



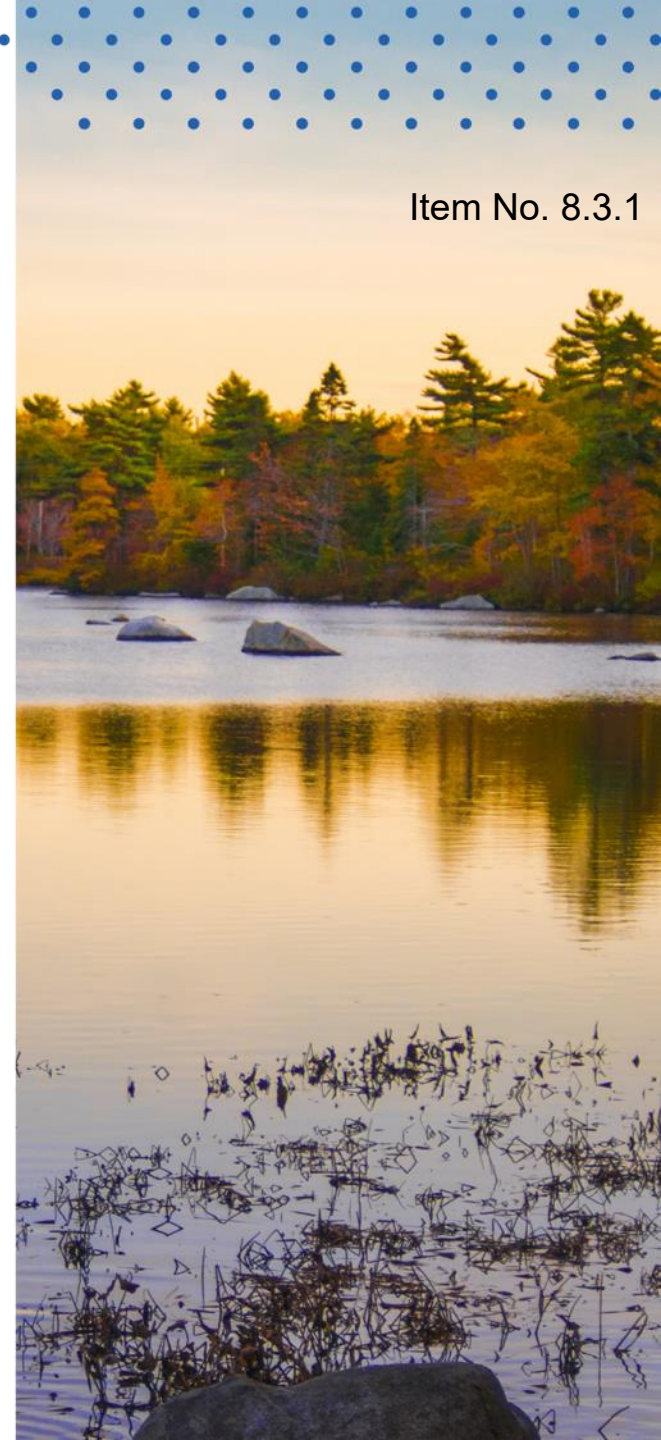
# Halifax Water - RWAB

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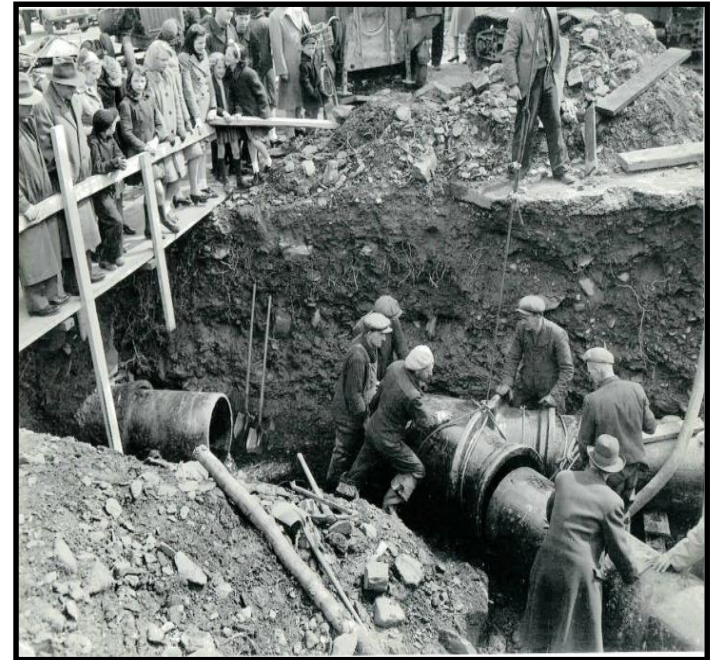
**STRAIGHT from  
the SOURCE**

Item No. 8.3.1



# History of Halifax Water

- Halifax Water was originally formed as the Public Service Commission of Halifax in 1945.
- Municipal Amalgamation in 1996 merged three water utilities to form Halifax Regional Water Commission.
- In 2007, Halifax Regional Municipality transferred its wastewater and stormwater assets to HRWC.



# Halifax Water; the Basics

- Operates in accordance with an Act of Provincial Legislature with rates, rules and regulations approved by the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board [NSUARB].
- Operates like a business - governed by Board of Directors consisting of 4 Council members, 3 private citizens and HRM CAO (non-voting member). Halifax Regional Municipality is sole shareholder.
- Self financed utility; capital and operating budgets are funded directly from user fees and fire protection revenue.
- First and only regulated water, wastewater and stormwater utility in Canada.



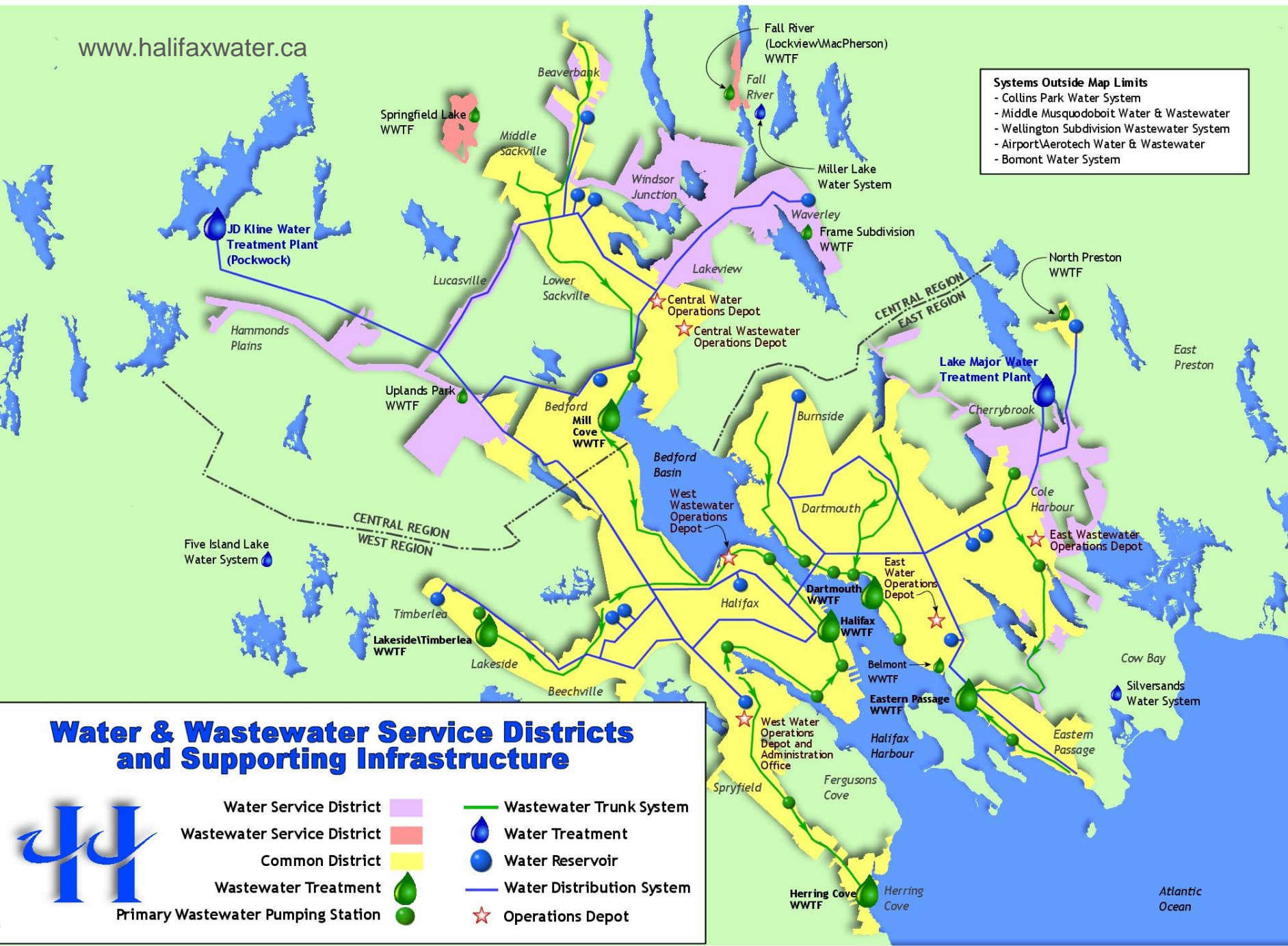
# Halifax Water – Environment Health & Safety Committee

- Not less than 2 Commissionaires
- Advisory Capacity
- Fundamental policies pertaining to corporate responsibility, environment, health and safety, and security having the potential to impact corporate activities and strategies. Corporate responsibility includes the general commitment areas of governance, people, environment, engagement, community involvement, health and safety, and security













**Systems Outside Map Limits**

- Collins Park Water System
- Middle Musquodoboit Water & Wastewater
- Wellington Subdivision Wastewater System
- Airport/Aerotech Water & Wastewater
- Bomont Water System



## Water & Wastewater Service Districts and Supporting Infrastructure



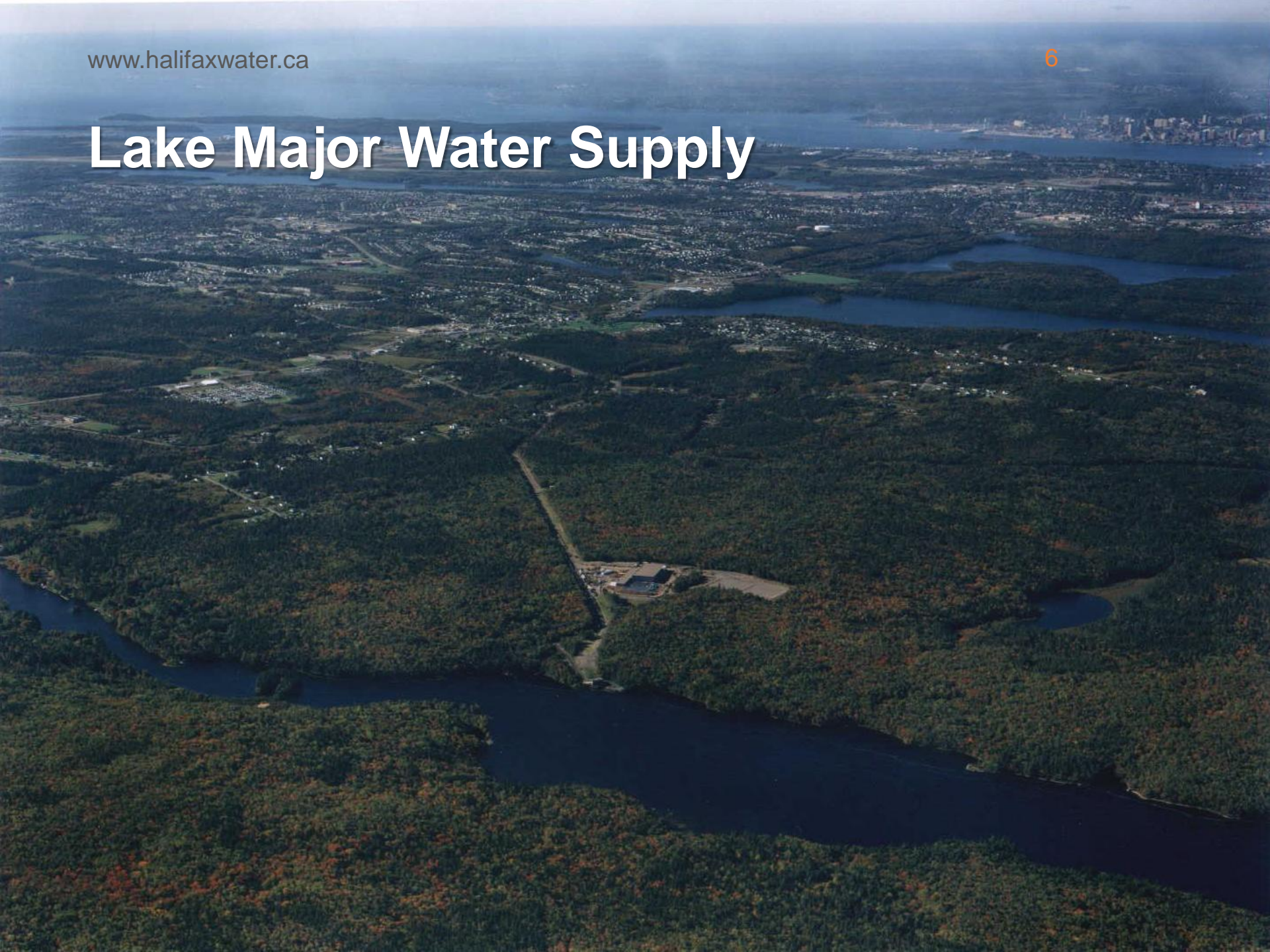
- |                                    |   |                           |   |
|------------------------------------|---|---------------------------|---|
| Water Service District             |  | Wastewater Trunk System   |  |
| Wastewater Service District        |  | Water Treatment           |  |
| Common District                    |  | Water Reservoir           |  |
| Wastewater Treatment               |  | Water Distribution System |  |
| Primary Wastewater Pumping Station |  | Operations Depot          |  |

Atlantic Ocean

# Pockwock Water Supply

An aerial photograph showing a large, dark blue reservoir in the foreground, partially enclosed by a dam. The surrounding landscape is densely forested with green and brown trees. A winding road or path leads from the reservoir towards a tall, thin tower structure in the middle ground. The background shows a hazy horizon under a clear sky.

# Lake Major Water Supply



# Provincially Designated Watersheds

- Pockwock Lake, Lake Major and Bennery Lake
  - subject to Environment Act
  - WABs have been established as a liaison between the Water Utility, the Province and communities in developing regulations
- Provincial Watershed Advisory Boards:
  - Activities and practices within the provincially designated watersheds
  - WABs review and make recommendations to the Minister of Environment and Halifax Water on activities or policy issues affecting the water quality, flows, levels, storm water, development and forest management in protected water areas
  - Citizen-at-large representatives, drawn from the communities within the protected water areas, sit on these WABs





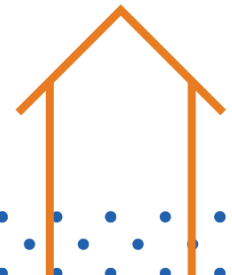
# Designated Watersheds

- In addition to these provincial designations and regulations, the [Halifax Regional Water Commission Act](#) restricts activities in the Lake Lemont, Topsail, Long, Chain Lakes, and Tomahawk Lake water supply areas.



# HRM's Role in Watershed Protection

- The MGA also provides municipal units with the power to make bylaws to protect drinking water supply areas. In the Halifax Municipality, for example, the Regional Plan outlines the policies from which zoning bylaws are enabled to protect municipal drinking water supplies such as:
- Delineating Protected Water Supply (PWS) bylaw zones (independent of a provincial PWA area);
- Requiring setbacks from watercourses and/or creating riparian buffers in PWS bylaw zone areas and/or around all water bodies;
- Placing restrictions on phosphorus loading for new development; and
- Prohibiting activities that may put a water supply at risk.



# How does Halifax Water Protect Watershed?

- To ensure clean and safe drinking water, Halifax Water's Source Water Protection Program implements the following:
- Dedicated staff to maintain a presence on watershed lands;
- Comprehensive source water protection plans;
- Acquisition of watershed lands when possible;
- Forest management in water supply areas;
- Monitoring of land use activities;
- Collection of water samples to identify and monitor potential sources of contaminants;
- Enforcement of drinking water supply regulations and bylaws;
- Collaboration with provincial and municipal regulators and other stakeholders including the development of its [Best Management Practices](#)
- Engagement of outreach/educational opportunities with the public and other interested parties;
- Post and maintain signage along the watershed boundary informing the public of the boundary and the restricted activities; and
- Industry-leading research opportunities.



## Halifax Water's Capital & Operational Programs

- Follow Design Standards
- Obtain all NSE permits
- E&S protection measures
  
- Operating Permits may require ERAs
- Water Withdrawal Permits
- Storage (impoundment) permits



# Questions or Comments?



# Assets

- 2 large water treatment plants
- 14 community plants (small systems)
- 20 water pump stations
- 18 water reservoirs
- 1,549 km of water mains
- 8,350 fire hydrants
- Serves a population of 370,000

