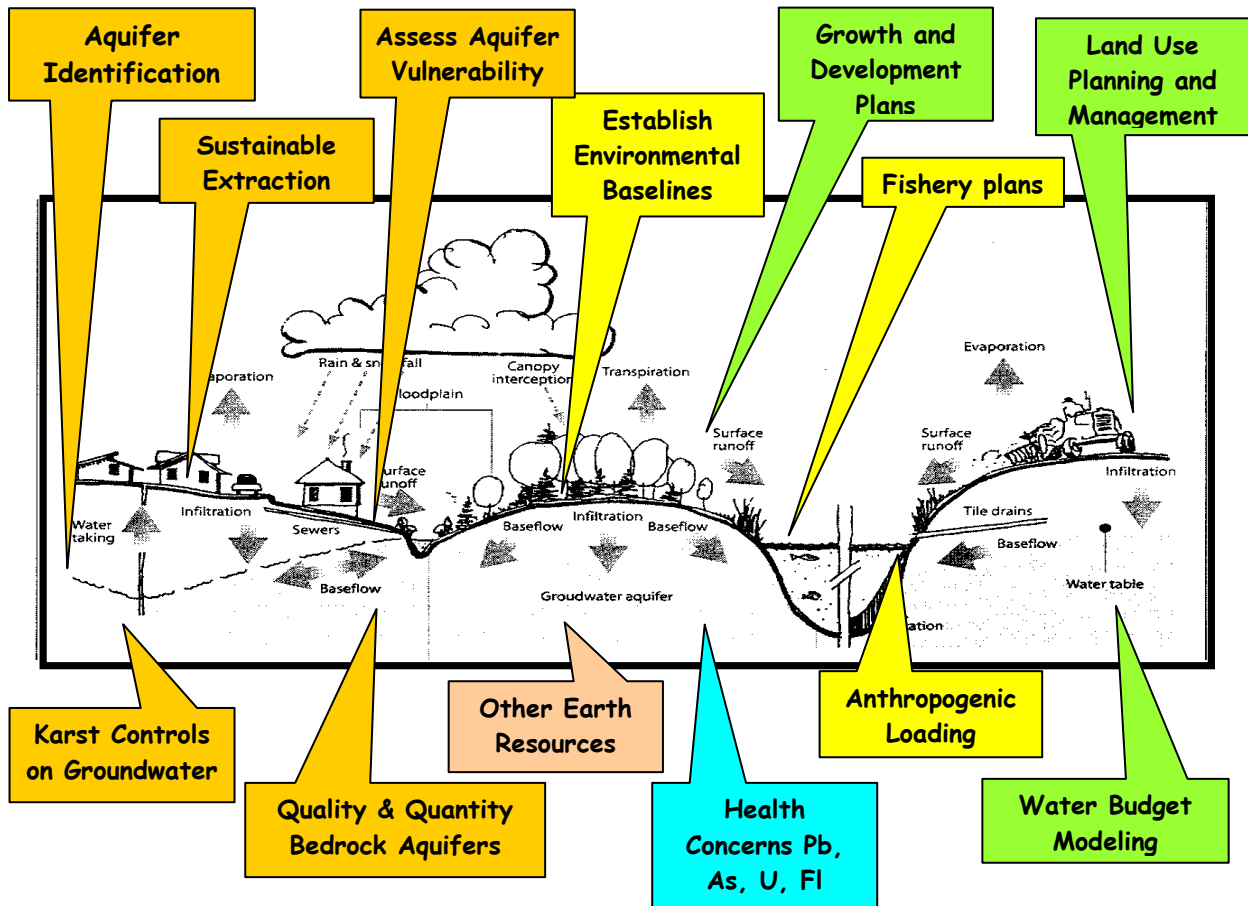


Ontario's Hidden Groundwater Potential

MNDMF - Ontario Geological Survey

Geoscience Information Landscape



Geology is the “bucket” that contains Ontario’s groundwater!

MNDMF geological studies provide a framework for informed policy, protection, and utilization of Ontario’s groundwater, which sustains 3 million people.

Ontario Groundwater – Geoscience Framework
Ministry of Northern Development, Mines and Forestry
Ontario Geological Survey

Results:

New geological information and 3-dimensional groundwater models:

- Define the distribution and vulnerability of groundwater aquifers;
- Identifies new groundwater resources to sustain community development;
- Is a science base that supports policy, source water protection, including land-use planning decisions.

Policy Relevance:

- A) Public health and prosperity;
- B) Foundation for groundwater innovation economy (*Water Opportunities Act*);
- C) Informs groundwater policy decisions;
- D) Informs land-use management decisions (protection, development, extraction);

Public Relevance:

Geological framework of southern Ontario is essential to help identify:

- New groundwater resources;
- Vulnerability and sustainability of groundwater resources;
- Areas requiring source-water protection;
- Regions in which natural water quality issues may affect public health;
- Human influenced environmental issues impacting groundwater quality.

Methods:

An integral part of the MNDMF's Ontario Geological Survey, field based geoscience program delivered in partnership with other Municipalities, Ministries, Conservation Authorities and Universities.

Next Steps:

Continuation of the regional, systematic groundwater aquifer studies across southern Ontario.

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