

Cambridge Groundwater Guardian becomes Cambridge WATERS

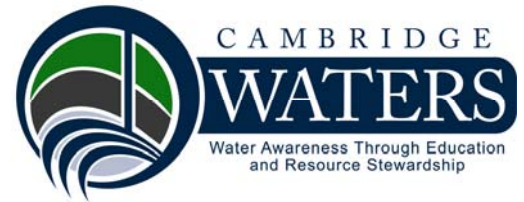


Since 1997, Cambridge Groundwater Guardian has undertaken groundwater awareness projects including the development of educational posters

and teaching packages. In December 2007, Groundwater Guardian volunteers marked their 10th anniversary with a presentation to Council and an announcement: "Groundwater Guardian" was changing its name to "**Cambridge WATERS.**"

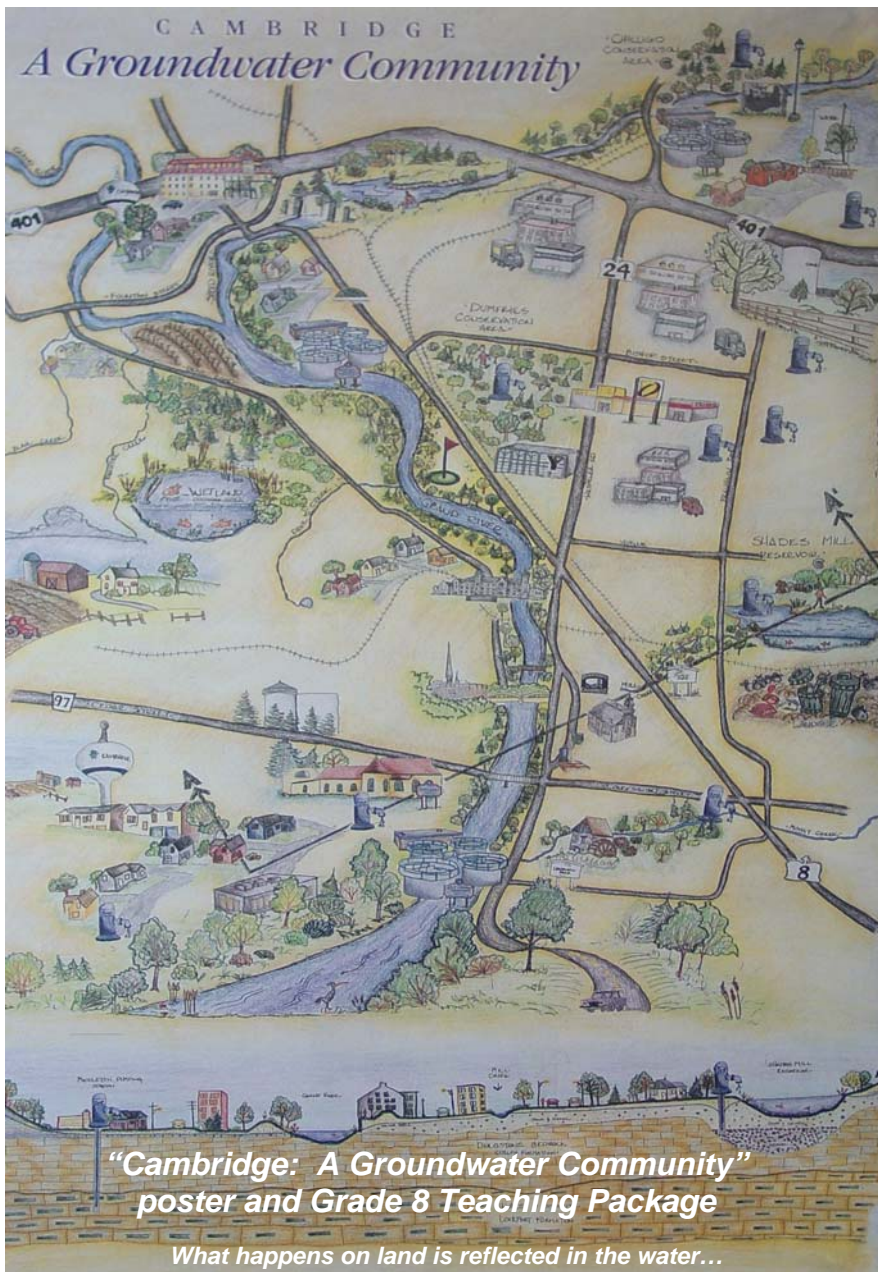
The new name, "Cambridge WATERS" (which stands for **Water Awareness Through Education and Resource Stewardship**), reflects the group's interest in "water" issues (both surface and groundwater), "awareness" and "education" (for the general public as well as schools, teachers and students), and "resource stewardship."

Cambridge remains a Groundwater Guardian member of the Groundwater Foundation. Cambridge is currently the only member community in Canada (besides the affiliate member, the Regional Municipality of



Waterloo). In the United States there are 150 Groundwater Guardian communities.

Cambridge WATERS is a subcommittee of the Cambridge Environmental Advisory Committee (CEAC). CEAC advises Council of ways to protect, maintain and enhance the natural environment in harmony with the built environment.



The City of Cambridge lies within the largest urban area dependent upon groundwater in North America. Bedrock aquifers supply most of our drinking water. The City relies on over two dozen water supply wells and the highest producing wells occur in the heart of the City. Middleton pumping station alone, operational for over 100 years now, supplies almost 40% of our water.

Although this precious resource is relied upon for our drinking water, other water uses place a great strain on its availability. Attitudes towards water usage and conservation have begun to change. With expected growth within the City, and the new requirements under Provincial source water protection legislation, Cambridge WATERS will likely be busier than ever in the coming years!

As Dave Smyth, long-time Groundwater Guardian member, remarked in noting the longevity of the group, "*our mandate has not run dry.*" **Happy 10th Anniversary Cambridge WATERS!**

Hug Your Water Today !

The high quality of life in Cambridge is due to high quality groundwater.

March 10 – 16, 2008 is Groundwater Awareness Week...take a moment to appreciate your water resources.

For more info about Cambridge WATERS contact Paul Willms at 519.740.4650 ext. 4559 or email willmsp@cambridge.ca

Also, visit the water protection pages at the Region of Waterloo's website, www.region.waterloo.on.ca for information on videos, posters, reports, teacher resources, factsheets, programs and the Children's Groundwater Festival.