



## MEETING AGENDA

# Groton Utilities Watershed Source Protection Plan Stakeholders Meeting

Thursday, June 22, 2006  
11:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.

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- 11:00 Welcome, News, Update and Schedule: Al Dion / Lori Mathieu
- 11:05 Drinking Water Quality Management Plan: Dr. Chi Ho Sham
- Ground Rules (handout)- 5 minutes
  - Core Elements of Plan – Action Items/Outputs/tools
- 12:15 Lunch
- 12:30 Discussion – Stakeholders Elements for the DWQMP by Dr. Chi Ho Sham
- 1:00 Next Meeting

**Meeting Location**  
**Preston Public Library**  
**389 / Route 2**  
**Preston, CT 06365**

## Drinking Water Quality Management Plan – Actions toward Implementation

**Vision** – To achieve long-term preservation of safe and sustainable drinking water supplies through proactive, watershed protection in Connecticut

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**Mission** – The primary mission of the Drinking Water Quality Management Plan is twofold: (1) to develop innovative and comprehensive approaches to protect the purity of drinking water through land management, and (2) to strengthen and expand partnerships to balance the needs for economic development and public health protection. Develop plan established through the will of the individual communities.

### Goals

- Preserve Drinking Water Quality and Protect Public Health
- Proactively Protect Critical Watershed Areas Through Partnership Land Management
- Develop Partnership for Watershed Protection
- Implement an Open and Efficient Planning Process
- Effectively Inform and Involve Stakeholders and Citizens
- Develop a Model Plan for the State

### Goal – Preserve Drinking Water Quality and Protect Public Health

- Objectives Develop and maintain baseline water quality data
- Establish current status and baseline conditions for drinking water quality
- Identify areas that contribute to the degradation of drinking water quality
- Assess impacts from permitted facilities and activities on drinking water quality

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### Goal – Proactively Protect Critical Watershed Areas through Land Management

#### Objectives

- Identify areas that are critical to the preservation of drinking water quality
- Evaluate and recommend effectively methods for protecting these critical areas
- Develop useable tools for land use decision makers to evaluate protective approaches

### Goal – Develop Partnership for Watershed Protection

#### Objectives

- Identify areas for higher density development and establishing agreements to facilitate effective protection of drinking water quality (e.g., transfer of development right and development of cost-effective and protective infrastructure for water and sewer)
- Promote the use of low impact development techniques for new developments (e.g., through the development of agreements and local ordinance)
- Develop tools and programs to reduce contamination threats (e.g., using pollutant trading incentive and “outside” funding)

- [Develop standards of basic enforcement ordinances](#)
- [Work with developments when appropriate to develop innovative treatment techniques](#)
- [Evaluate stormwater utility management](#)

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### **Goal – Implement an Open and Efficient Planning Process**

#### **Objectives**

- Use a responsible and open practices to keep the planning process transparent and equitable
- Implement a high quality standard for efficient plan development and fiscal accountability
- Be responsive to emerging issues and established priorities

### **Goal – Effectively Inform and Involve Stakeholders and Citizens**

#### **Objectives**

- Involved citizens and stakeholders as critical partner in public forums to achieve the vision, mission, and goals
- Provide analyses and implications of the Drinking Water Quality Management Plan
- Offer easy access to information about the Drinking Water Quality Management Plan and citizens' role in protecting drinking water quality
- [Develop a plan for public education](#)

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### **Goal – Develop a Model Plan for the State**

#### **Objectives**

- Identify and articulate a process for other parts of the State to develop their Drinking Water Quality Management Plans
- Create a long-term vision for developing and implementing a holistic approach for the development of Drinking Water Quality Management Plans to protect and preserve drinking water quality (i.e., using science and common sense focusing on minimizing and eliminating risk to public health)
- Provide an atmosphere or culture of using trust, teamwork, collaboration, and equity to achieve results
- Encourage innovation and continuous improvement to the implementation of Drinking Water Quality Management Plans
- [Provide opportunities to ensure the DWQMP is maintained as a living document](#)

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## SOURCE WATER PROTECTION PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES

### Re: Drinking Water Quality Management Plan

A Source Water Protection Meeting for the establishment of a Drinking Water Quality Management Plan was held at the Preston Veteran's Elementary School on June 22, 2006 at 11:00am.

- Present were:
  - Lori Mathieu DPH
  - Jennifer Pagach DPH
  - Jayne Smalls DPH
  - Chi Ho Sham The Cadmus Group
  - Jeff Butensky US EPA New England
  - Al Dion Groton Utilities
  - Rick Stevens Groton Utilities
  - Karl Acimovic Consultant, Groton Utilities
  - Ron Bata Groton Utilities
  - Michael Schaefer City of Norwich
  - Gregory Leonard SCWA
  - Marcia Vlaun Town of Montville
  - Brian Palaia Town of Ledyard
  - Deborah Jones Town of Groton
  - Terri Schnoor DEP
  - Zell Steever Ecologist
  - Tom Wagner Town of Waterford
  - Kathy Warzecha Town of Preston

Items of discussion:

Opening comments: (Dion)

- Opened the meeting by thanking everyone for attending the meeting.
- Karl Acimovic is working on a white paper that will give the history and details of the DWQMP.
- Recognized Greg Leonard for providing the Ground Rules established for the committee.
- Recognized Kathy Warzecha for the meeting location and support by Town of Preston.

Website comments: (Stevens)

- Brief description of the website being established and its links with the state website. Informed all there would be a link with a specific SWP Logo for icon sending the viewer to the DWQMP URL. (Stevens)
  - On the website there are plans for the following items:

- DWQMP History
- Funding
- Meeting Minutes
- Power Point Presentations
  - GU
  - DPH
  - COG
- Glossary of Terms
- URLs for each Stakeholder
- Each Town Logo
- White Papers or other information the Committee deems necessary for website information
- More items to follow
  - Discussion of the What's New information (Mathieu)
  - Recognized EPA for the SWP Logo (Mathieu)
- The website should include a link to the Saugatuck Watershed, since they are working on a similar model plan. (Mathieu)
- The website will be functioning with a brief presentation at the next meeting, July 20, 2006. (Stevens)

DPH Timeline Sheet (Attached): [\(Get Timeline document from Lori\)](#)

- Description of Timeline Information (Mathieu)
  - 2003 – 2010 Timeline
  - Blue is completed items
  - Red is items yet to be completed

Future Meeting Goal comments: (Mathieu)

- Next two (2) meetings will be working out the scope of the program
- Working with the Committee on Consultant Selection including:
  - RFP / RFQ Process
- Committee breakdown into groups
- The plan is for Consultant selection at the first of the year 2007

Ground Rules Discussion: (Sham)

- Have respect for one another's ideas
- Practice brevity
- Listen to one another
- Identify when you speak for yourself versus your interest group
- Stay focused on the future, versus dwelling on the past
- Have commitment to the process
- Have patience in the process
- Come prepared to meetings – complete tasks assigned

- Maintain our sense of humor
- Maintain a positive attitude
- Be open-minded
- Challenge ideas – not people

Mission comments: (Sham)

- The primary mission of the Drinking Water Quality Management Plan is two fold:
  - 1) to develop innovative and comprehensive approaches to protect the purity of drinking water through land and water management;
  - and
  - 2) to strengthen and expand partnerships to balance the needs for economic development and public health protection. Develop plan established through the will of the individual communities.

Vision comments: (Sham)

- To achieve long-term preservation of safe and sustainable drinking water supplies through proactive watershed protection in Connecticut.

Goal and Objective comments: (Sham)

- Goals
  - 1) Preserve Drinking Water Quality and Protect Public Health
  - 2) Proactively Protect Critical Watershed Areas Through Partnership Land Management
  - 3) Develop Partnership for Watershed Protection
  - 4) Implement an Open and Efficient Planning Process
  - 5) Effectively Inform and Involve Stakeholders and Citizens
  - 6) Develop a Model Plan for the State
- Goal (1) – Preserve Drinking Water Quality and Protect Public Health
  - Objectives
    - a) Develop and maintain baseline source water quality data
    - b) Establish current status and baseline conditions for drinking water quality
    - c) Identify areas that contribute to the degradation of drinking water quality
    - d) Assess impacts from permitted facilities and activities on drinking water quality

- Goal (2) – Proactively Protect Critical Watershed Areas through Land Management
  - Objectives
    - a) Identify areas that are critical to the preservation of drinking water quality
    - b) Evaluate and recommend effectively methods for protecting these critical areas
    - c) Develop useable tools for land use decision makers to evaluate protective approaches
  
- Goal (3) – Develop Partnership for Watershed Protection
  - Objectives
    - a) Identify areas for higher density development and establishing agreements to facilitate effective protection of drinking water quality (e.g., transfer of development right and development of cost-effective and protective infrastructure for water and sewer)
    - b) Promote the use of low impact development techniques for new developments (e.g., through the development of agreements and local ordinance)
    - c) Develop tools and programs to reduce contamination threats (e.g., using pollutant trading incentive and “outside” funding)
    - d) Develop standards of basic enforcement ordinances
    - e) Work with developments when appropriate to develop innovative treatment techniques
    - f) Evaluate stormwater utility management
  
- Goal (4) – Implement an Open and Efficient Planning Process
  - Objectives
    - a) Use a responsible and open practices to keep the planning process transparent and equitable
    - b) Implement a high quality standard for efficient plan development and fiscal accountability
    - c) Be responsive to emerging issues and established priorities
  
- Goal (5) – Effectively Inform and Involve Stakeholders and Citizens
  - Objectives
    - a) Involved citizens and stakeholders as critical partner in public forums to achieve the vision, mission, and goals
    - b) Provide analyses and implications of the Drinking Water Quality Management Plan
    - c) Offer easy access to information about the Drinking Water Quality Management Plan and citizens’ role in protecting drinking water quality
    - d) Develop a plan for public education

- Goal (6) – Develop a Model Plan for the State
  - Objectives
    - a) Identify and articulate a process for other parts of the State to develop their Drinking Water Quality Management Plans
    - b) Create a long-term vision for developing and implementing a holistic approach for the development of Drinking Water Quality Management Plans to protect and preserve drinking water quality (i.e., using science and common sense focusing on minimizing and eliminating risk to public health)
    - c) Provide an atmosphere or culture of using trust, teamwork, collaboration, and equity to achieve results
    - d) Encourage innovation and continuous improvement to the implementation of Drinking Water Quality Management Plans
    - e) Provide opportunities to ensure the DWQMP is maintained as a living document

Goal (1) discussion:

- Needs to comment on water quantity. (Steever)
- Plan's primary goal is land management and land development. (Mathieu)
- Place water quantity issue on the Parking Lot listing. (Sham)
- Explanation of Watershed Protection now and for the future. **(Ask Lori to add content to her explanation).**

Goal (2) discussion:

- A good example of Goal (2) in action is Ledyard's recent action in Zoning and Planning regarding use in new developments. (Stevens)
- Need to continue thinking outside the box to change existing State or local regulations that no longer apply to existing and new developments (e.g., the sewer avoidance issue). (Mathieu)

Goal (3) discussion:

- Water / Storm Sewer Isolation process. (Vlaun)
  - Suggested the concept of "quick disconnects", in which storm drainage systems would be organized in such a way that – if a problem occurred (i.e., a major spill of hazardous material) – the effluent could be cut off from discharge into the reservoir system and rerouted to a detention / treatment facility. This concept would presuppose a series of pre-identified connection points and stormwater collection treatment points. If this were developed into an area-wide system, it would eliminate unknowns for developers up front.
- Place Isolation Process issue on the Parking Lot listing. (Sham)

- This process is a great example of Community Will. (Dion)

Goal (4) discussion:

- The need to Identify Obstacles. (Steever)
- Place Identify Obstacles issue on the Parking Lot listing. (Sham)

Goal (5) discussion:

- Implication that government, state and local agencies all work together which is not always the case. (Steever)
- Place governing agencies issue on the Parking Lot listing. (Sham)

Goal (6) discussion:

- Clarification of funding. (Butensky) **(Ask Lori to add content to her discussion with Jeff on funding or perhaps EPA grant).**
- There may be a difference between Working Model and what Groton Utilities needs for Watershed. (Steever)
- Wording should be to develop a Groton Utilities Plan vice a Model Plan for the State, which Groton Utilities Plan could later be used as a template for other watersheds within the state to use as a baseline. (Mathieu)
- In the Model Plan for the State, we need to also discuss conflict resolution that may potentially arise between governmental agencies and stakeholders. (Steever)
- The model plan should include watershed restoration for those watersheds that are already degraded – note that this does not yet apply to the Groton watershed. (Steever)

All Goals Discussion Point:

- Suggested that in the goals and objectives we should consider encouraging economic development and the preservation of individual rights with respect to land use. (Palaia)

Parking Lot Items:

- The DWQMP Committee should consider working on the issue of sewer avoidance, particularly where it does not make sense and where installation of sewers would be a better alternative to the installation of individual septic systems. Lori agreed that this was an important issue that will perhaps be modified as a result of the development of this DWQMP. (Wagner)
- Issues with how to address the current “regressive” policies toward utility development /expansion.
- Water quantity, meeting current & future state regulations (diversions, etc)

- WQ as qualitative & quantitative
- Make sure you define areas/activities that should be controlled
- Treatment & high density development designed together with disconnect for protection
- HACCP type prevention, issue of piecemeal SW & planning/development
- Economic development – better projects if calculations done up front.
- Regionalization, DEP involvement
- ID obstacles
- Issues w/ government agencies working together

Next meeting: (Dion)

Location: Groton Utilities Julio H. Leandri Operations Complex

Date: July 20, 2006

Time: 11:00am – 1:00pm

Outstanding Action Items from May 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting:

- Each community is to provide to Jennifer a Stakeholder Listing.

Action Items:

- Goals and Objectives will be sent out in two files.
  - 1) As written during the meeting.
  - 2) With the Parking Lot Items incorporated.

Meeting adjourned.

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Goal and Objective comments: (Sham)

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  - Objectives
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    - d) Develop standards of basic enforcement ordinances
    - e) Work with developments, when appropriate to develop innovative treatment techniques
    - f) Evaluate stormwater utility management (include feasibility)
  
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  - Objectives
    - a) Use a responsible and open practice to keep the planning process transparent and equitable
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Goal (6) – Develop plan for Groton Utilities Water Shed

- Objectives
  - a) Identify and articulate a process for other parts of the State to develop their Drinking Water Quality Management Plans
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  - e) Provide opportunities to ensure the DWQMP is maintained as a living document

Goal (7) – Develop a Model Plan for the State

- Objectives
  - f) Identify and articulate a process for other parts of the State to develop their Drinking Water Quality Management Plans
  - g) Create a long-term vision for developing and implementing a holistic approach for the development of Drinking Water Quality Management Plans to protect and preserve drinking water quality (i.e., using science and common sense, focusing on minimizing and eliminating risk to public health)
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