



MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT

HOME

ABOUT

NEWS

PUBLICATIONS

CONTACT

PUBLICATIONS

PUBLICATIONS

- ➔ PUBLIC INFORMATION
- ➔ ABOUT THE ONTARIO MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT
- ➔ AIR AND CLIMATE CHANGE
- ➔ WATER
- ➔ LAND
- ➔ WASTE
- ➔ BUSINESS, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION
- ➔ FORMS, MANUALS AND GUIDELINES
- ➔ DATA DOWNLOADS



MY ENVIRONMENT



RESOURCES FOR BUSINESSES



AIR



LAND



WATER



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RESULTS-BASED PLAN BRIEFING BOOK 2010-11



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MINISTRY OVERVIEW

MISSION:

Work with Ontarians to achieve environmental sustainability and support public health.

VISION:

An Ontario with clean and safe air, land and water that contributes to healthy communities and a strong economy.

MINISTRY OVERVIEW STATEMENT

Environmental protection is key to a sustainable society. Our environmental health is necessary for economic, ecological and human health, and to develop a sustainable economy.

The Ministry of the Environment (MOE) provides comprehensive environmental protection built on a strong foundation of clear laws, stringent regulations and standards, and science-based permits and approvals. Through this protection, the ministry is supporting the government's key priorities of "Environment", "Health" and, "Economy" by achieving results in combating climate change, reducing toxics, and protecting water and natural areas while also supporting innovation and helping to grow a sustainable economy.

The ministry monitors and analyzes environmental trends to determine the effectiveness of its activities and assess risks to human health and the environment. This information enables the ministry to develop and implement effective legislation, regulations, standards, policies, guidelines and programs that protect public health and the environment.

MOE works with all Ontarians to protect and restore the environment to enhance environmental quality, support public health and lay a green foundation for sustainability by:

- ➔ Developing protective policies, legislation, regulations and standards;
- ➔ Using science and research to support policy development, environmental solutions and reporting;
- ➔ Ensuring that planning, which aims to identify and evaluate environmental benefits and risks, takes place at the earliest stages in the decision making process;
- ➔ Undertaking compliance and enforcement action to ensure consistency with environmental laws;
- ➔ Working collaboratively with other governments, Aboriginal groups and organizations, industry, stakeholders and the public;
- ➔ Monitoring and reporting to track environmental progress over time and inform the public; and,
- ➔ Modernizing environmental assessment and approval processes.

The Ministry of the Environment continues to protect and improve the quality of the environment, to support environmental sustainability, human health and safety, and Ontario's economic prosperity.

MINISTRY ACTIVITIES

The following key strategies support the ministry's priority of safeguarding our environment by working to ensure cleaner air, water, land, and healthier ecosystems for the people of Ontario.

Combating Climate Change and Protecting Ontario's Air

The ministry continues to invest in the delivery of Ontario's Climate Change Action Plan and in protecting the air we breathe. Initiatives include:

- Working with the Premier's Climate Change Advisory Panel and Climate Change Secretariat on climate change strategies, policies and research to meet Ontario's aggressive and achievable targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by:
 - Establishing a new cap-and-trade system to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and to advance the production of low-carbon processes and green technology;
 - Continuing to work with other North American jurisdictions through organizations, such as the Western Climate Initiative, the Regional Gas Initiative and the Midwestern Governors Greenhouse Gas Reduction Accord to develop a common trading system;
 - Combating climate change through the Community Go Green Fund, which supports grassroots, community-based initiatives that inform, teach and motivate people to reduce GHG emissions;
 - Providing a single renewable energy approval to encourage more renewable energy projects; and,
 - Continuing to establish long-term monitoring stations in the Hudson Bay Lowlands to monitor the effects of climate change in this region.
- Working with the Expert Panel on Climate Change Adaptation and developing ways for Ontario to adapt and minimize impacts of climate change, including the coordination and participation in the Ontario Regional Adaptation Collaborative which will advance community level adaptation planning and actions to reduce the vulnerability to climate change impacts;
- Improving the overall air quality in Ontario by:
 - Addressing smog and air toxics reductions through emission reductions in Ontario and working with the Government of Canada to seek reductions in U.S. emissions with transboundary impacts; and,
 - Reducing vehicle emissions of smog-causing pollutants through the Drive Clean program.

Reducing Toxics in the Environment

The ministry is making investments to protect the health of Ontarians by taking action on toxic substances, including:

- Implementing the *Toxics Reduction Act, 2009* which is the cornerstone of Ontario's Toxics Reduction Strategy. The strategy focuses on reducing pollution and protecting Ontarians from exposure to toxic substances in air, water, land and consumer products. It strives to protect human health and the environment and improve the quality of our lives while supporting the transformation of businesses in Ontario to a green economy; and,
- Reducing human exposure to toxics through a ban on the sale and use of cosmetic pesticides. This will also support a Green Economy through fostering the development and sale of green alternatives.

Protecting Ontario's Water

The ministry continues to invest in the protection of both our drinking water and our fresh water resources from pollution. MOE is also supporting the government's water strategy to make Ontario the North American leader in water conservation and innovation, and to sustain Ontario's water resources for future generations. Key initiatives include:

- Introducing a new Water Opportunities Act to drive innovation and create economic opportunities, sustain water infrastructure and conserve Ontario's water;
- Implementing source protection planning to help reduce drinking water risks by addressing threats to drinking water quantity and quality;
- Continuing to implement the Lead Action Plan to ensure the protection of public health;
- Protecting Great Lakes sustainability through development of the *Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement* and by implementing the *Canada-Ontario Agreement Respecting the Great Lakes Basin Ecosystem*;
- Implementing the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan to help restore and protect the health of Lake Simcoe;
- Promoting water conservation through mandatory charges for commercial and industrial users for the water they take and use; and,
- Providing information to the public about the state of Ontario's drinking water through the

release of the Chief Drinking Water Inspector's report and the Minister's Annual Drinking Water Report.

Waste Diversion and Land Quality

The ministry's waste diversion initiatives build on efforts to put Ontario at the forefront of a green economy in North America. MOE is continuing to take action to promote and increase waste diversion while ensuring that residual wastes are appropriately managed by:

- ➔ Helping Ontarians generate less landfill wastes through legislation, policies, programs, and standards to promote reduction, reuse, and recycling of non-hazardous wastes;
- ➔ Continuing to look at improvements to Ontario's waste diversion framework through the *Waste Diversion Act, 2002* review;
- ➔ Providing ongoing direction and guidance to Waste Diversion Ontario in their oversight of waste diversion programs;
- ➔ Maximizing waste diversion at industrial, commercial and institutional facilities;
- ➔ Ensuring compliance with legislation and promoting enhancement of the management of hazardous wastes; and,
- ➔ Implementing Brownfield legislative and regulatory requirements to ensure the appropriate cleanup and redevelopment of Brownfield sites while protecting the environment.

Open For Business: Modernization of Approvals

Modernizing the environmental approvals process is a key part of the government's **Open for Business** initiative which aims to create faster, smarter government-to-business services while protecting the public interest. As such, the Ministry is transforming the environmental approvals process by creating a more efficient, user-friendly approach that remains fully protective of the environment. The new model would also support the economic competitiveness in Ontario and improve client services.

Effective Monitoring, Compliance and Enforcement

The ministry's research, monitoring, inspection, investigations and enforcement activities are integral to achieving Ontario's environmental goals. The ministry will continue to support these activities by:

- ➔ Enhancing inspection and enforcement capacity to protect Ontario's air, land and water;
- ➔ Maintaining MOE's laboratory and monitoring facility and equipment which is critical for water, air and soil sample analysis, monitoring, reporting and developing environmental standards; and,
- ➔ Working with industry, stakeholders, and the public to achieve compliance with environmental standards.

Ministry Administration

Ministry Administration provides strategic support for fiscal controllership and strategic management oversight, including financial management, audits, technology operations, addressing requests under the *Freedom of Information Act*, legal services, communications, and French language services. It also includes the Environmental Bill of Rights Registry which enhances citizen participation in government decisions and provides substantive information to the public on environmental initiatives.

Greening Internal Operations

The ministry will continue to support Government of Ontario initiatives to conserve energy and wisely use our air, water and land resources in order to generate sustainable environmental, health, and economic benefits for present and future generations.

MOE is committed to reducing its environmental footprint by greening its internal operations and supporting environmentally sustainable practices for its partners, stakeholders, and suppliers. A range of activities are being undertaken to reduce the ministry's air emissions, energy use, water consumption, and waste generation. These include: monitoring and reducing the ministry's carbon footprint, promoting energy and water conservation in ministry outreach and educational activities, and supporting government-wide greening and sustainability initiatives.

MINISTRY KEY RESULTS

By delivering on these government priorities, the ministry strives to achieve these key results:

- ➔ Delivering on Ontario's Climate Change Action Plan;
- ➔ Supporting Open Ontario initiatives, including the development of a Water Opportunities Act;
- ➔ Safeguarding drinking water from source to tap;

- ➡ Protecting and conserving our water resources, including Lake Simcoe and the Great Lakes Basin Ecosystem;
- ➡ Reducing toxic substances and cancer causing agents in the environment;
- ➡ Banning the sale and use of pesticides for cosmetic purposes;
- ➡ Maximizing waste diversion;
- ➡ Cleaning up environmentally contaminated sites;
- ➡ Enhancing inspection and enforcement capacity;
- ➡ Investing in environmental science;
- ➡ Modernizing approvals and reducing regulatory burden;
- ➡ Streamlining renewable energy approvals; and,
- ➡ Supporting Ontario's transformation to a green economy.

MINISTRY ORGANIZATION CHART

[View Ministry Organization Chart](#)

LEGISLATION ADMINISTERED BY THE MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT

- Adams Mine Lake Act, 2004*
- Capital Investment Plan Act, 1993 (Part IV re: Ontario Clean Water Agency only)*
- Clean Water Act, 2006*
- Consolidated Hearings Act*
- Environmental Assessment Act*
- Environmental Bill of Rights, 1993*
- Environmental Protection Act*
- Environmental Review Tribunal Act, 2000*
- Lake Simcoe Protection Act, 2008*
- Ministry of the Environment Act*
- Municipal Water and Sewage Transfer Act, 1997*
- Nutrient Management Act, 2002 (together with the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs)*
- Ontario Water Resources Act*
- Pesticides Act*
- Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002*
- Sustainable Water and Sewage Systems Act, 2002*
- Toxics Reduction Act, 2009*
- Waste Diversion Act, 2002*
- Waste Management Act, 1992*
- Waterfront Regeneration Trust Agency Act, 1992*

AGENCIES, BOARDS & COMMITTEES (ABCs)

	ESTIMATES 2010 - 2011 \$	INTERIM ACTUALS 2009 - 2010 \$	ACTUALS 2008 - 2009 \$
Advisory Council on Drinking Water Quality and Testing Standards	235,800	202,366	293,799
Lake Simcoe Science & Coordinating Committees	52,400	-	-

Ontario Pesticides Advisory Committee	158,600	148,187	155,928
Total Agencies, Boards & Committees	446,800	350,553	449,727

*NOTE: The ministry will contribute operating funding to the Walkerton Clean Water Centre in 2010-11. Detailed financial information for Ontario Clean Water Agency and Walkerton Clean Water Centre is provided in their Business Plans

MINISTRY PLANNED EXPENDITURE 2010 / 11

	ESTIMATES 2010-11 \$
OPERATING	366,488,114
CAPITAL	16,558,400
Total Operating and Capital	383,046,514

MINISTRY PLANNED EXPENDITURE 2010 / 11

VOTE / PROGRAMS		ESTIMATES 2010-11 \$
MINISTRY ADMINISTRATION		
Strategic Management Support		56,415,400
Ministry Administration Capital		1,000
	Ministry Administration Total	56,416,400
AIR		
Smog and Air Toxics Reduction		51,809,500
Drive Clean		19,051,800
Climate Change		34,311,800
Air Capital		300,000
	Air Total	105,473,100
WATER		
Clean Water		102,697,500

Source Protection		46,423,700
Nutrient Management		8,304,000
Water Capital		1,700,000
	Water Total	159,125,200
WASTE		
Non-Hazardous Waste Management		17,827,400
Hazardous Waste Management		17,764,500
Land Restoration		11,816,500
Waste Capital		14,306,000
	Waste Total	61,714,400
STATUTORY APPROPRIATIONS		317,414
Total Ministry		383,046,514

APPENDIX: ANNUAL REPORT 2009 / 10

2009 / 10 ANNUAL REPORT

During 2009/10 the Ministry of the Environment engaged in a number of activities to protect and enhance clean and safe air, land, and water in Ontario to contribute to healthy communities, ecological protection, and sustainable development for present and future generations.

COMBATING CLIMATE CHANGE AND PROTECTING ONTARIO'S AIR

Several ministry activities in 2009/10 were aimed at reducing our collective impact on global climate change and helping to protect Ontarians from the harmful effects of air pollutants.

In December 2009, the ministry released its second annual progress report on Ontario's Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP). The CCAP contained more than 70 government initiatives designed to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and enable the transition to a lower-carbon economy. Assuming that the initiatives launched to date will deliver the forecasted emissions reduction, the report indicates that Ontario will deliver 71% of the reductions needed to reach the 2014 GHG reduction target and 56% of the reductions required to reach the 2020 target.

Initiatives, such as the proposed cap-and-trade system, will further assist the province in achieving its emission reduction targets. The ministry has been collaborating on a cap-and-trade approach for GHG emissions with other jurisdictions and consulting with Ontario stakeholders. To date, the ministry has brought Ontario closer to establishing a cap-and-trade system to reduce GHG emissions through:

- ➡ Introducing the *Environmental Protection Amendment Act*, enabling Ontario to set up a cap-and-trade program for Ontario that will link to other North American systems in the future; and,
- ➡ Requiring mandatory reporting of GHG emissions for facilities that release 25,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) or more per year through the new GHG reporting regulation (O. Reg 452/09) which came into force as of January 1, 2010.

Ontario recognizes that an effective approach to coping with current environmental challenges will require cooperation and collaboration by many jurisdictions and organizations. To that end, the

province:

- ➔ Continued to work with the Western Climate Initiative to develop a common trading system;
- ➔ Built on collaborative work to date with Quebec with the goal of implementing a cap-and-trade system in step with North American partners and compatible with a U.S. national program likely to be ready by 2012;
- ➔ Continued to work closely with other provinces through the Council of the Federation to address climate change;
- ➔ Participated in the 2009 United Nations Climate Change Conference held in Copenhagen; and,
- ➔ Signed a letter of intent, under the United Nations Development Program, promising to help a developing region create plans to fight climate change by sharing technology, information, expertise, and ideas.

In May 2009, the *Green Energy Act* was passed by the Legislature, building on Ontario's plans towards phasing out coal-fired electricity and bringing on more renewable energy supplies. Streamlined regulations for energy approvals under the legislation will provide a consistent approach to renewable energy projects across the province.

In December 2009, the Expert Panel on Climate Change Adaptation submitted its report entitled, *Adapting to Climate Change in Ontario*, to the province. The report emphasized a collective and integrated approach to climate change adaptation and mitigation rather than an individual/household approach, along with 59 recommendations that cover a broad range of measures (*Refer to link for detailed report <http://www.news.ontario.ca/ene/en/2009/12/environmental-experts-submit-report-on-climate-change.html>*).

The province's first carbon flux monitoring station was established in the Hudson Bay Lowlands in an effort to better understand the carbon holding properties of the peatlands. The information gathered will help the province in modelling the impacts of climate change as well as help provide estimates for carbon budgets and full carbon accounting on a provincial and national level.

In October 2009, the province launched the third round of funding for the Community Go Green Fund. To date 57 community-based projects have received more than \$4 million in funding to fight climate change and reduce GHG emissions at the local level.

Additionally, six municipalities have received funding from the ministry to design and install methane gas collection systems at their landfill sites. Landfill owners can either burn off the methane, reducing its global warming potential by 95%, or use it to generate electricity to sell to the grid or use locally.

REDUCING TOXICS IN THE ENVIRONMENT

The *Toxics Reduction Act, 2009* was passed by the Legislature in June 2009 and is at the core of the Toxics Reduction Strategy which helps protect the health and environment of Ontarians by reducing toxic substances in air, land, water, and consumer products while fostering the green economy. To date, the ministry has:

- ➔ Implemented the new reporting regulation (O. Reg. 455/09) as of January 1, 2010, requiring regulated facilities in the manufacturing and minerals processing sectors to track, report and develop plans to reduce toxic substances they use, create and release; and,
- ➔ Provided support to businesses in implementing the requirements of the Act as well as support in the development of green chemistry and engineering moving towards safer alternatives to toxic substances.

On April 22, 2009, the ministry enacted a ban on the sale and use of cosmetic pesticides. The provincial ban overrides municipal pesticide bylaws, protecting all Ontarians, not just those in some communities. It also establishes one clear set of rules, which makes it easier for Ontario businesses to follow.

The ministry continues to protect air quality and health in local communities by regulating air toxics. Industrial facilities are now required to meet stronger standards for 33 high priority contaminants.

The ministry completed the removal of all stored PCB contaminated materials at the Pottersburg Storage Site to comply with the federal PCB regulation under the Canadian *Environmental Protection Act, 1999*.

PROTECTING ONTARIO'S WATER

The Government of Ontario continued its actions to safeguard Ontario's drinking water supply – from source to tap – for current and future generations.

The Minister of the Environment released the fourth annual report from the province's Chief Drinking Water Inspector which reinforced that the people of Ontario can be confident that their regulated

drinking water systems are delivering safe, high-quality drinking water to their taps.

A new, permanent facility for the Walkerton Clean Water Centre has been built and is now fully operational. The new, energy-efficient building increases the centre's capacity to conduct training, seminars, information sessions, and research on drinking water.

Along with conservation authorities and local committees, the government made progress on the protection of sources of municipal drinking water with the completion of Terms of References for 40 planning areas.

The *2007 Canada-Ontario Agreement Respecting the Great Lakes Basin Ecosystem* (COA) was extended to March 31, 2011. This allows Canada and Ontario to continue their important work to protect and restore the Great Lakes while the governments of Canada and the U.S. negotiate amendments to the *Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement*.

The Lake Simcoe Protection Plan has been finalized to address environmental protection of the watershed. The Plan sets new standards for environmental protection and provides a roadmap to help restore and protect the health of Lake Simcoe by:

- ➡ Promoting immediate action to address threats to the ecosystem, such as excessive phosphorus; and,
- ➡ Targeting new and emerging causes of stress to the lake, such as invasive species and climate change.

WASTE DIVERSION AND LAND QUALITY

The province also made strides to improve the management of waste in Ontario.

The *Waste Diversion Act, 2002* is under review and the ministry has produced a report *From Waste to Worth: The Role of Waste Diversion* which was posted on the Environmental Registry for public consultation. The Report includes proposals on how to improve Ontario's waste diversion framework.

The ministry has established consistent standards and requirements for applying non-agricultural source material (NASM) nutrients to farmland in order to minimize negative environmental risks to surface and groundwater sources. NASMs include, yard waste, fruit and vegetable peels, food processing waste, pulp and paper biosolids, and sewage biosolids.

The ministry finalized amendments to the Brownfields regulation to facilitate Brownfields remediation while strengthening environmental protections.

The above-ground site clean-up of the largest known illegal tire site in Ontario, the Melbourne Tire Site, has been completed.

EFFECTIVE MONITORING, COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT

Previous enhanced front-line inspections and enforcement capabilities have enabled the ministry to complete:

- ➡ 1,349 inspections of schools, private schools and day cares (O. Reg 243/07) to ensure compliance with requirements for flushing and testing and reporting of drinking water tap samples for lead; and,
- ➡ 1,186 inspections of municipal and non-municipal residential drinking water systems (O. Reg 170/03) to ensure that owners sample and test for lead twice a year and develop corrosion control plans to reduce lead.

In the Hudson Bay Lowlands of Northern Ontario, the ministry established its first carbon flux monitoring station. Work continues to establish an additional two stations in the area.

The ministry continued to modernize its laboratory and monitoring facility to ensure it can provide high quality information to protect public health and safety, and the environment.

GREENING INTERNAL OPERATIONS

The ministry continues to reduce its environmental footprint by greening its internal operations. A range of activities were undertaken to reduce the ministry's air emissions, energy use, water consumption and waste generation. The ministries activities include:

- ➡ Installing a green or "cool roof" at a ministry building to reduce heat load in the building during the winter and reflect the sun's rays, making the building an average of 25-30% cooler in the summer;
- ➡ Greening the MOE vehicle fleet. The ministry's fleet is one of the greenest in the Ontario Public Service with over a quarter (29%) of the fleet consisting of hybrid and ethanol or biodiesel vehicles;

- ➔ Expanding its green power purchase by adding 12,000 megawatt hours of green power. As a result, the ministry will decrease its carbon footprint by about 25% or approximately 3,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide and reduce other air emissions such as sulphur dioxide and nitric oxide; and,
- ➔ Using alternative meeting technology such as videoconferencing resulting in savings of over 35 tonnes of carbon dioxide from avoided travel.

MINISTRY INTERIM ACTUAL EXPENDITURES 2009/2010

	(\$M)
Operating	\$352.1
Capital	\$46.8
Staff Strength (as of March 31, 2010):	
Ministry of the Environment	2,219
Ontario Clean Water Agency	658

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MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT

August 2010

1. Ontario Clean Water Agency

2. Walkerton Clean Water Centre

3. Advisory Council on Drinking Water Quality & Testing Standards

Minister
Honourable
John Wilkinson

Deputy Minister
G. Beggs

Communications Branch
M.A. Covelli

Legal Services Branch
R. Roszell

Land & Resource Cluster
R. Hollis

Audit Cluster
R. Masse

Legend

- Temporary unit

