable areas where threats to drinking water sources are possible and Plan policies may apply.

These municipalities are also required to review and update their Official Plan to ensure it conforms with the Source Protection Plan the next time they undertake an Official Plan review under the *Planning Act, 1990*. All three municipalities have confirmed that their Official Plans conform to the Source Protection Plan.

No further updates to Official Plans were required to conform to the Section 36 update to the Kettle Creek Source Protection Plan approved in 2024.

3. Septic Inspections

Not applicable to the Kettle Creek Source Protection Area. There are no on-site sewage systems requiring inspection.

4. Risk Management Plans

P: Progressing Well / On Target

There is one Risk Management Plan required within the Kettle Creek Source Protection Area for the handling and storage of fuel at the Elgin Area Primary Water Supply Treatment Plant (as required by policy PS-CW-7.1). Best management practices and risk management measures (e.g. a spills response plan) have been in place since the policy was adopted; however, administration of the formal Risk Management Plan agreement is yet to be completed.

No inspections were carried out or planned by a Risk Management Official or Inspector for prohibited or regulated activities in the 2025 annual reporting period.

5. Provincial Progress: Addressing Risks on the Ground

P: Progressing Well / On Target

There are no existing significant drinking water threats that require provincial approvals in the Kettle Creek Source Protection Area. Ontario ministries review applications for new provincial approvals (e.g. Environmental Compliance Approvals issued under the Environmental Protection Act) where they have been

identified as a tool in our Plan to address activities that pose a significant risk to source water.

The Province has established Standard Operating Policies to ensure that approvals take into account the science generated through the Drinking Water Source Protection Program and policies in the Source Protection Plan. Provincial approvals are issued, denied, amended, or revoked to conform to Plan policies. Where necessary, conditions are added to approvals to ensure that the activity does not pose a significant threat to sources of drinking water.

In 2025, there were no new prescribed instrument applications that required a detailed review for source protection in the Kettle Creek Source Protection Area.

6. Source Protection Awareness and Change in Behaviour

There have been no measurable or quantifiable outcomes reported for the 2025 annual reporting period.

7. Source Protection Plan Policies: Summary of Delays

Not applicable to the Kettle Creek Source Protection Area.

8. Source Water Quality: Monitoring and Actions

No issues have been identified in the local science-based assessment report regarding the quality of the sources of municipal drinking water in the Kettle Creek Source Protection Area.

9. Science-based Assessment Reports: Work Plans

No work plans were required to be implemented for the Kettle Creek Assessment Report for the 2025 annual reporting period.

10. More from the Watershed

To learn more about the Kettle Creek Source Protection Area, visit the [Lake Erie Source Protection website](#).