

Purpose

- To introduce the update of the Grand River Water Management Plan
- To discuss options/interest for future involvement and support for the Plan
- To facilitate a dialogue on the [water objectives](#) for the watershed among environmentally-related organizations and groups with an interest in the Grand
- To discover how the Plan may align with the goals of interested groups

Updating the Grand River Water Management Plan

The updated Grand River Water Management Plan will be an action plan that the partners writing it will agree to implement. Plan partners include: municipalities, First Nations, provincial ministries and federal departments. Involving non-government organizations (environmental, community and business groups) to build momentum for a practical, achievable, collaborative agenda that addresses environmental goals is a key component in developing the updated plan.

Having a water management plan is not new. The Grand River watershed has been managed under a water management plan for more than 75 years. The most recent plan was completed in 1982. Nearly all the recommendations contained in this plan were implemented and it badly needs updating.

The goals of the current plan are:

- Ensuring a sustainable water supply for communities and ecosystems
- Reducing potential flood damages
- Improving water quality to maintain river health and reduce the Grand's impact of Lake Erie
- Improving the watershed's resiliency to climate change

The question of “what do you want to see in a water management plan?” has been asked of watershed residents numerous times in the last few years. As a first step in the process, a list of draft water objectives has been assembled from the numerous other engagement and water planning processes that have occurred across the watershed in recent years. These draft objectives will be used to guide the partners towards setting targets and ultimately developing management actions. These management actions will be voluntary.

Although the Water Management Plan is centred upon the commitments of the [partners](#), for each of the goals above, there is an important role for government agencies, municipalities, NGOs and for individual citizens of the watershed. As well, the Water Management Plan may work to support activities on the ground.

Grand River Water Management Plan: Non-Government Organizations (NGO) Roundtable
Thursday, November 10, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. GRCA Headquarters, 400 Clyde Rd., Cambridge

Agenda

5:45 p.m.	Registration	
6:00 p.m.	Greetings and roundtable introductions Question: What is your greatest interest in the Water Management Plan? <i>(Dinner will be served buffet style at the beginning of the meeting)</i>	Nancy Davy, Steering Committee of the Water Management Plan (GRCA)
6:20 p.m.	Agenda Review	David Dilks, facilitator, LURA Consulting
6:25 p.m.	Presentation on the Grand River Water Management Plan	Lorrie Minshall, Program Director, Water Management Plan, GRCA
6:45 p.m.	Questions / discussion	David Dilks
7:00 p.m.	<i>Break</i>	
7:10 p.m.	Presentation on draft water objectives for the updated plan	Sandra Cooke, GRCA
7:30 p.m.	Breakout: Looking at the list of draft water objectives, do you feel that your organization's interests are reflected? Is there anything that is missing? Are there any showstoppers?	
8:00 p.m.	Highlights from breakouts and group discussion on draft objectives	
8:15 p.m.	<i>Break</i>	
8:20 p.m.	Collaboration and the Water Management Plan: Towards a common agenda	Lorrie Minshall
8:25 p.m.	Breakout: What opportunities for participation do you see? (Are there synergies between the objectives of the Plan and your organization's goals?)	
8:40 p.m.	Highlights and group discussion on engagement	
8:55 p.m.	Closing remarks	Lorrie Minshall