

News Release

PROTECTING OTTAWA'S DRINKING WATER

RIDEAU VALLEY, March 11, 2010 — When you turn on your tap in urban Ottawa, out comes good quality municipal drinking water. Did you know this water comes from the Ottawa River? Water from the Ottawa River is treated, tested and piped out to local homes and businesses. A new study aims to keep Ottawa's drinking water even safer by reducing potential sources of pollution upstream of the City's Water Purification Plant intakes.

Two open houses are fast approaching to talk about this new study. Attend and find out:

- Where Ottawa's municipal drinking water is taken from within the river;
- What areas of the City convey stormwater and natural drainage into the Ottawa River upstream of the water purification plant intakes;
- What types of land uses could pose a contamination threat to Ottawa's source of drinking water; and
- What types of land use policies could be enforced to minimize these threats.

March 22 — Tom Brown Arena, 141 Bayview Rd, Ottawa (south of Wellington), 4pm to 8pm, Presentation at 6:30pm

March 31 — Ron Kolbus Lakeside Centre, 102 Greenview Ave, Britannia Park, Ottawa (north of Carling and Pinecrest), 4pm to 8pm Presentation at 6:30pm

These open houses are being co-hosted by the City of Ottawa and the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Region. Our goal is to share new study findings with local residents and gather their feedback. Study findings are also posted on our web site at www.mrsourcewater.ca and your written comments would be appreciated by April 16, 2010.

This study was completed under Ontario's *Clean Water Act*. It shows us where extra care needs to be taken to protect local municipal drinking water sources. The findings will be used by the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee, in collaboration with the City of Ottawa, to draft land use policies by 2012 to address potential threats.

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More information:

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