

**SOUTHEAST CONNECTICUT REGIONAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY  
MANAGEMENT PLAN – GROTON, LEDYARD, MONTVILLE, NORTH STONINGTON,  
NORWICH, PRESTON, AND WATERFORD**

*Progress Memorandum  
May 1, 2008*

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**Introduction**

This memorandum summarizes the work conducted on the Southeast Connecticut Regional Drinking Water Quality Management Plan during the month of April 2008. This is the third progress memorandum per the project work scope.

**Task 1 – Data Collection and Analysis**

Data collection and analysis is progressing, and substantial progress was made in March and April:

- Local data, planning documents, and regulations have been gathered in all member towns. A synopsis of this information will be presented at the May 15, 2008 Advisory Committee meeting.
- The past several years of watershed water quality monitoring data have been reviewed and analyzed. These will be evaluated in the context of water quality criteria as well as the body of studies and documentation relative to the effects of land uses and activities on water quality.
- Physical watershed characteristics were mapped and a conceptual model of the actively-used watersheds was presented at the April 17, 2008 Advisory Committee meeting. A similar analysis is underway for the future designated watersheds and will be presented at the May 15, 2008 Advisory Committee meeting.

**Task 2 – Meetings and Interviews**

The following tasks are underway or have been completed to date:

**Communications Protocol**

- A memorandum was developed by Milone & MacBroom, Inc. and was presented at the April 17, 2008 Advisory Committee meeting. Based on the feedback received, the memorandum has been revised and will be redistributed in its final form at the May 15, 2008 meeting.

Internal Meetings, Communications, and Organizational Tasks

- Monthly Advisory Committee and Administration Group meetings were held on April 17, 2008 at Groton Utilities. Separate meeting minutes have been prepared. The next meeting is scheduled for May 15, 2008.
- The Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation (MPTN) was identified as a desired Advisory Committee stakeholder during the March 20, 2008 meeting. MPTN representatives were present on April 17, 2008 and were appointed to the Administrative Group and Advisory Committee.
- The Administration Group consists of the following individuals. All member communities were represented at the April meetings except for the Town of Waterford:

<i>Municipality</i>	<i>Primary Representative</i>	<i>Alternate Representative</i>
City of Groton	Al Dion	Rick Stevens
Town of Groton	Mike Murphy	Deborah Jones
Town of Ledyard	Fred Allyn	Mike Cherry
Town of Montville	Marcia Vlaun	Open
Town of North Stonington	Nick Mullane	Open
City of Norwich	Mike Schaefer	John Bilda
Town of Preston	Bob Congdon	Kathy Warzecha
Town of Waterford	Tom Wagner	Neftali Soto
Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation	Robert Birmingham	Ken Greenwood
State and Federal Agencies	Jennifer Pagach	Lori Mathieu

- Mr. William Sweeny, AICP of TCOR and Attorney Bates from Robinson & Cole had previously agreed to serve as Advisory Committee members and both attended the April 17, 2008 meeting.
- Deborah Donovan of the South Eastern Connecticut Enterprise Region (seCTer) has agreed to join the Advisory Committee to represent the business community.
- At present, the Advisory Committee consists of the following individuals (in addition to the Administrative Group members):

<i>Stakeholder Group</i>	<i>Primary Representatives</i>	<i>Alternate Representative</i>
Water Utilities	Greg Leonard	Edward Monahan
Regional Planning	Tom Seidel	Juliet Leeming
Health Districts	Ryan McCammon	Amy Eberly
Open Space/Conservation	Margaret Miner	Sidney VanZandt
Environmental Groups	Zell Steever	Open
Developers/Land Owners	Peter Gardner	Clint Brown
Attorneys / Consultants	Bill Sweeny	Timothy Bates
Business Community	Deborah Donovan	Open

### Interviews with Other Parties

→ Stakeholder representatives have been contacted as outlined below. The majority of those individuals contacted did not respond within the month of April, and follow-up contact will be necessary in the month of May.

<i>Organization</i>	<i>Contact</i>	<i>Status</i>
Ledge Light Health District	Ryan McCammon	Interviewed
Preston Health Department	Al Goesling	Interviewed
North Stonington Health Department	Wayne Green	Message not yet returned
The Nature Conservancy	Sally Harold	Message not yet returned
Audubon Connecticut	Sandy Breslin	Message not yet returned
Trust for Public Land	Lisa Bassani	Awaiting date and time
USDA NRCS	Seth Lerman	Interviewed

- Ryan McCammon and Stephen Mansfield of Ledge Light Health District were interviewed on April 10, 2008. Major topics included the need to provide for consistency of regulations among watershed towns; providing for increased public access to watershed lands for recreation; and the need for accurate and accessible watershed mapping to result from the DWQMP project. Ledge Light is not able to develop uniform statements about wastewater disposal systems in the watershed towns. The Public Health Code (PHC) guides the process of approving individual wastewater disposal systems. Ledge Light will not regulate contrary to the PHC.
- Al Goesling of the Preston Health Department was interviewed on April 23, 2008. As with Ledge Light, the Public Health Code guides the process of approving wastewater disposal systems, and the Town of Preston is not comfortable being more restrictive than the PHC. Septic system problems are reportedly rare in Preston, with the exception of some in the Happyland section of town that are not within the existing or future water supply watersheds. The Preston Health Department will be available as needed.
- Seth Lerman of NRCS was interviewed on April 23, 2008. Major topics included the prevalence of "niche farms" specializing in horse riding, wine (vineyards), garlic, cheese, and the like; the need to reach out to the agricultural community for its potential involvement in the DWQMP; the possibility of recommending the Land Use Leadership Alliance (LULA) training to DWQMP participants; and the utility of the Eightmile River Watershed work conducted by The Nature Conservancy relative to the DWQMP. Mr. Lerman provided a number of potential contacts to help with outreach, including the Farm Bureau, the Connecticut Department of Agriculture, and the Eastern Connecticut Conservation District in Norwich.
- Additional parties may be identified to interview as part of the DWQMP process.

### **Task 3 – Management Strategies**

Work has begun on a number of fronts relative to assessment of management strategies, as follows:

- Research and Analysis of Low Impact Development – Work has begun relative to evaluation of low impact development in the watershed communities. An April 1, 2008 memorandum was distributed at the April 17, 2008 Advisory Committee as a follow-up to the initial presentation by Milone & MacBroom, Inc. in March. The regulation review evaluation (see below) will also be linked to this topic.
- Map and Ordinance Evaluations – MMI is currently evaluating zoning regulation allowances and exemptions, subdivision regulations, and inland wetland regulations as they relate to water quality management. The initial results of this review will be presented at the May 15, 2008 Advisory Committee meeting.
- Water Treatment Plant Upgrades – MMI has begun to evaluate treatment technologies as they relate to the existing surface water filtration plant and planned upgrades. The initial results will be presented at the May 15, 2008 meeting.

Evaluation of these and other management strategies will be ongoing over the next several months.

### **Task 4 – Reports and Deliverable**

Web host and design proposals were reviewed by Milone & MacBroom, Inc. and Marc Cohen of Atlantic States Water & Wastewater Association. A recommendation has been forwarded to Rick Stevens of Groton Utilities for retention of the services of a provider for development of a web site dedicated to the DWQMP.

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