

COPY

29th October, 2011

Kelly Denty,
Supervisor, Planning Applications,
Western Region,
Planning Services,
Halifax Regional Municipality.

Dear Ms. Denty:

At a recent meeting of the HWAB, it was suggested that, in view of the current review of the Regional Plan, now might be an opportune moment to request that new policies be considered to cover some of the topics most frequently appearing as the subject of HWAB recommendations. A copy of our original list, first sent to you in November, 2009, is enclosed for your reference.

Past on-line searches of staff reports to Regional and Community Council seemed to indicate that most HWAB recommendations could not be implemented because H.R.M. Planning did not have the jurisdiction or legislation to do so. However, the Board was pleased to discover, in a more recent search, that staff reports have also included details of how issues raised by the HWAB, are covered by other agencies. This provides a much better overview of the planning process than we had previously thought. The Board finds this very encouraging!

Many of the topics on our list fall into the category of issues covered by other agencies, but there may still be a few that could be implemented through planning policies. If so, we should appreciate your considering them in the course of your review of the Regional Plan.

Meanwhile, the Board looks forward to continuing its work to protect the water resources and environment of the municipality, in cooperation with the HRM Planning Services.

Yours sincerely,

Original Signed by Chair

A. Ellinor Williams
Chair, Halifax Watershed Advisory Board.

HALIFAX WATERSHED ADVISORY BOARD:

MOST FREQUENTLY RECOMMENDED TOPICS

1. The extension of the buffer zones beside water bodies from 20 metres to 30 metres - and turning these zones over to HRM ownership.
2. Water quality monitoring before, during and after construction.
3. The installation, inspection and maintenance of oil and grit separators.
4. The installation, inspection and maintenance of sewage treatment plants - and the requirement for mandatory septic tank pumping every 3 years.
5. The installation of permeable or impermeable surfaces, depending on circumstances.
6. The installation of vegetated swales for storm water control.
7. The containment of oil storage.
8. The installation of three-sided culverts in streams to allow for fish passage.
9. The installation of sedimentation ponds.
10. The provision of landscaping to help minimize run-off.
11. The installation of engineered wetlands.
12. The protection of flood plains.
13. The installation of low-flow fixtures.