

# **Commissioner's Update**

**Presentation to  
Environmental Services  
Committee**

**Erin Mahoney**

**June 9, 2010**

# Agenda

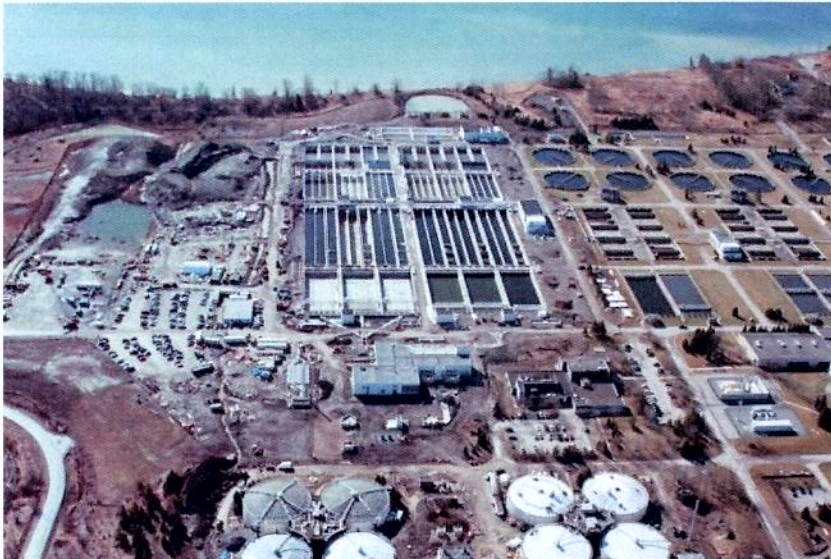
---



- Duffin Creek Site Tour
- Water Opportunities and Water Conservation Act
- Water Conservation By-Law Campaign
- Annual Rain Barrel Sales Event
- Operational Performance Numbers
- Lake Simcoe Phosphorous Sources
- McCleary Court CEC Award

# Duffin Creek Site Tour

---



- Tour scheduled for June 11, 9:00 - 11:30 AM
- Walking tour will include:
  - Overview of Stages 1 and 2
  - Review of Stage 3 Upgrades
  - Explanation of onsite energy recovery technology
- Safety gear to be provided if required

Tour will provide first hand insight into the innovative technologies and scope of the Duffin Creek Stage 3 Expansion



# Water Opportunities and Water Conservation Act

---

- Proactively consulted with MOE on Water Opportunities and Water Conservation Act
- Allows Province to set targets and performance indicators
- Defines water as: water, wastewater and stormwater
- Public comments must be submitted to MOE by July 17
- Staff will further review the proposed Act and implications for York Region which will be detailed in a future Report



Water Opportunities Act will embed a culture of water conservation within the province and help the Region continue to lead water efficiency

# Water Conservation By-law Campaign

- York Region experiencing high water demands from excessive outdoor water use during recent hot and dry spring weather conditions
- Annual **Water for Tomorrow** summer water conservation campaign has started
- Communication plan includes:
  - Advertising in community newspapers
  - Poster distribution to local municipalities for community centres
  - By-law information posted on [york.ca](http://york.ca) and [waterfortomorrow.ca](http://waterfortomorrow.ca) and distributed at events
  - Mobile road signage
- Communication plan to be in place if potential water shortages are identified



Water conservation bylaw campaign will raise awareness and further support outdoor water-use by-laws currently in place



# Annual Rain Barrel Sales Event



- Rain Barrel sales event occurred on May 29, 2010
- Event occurred at three locations:
  - Markham (Bur Oak Secondary School)
  - Richmond Hill (St. Theresa of Lisieux High School)
  - East Gwillimbury (East Gwillimbury GO Station)
- 4,000 barrels sold in one day – sold out at all locations
- We've succeeded in meeting the 2010 sales goal
- Program will continue to be offered next year
- To date, over 11,750 discounted rain barrels sold!

Success of the Annual Rain Barrel Sales Event supports *Water for Tomorrow* program and encourages water conservation by York Region residents

# Operational Performance Numbers Comparison

- Performance numbers published annually in Chief Drinking Water Inspector's Annual Report
- Region ranks 2<sup>nd</sup> for facility inspections and 1<sup>st</sup> in water quality compliance compared with other GTA Municipalities

| Municipality | Facility Inspection Rating (2007-08) |            | Water Quality (% of Tests Meeting Standards) |            |
|--------------|--------------------------------------|------------|----------------------------------------------|------------|
| Halton       | 100.000                              | 1st        | 99.800                                       | 4th        |
| <b>York</b>  | <b>99.837</b>                        | <b>2nd</b> | <b>99.979</b>                                | <b>1st</b> |
| Peel         | 99.605                               | 3rd        | 99.975                                       | 2nd        |
| Durham       | 99.240                               | 4th        | 99.235                                       | 5th        |
| Toronto      | 97.220                               | 5th        | 99.882                                       | 3rd        |

2009 Operational Performance numbers are expected to be released in August 2010



# Lake Simcoe Phosphorous Sources

---

- Occurs naturally in rocks, soil, animal waste, plant material and the atmosphere
- Also comes from human activities such as:
  - Agriculture
  - Industrial and Municipal wastewater
  - Urban area surface water runoff

\*See handout provided by Ministry of the Environment

Phosphorous inputs into Lake Simcoe have a number of sources which must all be considered to effectively control target water quality objectives



# McCleary Court Community Environmental Centre Award



- McCleary Court Community Environmental Centre recognized with the 2010 Federation of Canadian Municipalities Sustainable Community Award – Waste Category
- Award presented on May 28, 2010 at Federation of Canadian Municipalities 73rd Annual Conference and Municipal Expo



Sustainable Community Award recognizes the sustainable vision and design of York Region's first CEC and establishes the Region as a leader in innovative waste diversion

---

# Questions