



200 University Ave, Suite 801
Toronto, ON M5H 3C6
Tel.: (416) 971-9856 | Fax: (416) 971-6191
E-mail: amo@amo.on.ca

ALERT

MEMBER COMMUNICATION

ALERT N°: 09/078

To the attention of the Clerk and Council
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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
Craig Reid , AMO Senior Policy Advisor
(416) 971-9856 ext 334

Second Application Period for 2009-10 Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Program is now open

Issue: The Ministry of the Environment (MOE) has launched the second and final application period for the 2009-10 Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Program (ODWSP). Applications are due by the **end of the day, December 15, 2009.**

Background:

Requests for grant proposals and associated applications for the Education and Outreach, Special Projects, and Early Actions components of the ODWSP are posted on the ministry's website at www.ontario.ca/cleanwater. Municipalities are encouraged to visit the website and apply for financial assistance to carry out projects that will protect Ontario's drinking water supplies.

The ODWSP, established by the *Clean Water Act, 2006* (the "Act"), provides financial assistance to eligible persons and groups interested in taking immediate actions to protect their sources of municipal drinking water supplies.

This year, \$7 million in financial assistance was available for the following key areas:

- Education and Outreach
- Special Projects, and
- Early Actions.

A fund of \$2 million remains available for grants in this second application period.

For specific application and project requirements under each of the three components of the ODWSP, please refer to the Requests for Grant Proposal located on the Ministry's website.

Due to draft assessment reports being prepared by source protection committees beginning the process of finalization, changes will be made to the ODWSP in 2010-11 to focus on addressing significant drinking water threats that are identified in these reports and to those individuals and businesses that agree to take early measures to respond to the identified significant threat and to reduce the risk to our drinking water supplies. It is anticipated that a new ODWSP component, called Early Response will be introduced in spring 2010. **As a result, MOE informs AMO that this current application period will be the last opportunity to apply for Early Action and Education and Outreach funds.** These components will be phased out after December 15, 2009.

For further information on ODWSP please contact SourceProtectionFunding@ontario.ca

Action:

AMO will continue to monitor source protection issues and inform members.

