

Email suggestion for writing to your elected representative:

Subject: Impose a moratorium on aggregate extraction in the Waverley Uplands above the Alliston Aquifer in Tiny Township, Simcoe County, Ontario

Scientific studies published in peer-reviewed, international journals have shown that the quality of the spring waters from the Alliston Aquifer beneath the Waverley Uplands today is on par with ancient Arctic ice*. A team of prominent scientists led by Drs. John Cherry and Ian Clark are currently leading a major research project to better understand this natural phenomenon. We do know that the purity of these waters is the result of the filtration taking place in the uplands but the extraction of aggregates like gravel permanently removes this natural filter. Though the connection between the pit operation and the impacts on wells is disputed by the province and the pit owner, in 2008-2009, soon after the aggregate operation expanded, residents near the pit who rely on groundwater began reporting silt in wells, local streams and springs. This aquifer, on Anishinabe land, holds a unique natural resource that belongs to all the people of Ontario. CRH Group Canada Inc. is currently trying to increase the size of its pit and The Sarjeant Company is actively developing 2 previously licensed pits.

As our elected representative, I urge you to ask the Ontario Ministries of the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks and of Natural Resources and Forestry, and the Premier of Ontario to protect this unique and precious water resource for future generations by imposing a moratorium on aggregate extraction in the Waverley Uplands above the Alliston Aquifer in Concession 1 of Tiny Township, County of Simcoe.

**Shotyk, W., Krachler, M., Aeschbach-Hertig, W., Hillier, S. and Zheng, J. (2010). "Trace elements in recent groundwater of an artesian flow system and comparison with snow: enrichments, depletions, and chemical evolution of the water." *Journal of Environmental Monitoring* 12:208-217.*

*Shotyk, W. and Krachler, M. (2009). "Determination of trace element concentrations in natural freshwaters: how low is "low", and how low do we have to go?" *Journal of Environmental Monitoring* 11:1747 - 1753.*