

**Source Water Protection
Ashland Advisory Committee
Preliminary Informational Session**

September 19, 2017
Water & Sewer Commission Office
9:30 am

Attendees:

Mardean Badger (Planning Board)
Leigh Sharps (Planning Board and BOS)
David Toth (Water and Sewer Commission)
Eli Badger (Zoning Board)
Mike Izard (Lakes Region Planning Commission)

Mike Izard, of the Lakes Region Planning Commission, explained the parameters and expectations of a grant from NH DES “to work with the Ashland and Meredith planning boards to recommend groundwater or surface water protection ordinance or regulations to better protect water resources that serve as sources of drinking water in these communities. LRPC will provide technical assistance, mapping and logistical support and follow standard planning processes leading to formal consideration of local zoning/regulatory changes.” **[See attached *Scope of Work*]**

This preliminary meeting established some basic background information, reviewed some possible sources of data, and outlined some additional questions to be considered:

- Mardean provided a tax map of the Town of Ashland wellfield and abutting properties and some relevant excerpts from the “*Master Plan*”, “*Zoning Ordinance*” and the “*Coordinated Review of Land Use Planning Documents with respect to Wildlife Habitat, Natural Resources and Smart Growth Principles.*”
- We discussed the current nature and uses of the relevant properties. The wellfield and aquifer are in the industrial/commercial zone.
 - Question – How can we best minimize industrial and commercial impacts on the water sources?
- Mike has gathered some preliminary information from DES about the Ashland aquifer.
- Mike will obtain additional descriptive data regarding the wellfield and aquifer from DES.
 - Question – When DES assessed the aquifer for high/moderate vulnerabilities, were specific locations identified?
- Mike will obtain additional descriptive data regarding the wellfield and aquifer from Emery & Garrett (Meredith).
 - Emery & Garrett has compiled various reports and data for the Water and Sewer Commission.

- Mapping needs will include such layers as property boundaries, zone boundaries, Pemi Overlay district, flood plain map, water lines.
 - Some GIS work already done by Michelle Therrien for the Water and Sewer Commission can be utilized.
- Owl Brook has been identified as the alternate potable water source for Ashland.
 - Question – Has a specific property in the Owl Brook area been identified for the alternate water source?
 - Question -- Should proposed water protection recommendations include the alternate water source?

In addition to representation from the Planning Board and the Water and Sewer Commission, the Conservation Commission will be invited to participate.

The Committee's work will result in key findings and supporting information, with recommendations for relevant zoning or regulatory changes. Ongoing reports will be shared with the NH DES. The final report and recommendations will be presented to the Planning Board, with the expectation that needed changes can be included in the 2018 warrant.

A public meeting will be posted for October 10, at 9:30am, in the Water and Sewer Commission Office, at 6 Collins Street.