

Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Program

Protect our water. Get funding for best management practices that prevent erosion and runoff on your property, manure management and barn improvements.

Is it time for you to rebuild your barn? Would you like to better manage the manure on your farm? Or, would you like to protect your property from the impacts of drought, flooding and erosion? If you live near a municipal well or intake, you may be eligible for funding for best management practices that protect municipal drinking water supplies. The Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Program will cover up to 70% of the cost depending on the eligible best management practice.

Why should I protect my property from erosion?

Soil erosion and runoff can contaminate your local source of municipal drinking water. Building well-vegetated stream banks, buffer strips and riparian zones on your property can benefit you and your community by:

- reducing the impacts of flooding and drought
- reducing the costs associated with drain cleanouts
- decreasing water-related health problems in livestock (such as foot rot)
- supporting fish and wildlife habitat and plant diversity
- naturally filtering and trapping sediments from surrounding land uses
- stabilising streambanks

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 costs can I get covered for?

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

What best management practises are funded?

Best Management Practise	Amount of funding covered
soil erosion and salinity control planning	25% up to \$1000
manure land application	70% up to \$10,000
erosion control (riparian and non-riparian)	50% up to \$20,000
riparian area management	50% up to \$20,000
riparian health assessment	25% up to \$1000
land management for soils at risk	50% up to \$5000
cover crops	70% up to \$5000
nutrient management planning	25% up to \$2000
farmyard and horticultural facilities runoff control	50% up to \$20,000

Best Management Practise	Amount of funding covered
improved manure storage and handling	70% up to \$60,000
manure treatment	70% up to \$60,000
in barn improvements	70% up to \$40,000
product and waste management	70% up to \$30,000

How can I apply for this funding and learn more?

If you are a farmer, you can receive up to 100% 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

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

You can also learn more about the Clean Water Act at www.ontario.ca/cleanwater

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