

Meeting Notes
Greater Sudbury Watershed Alliance
Private Drinking Water Protection Committee
16 April 2015, 1:00 to 3:00 pm
Living with Lakes Centre

Present: Lesley Flowers, Lilly Noble, Richard Witham, Margaret McLaughlin, Linda Heron
Regrets: David Young, Lin Gibson, Judy Sewell, Melanie Venne

1. **Review of 24 March 2015 Meeting Notes**
 - Meeting Notes approved as written
2. **Feedback on Meeting with CAs - Re: Huron County Model – Lin**
 - Deferred – Lin to report to the Committee
3. **Contractor Pump-out Licencing Agreements – Lin**
 - Deferred – Lin to report to the Committee
4. **Pump-out Contractor Protocol – Margaret**
 - Judy provided Margaret with an Inspection Report from the Ontario Stewardship Program
 - Very detailed – would take considerable time to complete

Action: Margaret to ask Judy who completed the inspection form – marked as Northern Sanitation.

 - Contractor can do a quick visual inspection, but no detailed or complicated form
 - Could refer customer to a septic installer
 - Could recommend customer to the Stewardship Grant Program
 - SDHU charges \$175 for a septic inspection
 - Customer could order SDHU inspection, pay fee, and then make claim to Stewardship Grant Program
5. **Bio-solids Plant – Margaret**
 - Bio-solids Plant is in its final testing and commissioning phase
 - Should be up and running by end of April or beginning of May
 - Service fees – 1,000 cubic litres @ \$150 – 1,500 cubic litres @ \$220
 - Herbies sent out a flyer to their customers to inform of upcoming changes
6. **Digital Version of Septic System Map – Richard**
 - Talked to Krista – suggested contacting Mark Simeoni
 - Left email and telephone messages, but no response yet

Action: Richard to send another email explaining why the map would be helpful to our Committee and copy Linda on it.
7. **SDHU Clarification and Verification – Linda**
 - Scope of work is a key consideration
 - Limiting scope and participation is more doable for SDHU
 - Larger tank and/or bed replacements would narrow the focus
 - Limiting systems within 100m rather than 200m would reduce the scope
 - Can't estimate at this point what their involvement would cost
 - Make a proposal and SDHU will work out what resources they would require

8. Focus of Survey

- Committee worked on the draft survey
- Survey should be posted for the month of May

Action: Lilly to check with Sherri Maroso to see if survey link could be posted or emailed to City contacts.

Action: Linda will circulate the changes to the survey for further input.

Action: Lilly will prepare the survey online once it is finalized.

- Survey link will go out to GSWA members with a request to circulate to their membership
- Send it out to the CAN

Action: Linda will prepare a Press Release to inform and encourage participation.

9. Summary of Action Items:

1. **Lin** to report to Committee on discussion with CAs at Huron County meeting.
2. **Lin** to report to Committee on contractor pump-out licencing requirements.
3. **Margaret** to ask Judy Sewell who would complete the Inspection Report and do detailed testing. Action: Ask Judy who completed the inspection – marked as Northern Sanitation
4. **Lilly** to check with Sherri Maroso to see if survey link could be posted or emailed to City contacts.
5. **Richard** to send another email explaining why the map would be helpful to our Committee and copy Linda on it.
6. **Linda** will circulate survey changes for further input.
7. **Lilly** will input the survey online once it has been finalized.
8. **Linda** to prepare a Press Release to inform about our survey and encourage participation.

Attachment 1

GSWA Stewardship Program Draft Survey:

Preamble:

The Greater Sudbury Watershed Alliance (GSWA) is working to protect and improve water quality on Sudbury area lakes and rivers. The GSWA is exploring the possibility of offering a grant program that would encourage those living within 100 meters (382') of a waterbody to pump out their septic system on a regular basis (once every 2 to 3 years for a primary residence and 3 to 5 years for a seasonal residence), or to replace septic systems that have been certified by the Sudbury District Health Unit (SDHU) as being defective.

Participation in this program would be totally voluntary. If a homeowner makes an application and is approved, participants would be reimbursed for 50% of the cost of a septic tank pump-out, or \$5,000 towards the replacement cost of a defective septic system.

To help GSWA in determining the feasibility or need for this program, GSWA would appreciate your participation in our survey.

1. Do you live and pay taxes within the City of Greater Sudbury? Yes or No –Thank you for completing our survey!
2. Is your residence serviced by a septic system? Yes or No –Thank you for completing our survey!
3. Type of residence? Primary Seasonal
4. Is your septic system located within 100 meters of a waterbody? Yes or No – Thank you for completing our survey!
5. What is the name of the waterbody? One line comment Box
6. When was the last time you had a septic tank pump out? 1 to 2 years, 3-5 years, 6-9 years, Greater than 10
7. If you were offered a 50% grant towards the cost of a septic tank pump-out, would you be encouraged to pump out on a more frequent basis? Yes or No – Comment Box
8. If you were offered a \$5,000 grant towards the *cost of a septic system replacement that has been certified by SDHU to be ineffective, would you participate? Yes or No – Comment Box
9. If you are interested in this program, and/or would like to be informed of its progress, please provide your name and email address here (your contact information will not be used for any other purpose): Contact Box

Note:

- * SDHU must make a site visit to certify the septic system is ineffective - leaking or seeping into the environment - often associated with a sewer smell.
- * Cost of a septic system replacement can cost as much as \$15,000 to \$20,000 - for a conventional septic system with field bed and tank.

If your septic system is seeping effluent, or emitting a sewer gas smell, or your grass is much greener over your tile bed, your septic system may be showing signs of failure. If your system is experiencing any of these symptoms, a call to the SDHU for a septic system inspection is recommended. Regular septic tank pump-outs can help extend the useful life of your tile bed.

Thank you for participating in our GSWA Stewardship Program Survey!

HERBY

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March 17th, 2015

To Our Valued Customers:

The City of Greater Sudbury will be opening the Waste Water Treatment Plant in April/May of this year (no exact date provided as of this memo) for Hauled Liquid Waste.

As result of this opening all other dump sites will be closed and the City will be levying fees for all Hauled Liquid Waste. As a carrier, we are required to collect these fees from customers on behalf of the City and remit to them, accordingly.

The fees will be added separately from our service charges and will not be subject to any fuel surcharge or HST. For example:

- Tanks of 1000-1500 gallons will be subject to HLW fees of \$150-220
- Monthly Portable Toilet rentals, which include a weekly service, will be subject to HLW fee of \$35 per unit, per month

Customers with holding tanks will be eligible for rebates through the City of Sudbury, two (2) to three (3) times per year. The details of applying for these rebates have yet to be released. We'd like to stress that we are simply an intermediary between the City of Sudbury and residential/commercial customers, collecting the fees and remitting them directly to the City, and not profiting from them.

As such, the City of Sudbury and the Waste Water Treatment Plant have asked that all questions and concerns be directed at them. They can be reached by calling 3-1-1 (ext. 3600) or by email at seweruseby-law@greatersudbury.ca. They will also be providing us with information pamphlets that we will happily pass along to all our customers.

We apologize for the inconvenience and will work with all customers through the transition.

Thanks,



Adam Guilbault

General Manager

Herby Enterprises Limited

Portable Toilet Rental | Vacuum Pumping | Hydro Excavating



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SEPTIC INSPECTION REPORT

Owner's Name	[Redacted]	Property Info	[Redacted]
Address:	[Redacted]		
Apt/Suite	[Redacted]		
City:	HR		

Information

Date of Inspection:	May 11, 2010	Weather Conditions:	Clear
Age Of House:	1973	Age Of System:	1973
Is the system the Original System:	YES	Is there a garbage disposal?	NO
Is there a garbage disposal allowed with is system/local requirements?	N/A		
How many bedrooms?	4	How many occupants?	3
Where is gray water discharging?	Septic Tank		
Is the gray water discharge allowed with this sytem/local requirement?	Yes		
Explain:			

House was Occupied or Vacant?	Occupied
Type of System:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Septic Tank <input type="checkbox"/> Septic Tank W/Pump <input type="checkbox"/> Cesspool <input type="checkbox"/> Other
Type of Drainage Area:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaching Field <input type="checkbox"/> Sand Mound <input type="checkbox"/> Seepage Pit (s) <input type="checkbox"/> Other
If Other Describe:	

Procedures: The system inspection must conform to local standards. Must enter the home to operate the toilets and faucets. Be sure to run enough water through this system to adequately inspect. Inspect the tank structure and components for defects such as cracks, leaks, or damage. Probe and inspect the leach field for indications of saturations or failure. Properly close the tank and restore the disturbed area as best as possible. Let us know immediately if they need a landscaper for seeding or sod. If digging or extra costs are involved, please inform our office. If you have any questions regarding anything in this worksheet, please call our office.

SYSTEM FUNCTION Needs to be pumped Acceptable (No Repairs Necessary) Complete System Replacement
 Further Exploratory Work Needed

Explain:

Septic Tank:	<input type="checkbox"/> Acceptable <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unacceptable	Explain:	tank is cracking & deteriorating
How many septic Tanks?	1		
How many drain fields or drainage area?	1		
Water Level:	<input type="checkbox"/> Acceptable <input type="checkbox"/> Below Outlet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High		
Did the water level rise?	Yes		
Sludge Level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Acceptable <input type="checkbox"/> High		
Sludge Level (inches)	6"		

Septic Information Continued

Inlet Tee	<input type="checkbox"/> Acceptable <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unacceptable	Explain: Broken
Outlet Tee	<input type="checkbox"/> Acceptable <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unacceptable	Explain: Broken
Baffle Wall	<input type="checkbox"/> Acceptable <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unacceptable	Explain: deteriorating
Lid	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Acceptable <input type="checkbox"/> Unacceptable	Explain:
Drain Field	<input type="checkbox"/> Acceptable <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unacceptable	Explain: working at 50%
Was the Field Probed?	Yes	If No, Explain:
Was it Saturated?	Yes	Explain:
Is the system/drain field adequate for the size of the home?	Yes	Explain:
Did you pump the tank at the time of inspection?	Yes	
How many gallons?	200 gallons	
When was the tank pumped?	11 May 2010	How Verified? receipt attached
Does the septic tank still required pumping right now?	No	
Did the water level rise during your stress test (inside the tank)?	Yes	Explain:

Did any water drain back into the tank from the drain field after pumping, indicating a possible problem? Yes
 Explain: -

Approximately how much water was flushed through the system to test the drainage area? 20 Gallons
 (Be sure to drain enough water through this system to adequately inspect. (MUST ENTER THE HOME!))
 Explain: ran all facets in the home for approx 20-30 min

If repairs are necessary, should the owner call the Health Department? N/A
 Explain:

If repairs are necessary, should the owner call an installer? Yes
 Explain:

Did you inspect the interior of the home, including the septic line in the basement? Yes
 Explain:

Have you inspected all integral components of the septic system (interior and exterior), including sewage ejector pumps, etc.? N/A
 Explain:

Inspected By: Northern Sanitation Inspection Date: 11 May 2010
 Inspection Company:
 Certification #: MOE A92029 is a certification a requirement? No

SYSTEM LOCATION

Is the distance between the well casing and leach field acceptable according to local standards? Yes
 Explain:

Is the drain field adequate for the size of the home, according to the number of bedrooms/bathrooms? Yes
 Explain:

Please describe in detail all components of the septic system, well location, and any other water sources or pertinent information in space provided:
 Septic tank with field bed, gravity feed

Approximate Distance from Home? Approximate Distance from Septic to Well?
 - Septic system is approx 30ft from Home