



SOURCE WATER PROTECTION TOOLKIT

October 4th, 2023

Ian Dulin

NEIW PCC



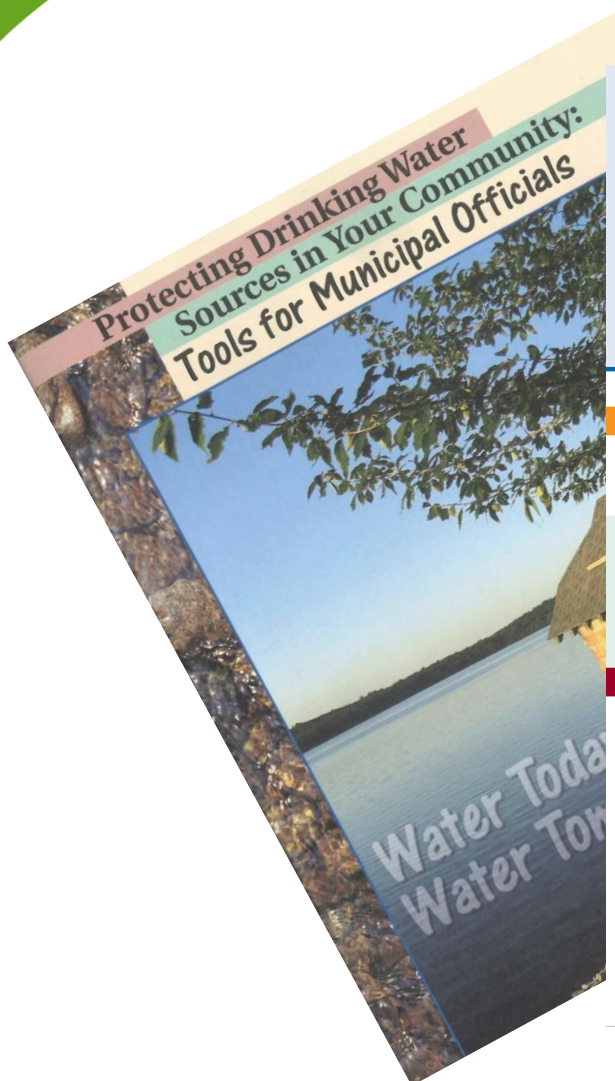
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NEIWPC

- NEIWPC is a regional commission that helps the states of the Northeast preserve and advance water quality.
- We engage and convene water quality professionals and other interested parties from New England and New York to collaborate on water, wastewater, and environmental science challenges across shared regions, ecosystems, and areas of expertise.

SOURCE WATER PROTECTION TOOLKIT



“Water is the most critical resource issue of our lifetime and our children’s lifetime. The health of our waters is the principal measure of how we live on the land.”
LUNA LEOPOLD

1 It’s Time to Take Drinking Water Seriously!

If you are a municipal official in a New England community, this booklet is for you. This is your call to action for water supply protection. Chances are your community is already on the case. Chances are you are already up to speed on this subject. But, whether you have just gotten on board in your community or you have been involved for years, chances are this booklet has some useful information for you. If you simply need action tips for a specific water supply threat in your community, go straight to the color-coded directory below. If you could use some background information, please read on.

Why the urgency? ~Because safe drinking water is central to our health, well-being, and economic viability. ~Because while public water systems have primary responsibility for water supply protection, communities are essential players in this effort. ~Because our water supplies are limited. ~Because water supply pollutants are widespread and diverse.

Why municipal officials? Protection efforts need to involve selectmen, municipal administrators, planning and zoning boards, wetlands and conservation commissions, departments of public works, boards of health, schools, and other entities. All of you, at some time or other, make decisions that may affect the quality of your community’s water supplies and should, therefore, take drinking water protection into account. Municipalities need to: ~Be cognizant of potential threats and adopt appropriate protective policies and measures. ~Partner with the state, the business community, and their water suppliers to ensure water supply protection.

Check it Out... This document is directed primarily to municipal officials and those who volunteer in their communities. It provides tools you can use to take action in your community to protect drinking water sources in your water supply area, your watershed area, your community, and your backyard.

New England state Source Water Assessments revealed five key areas of vulnerability: inadequate local regulations and ordinances, underground storage tanks, on-site sewage disposal systems, hazardous materials storage, and stormwater runoff. This manual focuses on these critical areas. So check it out. Find out:

Special Focus Chapter

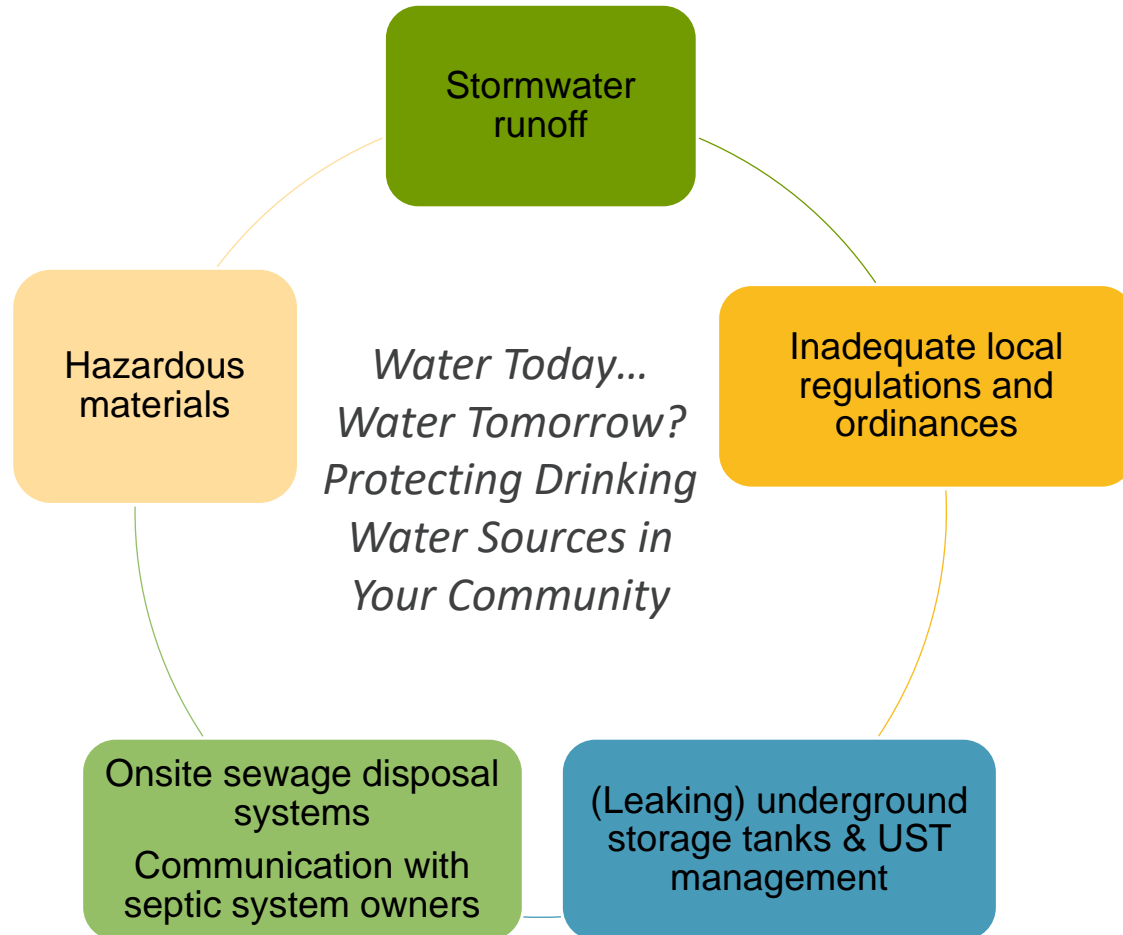
- How municipal officials can use local land-use regulations, ordinances, and conservation easements as important tools for protecting source water Page 13
- How to keep underground and above ground storage tanks out of the picture, or at least out of trouble Page 19
- How you can learn to live with septic systems and protect source water Page 25
- What steps can be taken to manage storage of hazardous materials Page 33
- How your community can begin to solve the stormwater runoff dilemma Page 39

Protecting Drinking Water Sources in Your Community: Tools for Municipal Officials 1

Reasons for Updating:

- Published in 2004
- Designed for print
- Outdated resources
- Does not address contemporary issues

2004 SOURCE WATER PROTECTION TOOLKIT



Cross-cutting resources

Building a local Source Water Protection community

Case studies

Tools

Funding & financing

SOURCE WATER PROTECTION TOOLKIT UPDATE

- State & EPA expertise
- State-local, EPA-local relationships
- Case studies

SWP Workgroup
& NEIWPCC

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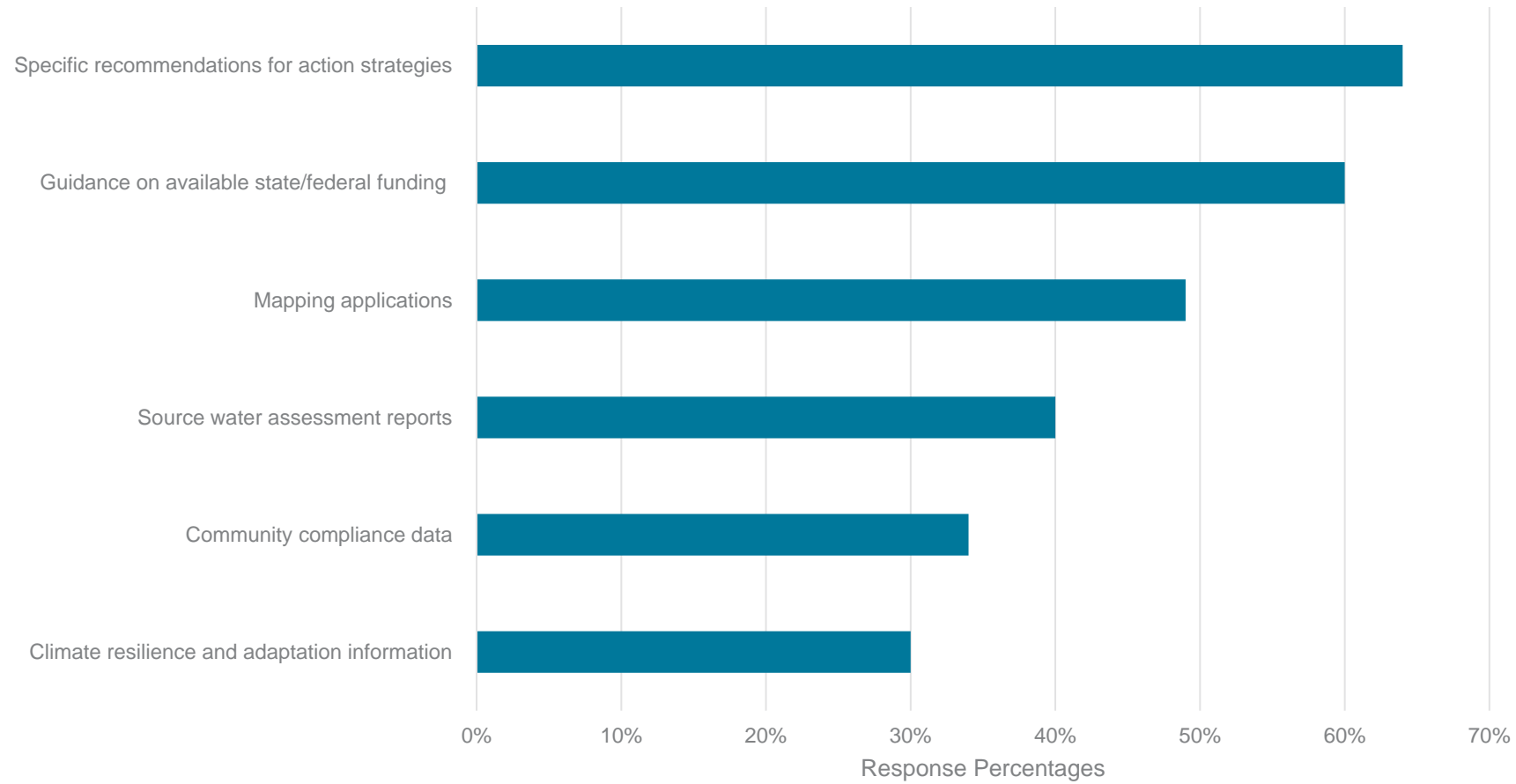
SWP Workgroup
& NEIWPC

Survey &
Feedback

- Local partners
- New topics
- Resources & communication strategies

SWP TOOLKIT MUNICIPAL SURVEY TAKEAWAYS

Tools/Resources Useful for Advancing SWP in Municipalities



SWP TOOLKIT MUNICIPAL SURVEY TAKEAWAYS

1. Threats to source water

- Emerging/residual contaminants
- Homeowner property management
- Roads and vehicle management

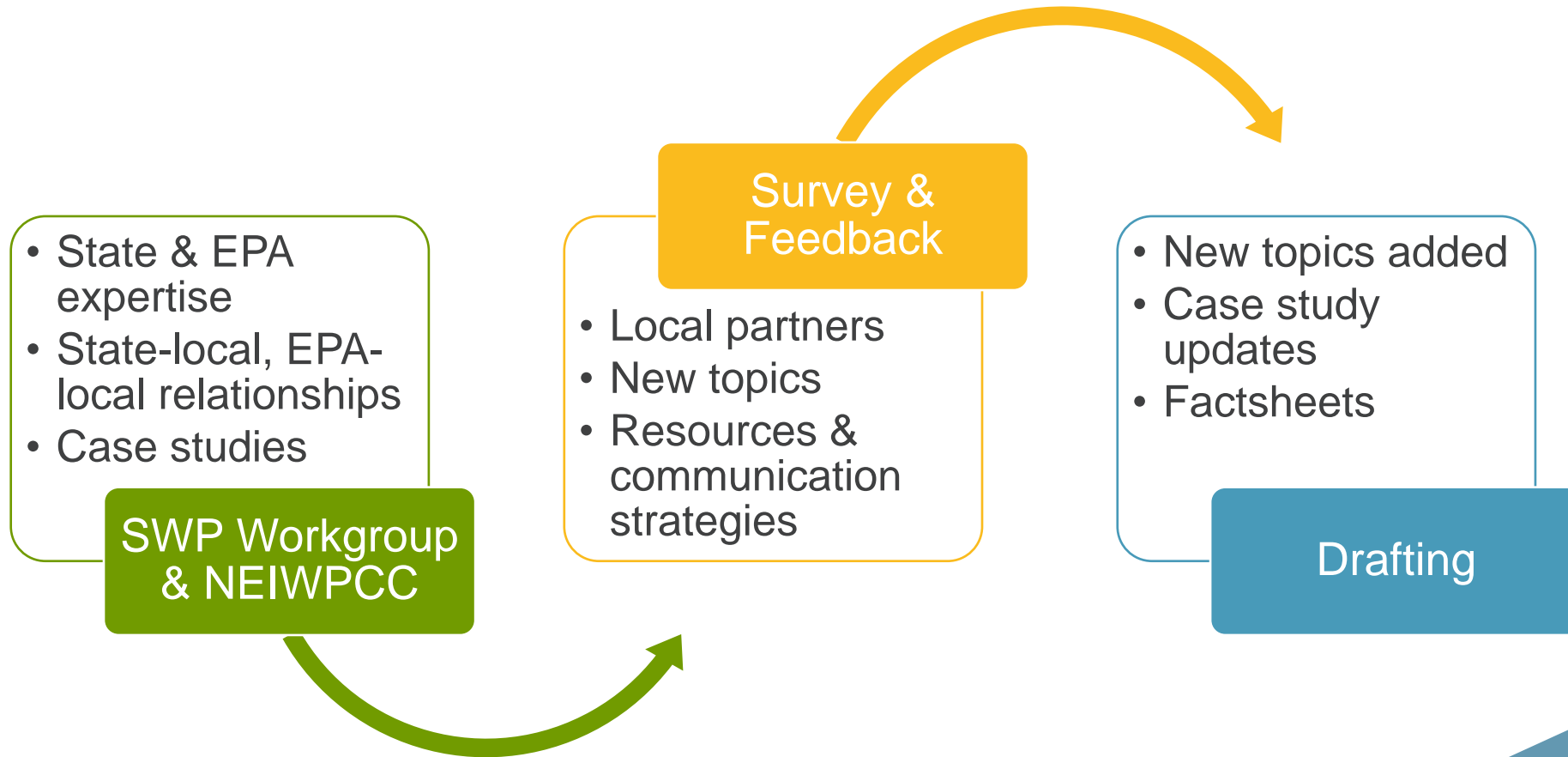
2. Aquifer management

3. Climate change

4. Making SWP a priority

- Proactive management/education
- Outreach/enforcement programs

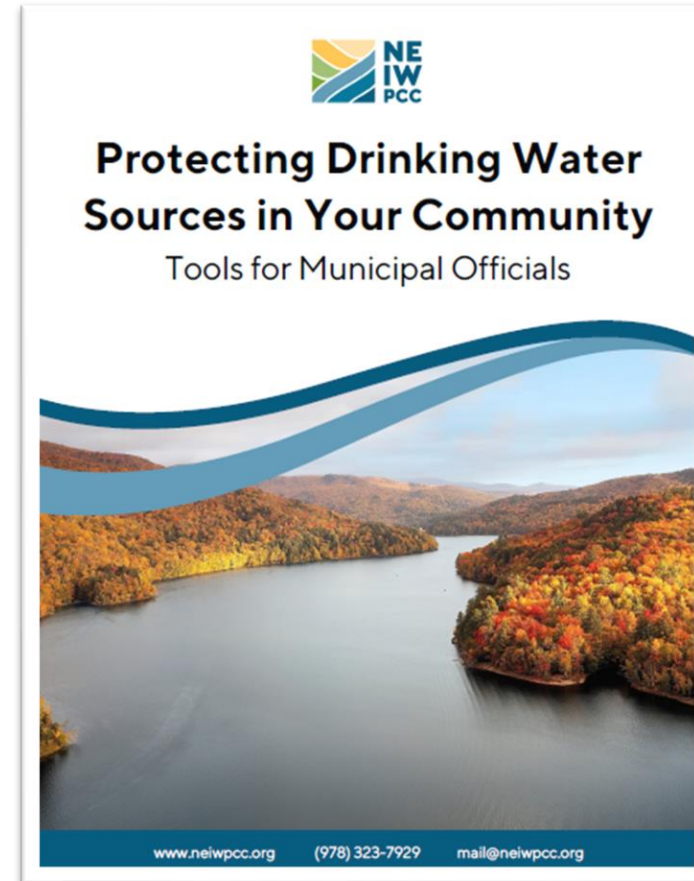
SOURCE WATER PROTECTION TOOLKIT UPDATE



NEW TOOLKIT CONTENT OVERVIEW

New Toolkit Content Overview

- 12 new case studies
- Climate change connections
- FYI & “Tools of the Trade” Section
- PFAS
- Stormwater chapter



GETTING STARTED

- **Strategies for Action**
- Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP)
 - Case Study: NYS Drinking Water Source Protection Program (DWSP2)
 - Tools of the Trade: EPA's Funding Integration Tool for Source Water (FITS)
 - Case Study: Annual Drinking Water Outreach Packages to MA Boards of Health

LAND USE

- Climate Connection: Sea Level Rise and Groundwater Resources
- PFAS Contamination and Land Use
- Case Study: Solar Panel Development and SWP

FUEL STORAGE

- Underground and Aboveground Storage Tanks (USTs/ASTS)
- Case Study: Flood Risk and Resiliency: VT Mobile Home Park ASTs
- Emergency Response Planning
- Case Study: USTs at Marinas

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

- Guide to EPA waste definitions and tools
- Case Study: Municipal Response to Hazardous Waste Spills
- Will continue to update with ongoing PFAS information

SEPTIC SYSTEMS

- Case Study: Massachusetts Community Septic Management Program
- Climate Connection: The Importance of Preparing Sites with the Future in Mind

STORMWATER

- Runoff Best Management Practices
 - Climate Connection: Planning for Bigger, Wetter, More Frequent Storms
- Low-Impact Development and Nature-Based Solutions

FINANCING

- Details on:
 - EPA Funding
 - SRF
 - Section 319
 - State-specific
 - Rural-specific

RESOURCES

- Federal and State Source Water Programs
- SWAP Reports
- GIS Resources
- Groundwater Protection
- Chapter-specific resource guides

- Always adding more!

NEXT PHASE

1. Access

- Available on NEIWPCC webpage
- Individual chapters available to download
- One-page factsheets

2. Promotion

- Get the word out
- Get feedback

3. Relevance

- New emerging threats, strategies, and resources
- The key is usability

<https://neiwpc.org/our-programs/gswp/source-water-protection-municipalities/>

SEARCH: NEIWPC Toolkit

Contact Info:

Ian Dulin

idualin@neiwpc.org

978-349-2051

