

# Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Program

## Protect our water. Get funding to upgrade or close your well.

Do you have an old or abandoned well on your property? Do you live near a municipal well or intake? If yes, you can now get funding to upgrade or cap your well. The Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Program will cover up to 80 per cent of the cost of an eligible project, to a maximum of \$4000.

### Why are old or abandoned wells a problem?

Wells that are abandoned, damaged, or poorly maintained can be a pathway for contaminants to enter municipal groundwater supplies. Properly upgrading or closing your well will benefit you and protect your municipality's drinking water.

### What should I do about my well?

- ensure your well is inspected regularly by a licensed professional
- repair any damages to your well
- properly seal off wells that are no longer being used
- properly maintain any wells that you are using

### Am I eligible for funding?

Yes, if your property is within or extends into the following eligible areas:

- 100-metre radius of a municipal wellhead
- 200-metre radius of a surface water intake
- the two-year time-of-travel around a municipal wellhead, approved by the local municipality or
- the intake protection zone-one (IPZ-1) around a surface water intake, approved by the local municipality

### What projects are funded?

- sealing and capping old water wells
- upgrading and maintenance of water wells that are in use

- connecting to a municipal drinking water service line/trunk line and decommissioning the existing well

**Note:** These projects must be carried out by a well technician or well contractor licensed under the Ontario Water Resources Act.

### What costs can I recover?

- required permits and approvals for any eligible project
- purchased materials and supplies
- contract labour
- professional fees and technical support
- fees for related design, inspection and construction

### How can I apply for this funding and learn more?

If you are a farmer, you can receive up to 100 per cent of the cost of these activities through the Canada-Ontario Environmental Farm Plan Program and the Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Program. Details about the program and how to apply from the Ontario Soil Crop Improvement Association is available at:

[http://www.ontariosoilcrop.org/cms/en/Programs/Source\\_Protection.aspx?menuid=76](http://www.ontariosoilcrop.org/cms/en/Programs/Source_Protection.aspx?menuid=76)

All other property owners can learn more and apply for funding by contacting their local conservation authority at:

[http://conservation-ontario.on.ca/source\\_protection/CWAFundEarlyActions.htm](http://conservation-ontario.on.ca/source_protection/CWAFundEarlyActions.htm)

You can learn more about the Clean Water Act at [www.ontario.ca/cleanwater](http://www.ontario.ca/cleanwater)

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