

## Municipal Drinking Water Sampling & Lead Testing Program

### Changes to Lead Sampling Requirements (MOE amended O.Reg. 170/03) and how it affects Erin and Hillsburgh Well Supply

In 2007, the Ontario government required municipal drinking water systems, schools and day nurseries to undertake mandatory testing for lead in drinking water to ensure lead levels met the Ontario Drinking Water Standards. Since that time, the testing undertaken has demonstrated that the vast majority of municipal and non-municipal residential drinking water systems, schools and day nurseries have met the standards. As a result, MOE has recently filed amended regulations under the Safe Drinking Water Act to clarify some of the requirements for testing and to introduce an automatic exemption for municipal drinking water systems serving under 50,000 people.

The exemption is available to these systems if: The system is already doing reduced sampling or if the system has been granted sampling relief by not more than ten per cent of plumbing samples over a complete year of sampling (winter and summer) have exceeded the standards of 10 ug/L. The exemption is automatic once test results have been submitted to the Ministry. MOE approval is not needed.

Both the Erin and Hillsburgh Well Supply Systems qualify for exemption as:

Not more than 10% of the plumbing samples exceeded 10 ug/L in each of the 4 sampling periods:

- Dec. 07 - April 08, June 08 – Oct. 08
- Dec. 08 - April 09, June 09 - Oct. 09

Erin and Hillsburgh Water Supply Systems will not have to sample for lead at all, until the third “12 month period”:

- Dec. 15, 2011 – April 15, 2012
- June 15, 2012 – Oct 15. 2012

The Town of Erin would like to thank all of the participants who have kindly volunteered their homes. Your participation has provided us with the ability to achieve the requirements set out to us by the Ministry of the Environment. As you can see from the above schedule, we will be seeking out new homes for testing in the **Dec 15, 2011 - April 15, 2012** sampling period and hope to be just as successful in recruiting volunteers.

Any questions regarding our service or to participate in the Lead Sampling, please call Louise Warn at 519-855-4407 ext. 228 or email: [louise.warn@erin.ca](mailto:louise.warn@erin.ca) .