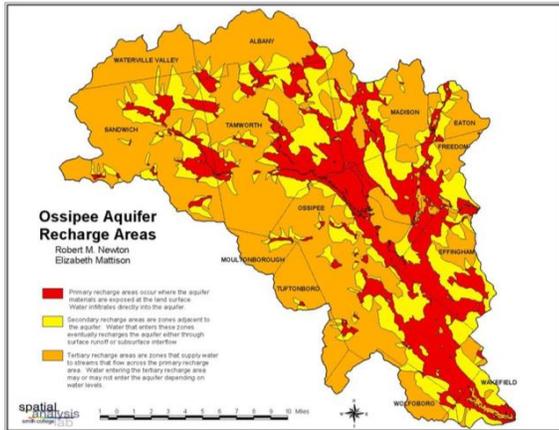


Ossipee Aquifer Advisory Committee to hold a public meeting in Madison



If you have been following Green Mountain Conservation Group (GMCG) news over the past year, you will know that a new committee has formed to assist with drinking water protection--the Ossipee Aquifer Advisory Committee (OAAC). On Tuesday, January 30th at 7:00 PM, the Ossipee Aquifer Advisory Committee along with Green Mountain Conservation Group (GMCG) will hold a public meeting in the Chick Room at the Madison Public Library in Madison, New Hampshire to discuss next steps and work on a Memorandum of Understanding.

In 2017, the newly formed Committee studied a similar project, the Barnes Aquifer Advisory Board (Visit the full website for *BAPAC* here: <http://bapac.pvpc.org/>) and created a mission statement-- "to assist communities with regional water resource protection." Throughout 2018, this advisory committee will collaborate with community and municipal members to create guidelines as a seven town committee to ensure protection of the Ossipee Aquifer. One of the goals for this year is to invite town municipal officials to designate a representative from that town to serve on the final board. At this January meeting, the Committee will choose two co-chairs. Karen Deighan, GMCG Education Coordinator will also lead a facilitated discussion to finalize the Memorandum of Understanding for the project. "I am excited that so many different people joined the initial meetings in 2017 and I know that we will have a very productive new year," Karen remarked at a recent meeting.

The Committee welcomes members of the public to attend this meeting on January 30th. They are also looking for new members for the committee. Please consider joining the committee and helping your community with water resource protection.

Water knows no political boundaries and it is important that communities work together to plan for growth, review large scale development and encourage natural resource based planning in each town. Karen mentioned "If we work together collaboratively, our shared water resources will remain clean." This is a collaborative effort and members from all of the watershed towns are encouraged to attend this meeting. If you live in Eaton, Effingham, Freedom, Madison, Ossipee, Sandwich or Tamworth, please try to join us. There will be an opportunity to learn more about our stratified drift aquifer as well as how to create an advisory board tasked with reviewing large scale development in our region.

If you would like more information on this initiative or would like to join the committee, please call 539-1859 or email education@gmcg.org. Like us on Facebook to keep up with what is happening around the watershed!

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