

What do Drinking Water Protection Zone road signs mean?

Provincially standard road signs mark locations where well-used roads cross into zones where municipal drinking water sources are the most vulnerable to contamination. The road signs notify citizens that their actions in these zones can have an impact on municipal drinking water sources. The signs also alert first responders of the need to quickly inform the appropriate authorities so that action can be taken to keep contaminants out of the public water treatment and distribution system.

How were Drinking Water Protection Zones determined?

Under Ontario's Clean Water Act, scientific studies were completed for all communities in the City that have municipal drinking water. The result is a detailed understanding of drinking water sources including mapping of drinking water protection zones (see map on reverse); the protection zone around a groundwater well is called a "Wellhead Protection Area" and an "Intake Protection Zone" is the protected area for a municipal surface water intake. Local policies to protect drinking water sources within the City are outlined in the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Plan and the Raisin-South Nation Source Protection Plan.

Doesn't municipal water treatment clean the water?

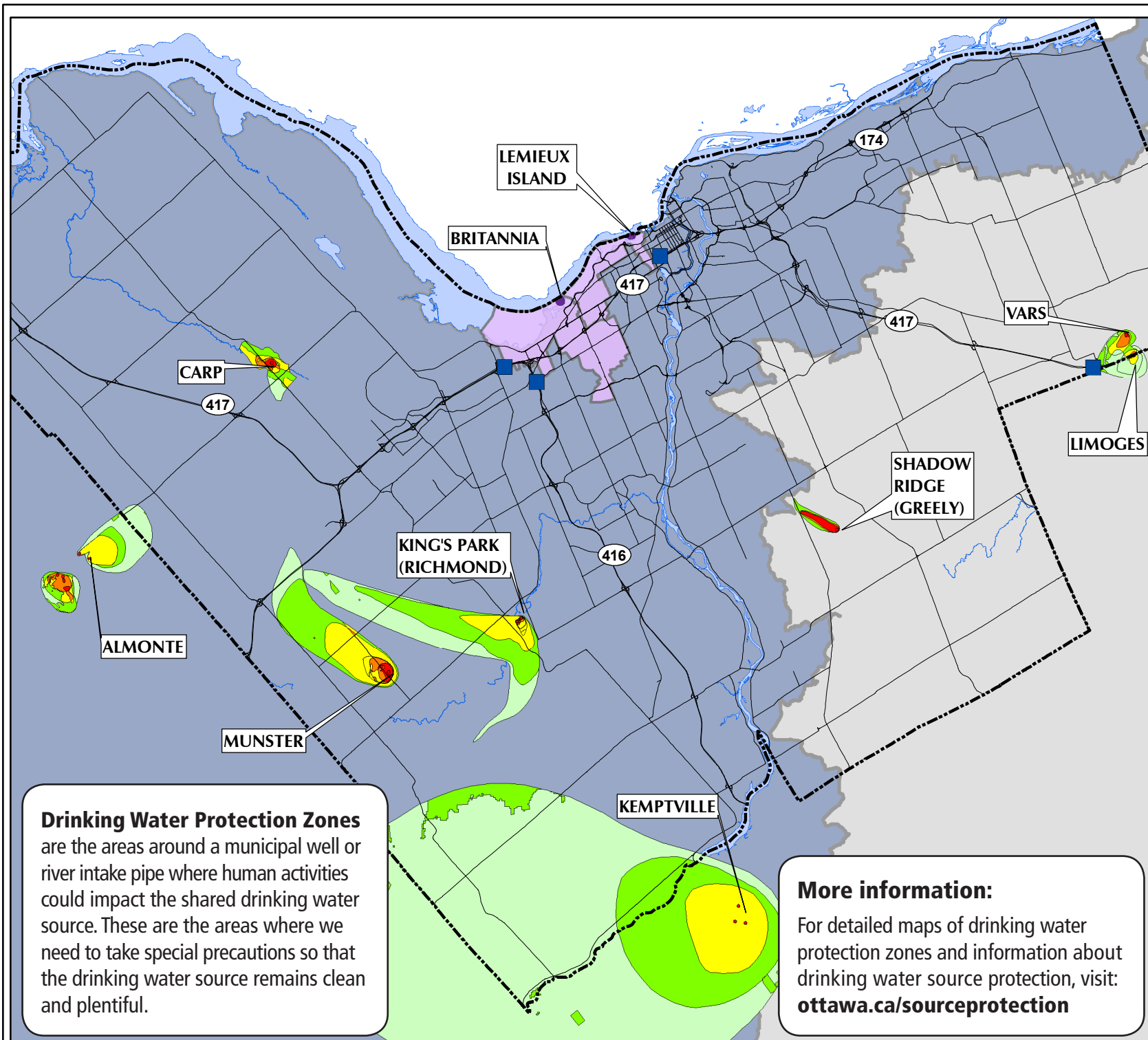
Municipal water treatment ensures that tap water is safe to drink, but it makes sense to protect the drinking water source. There are many benefits to protecting our drinking water resources:

- Reduces the cost of water treatment
- Avoids the need to find new drinking water sources if existing ones become contaminated or depleted
- Ensures a long term supply of clean water for economic growth
- Protects property values and supports tourism, recreation and business development
- Also helps to protect the aquifer that supplies private wells

What does the Drinking Water Protection Zone mean for me?

Source Protection Plans set out special measures that need to be in place in drinking water protection zones to ensure the long-term protection of the drinking water source. The measures mainly apply to governments, industry and some specific activities (such as storing a large amount of fuel or chemicals). If you live in a Drinking Water Protection Zone, you are encouraged to make small changes that will help to protect rivers and underground aquifers. You may already be doing things such as using environmentally friendly cleaning products, properly disposing of hazardous substances, cleaning up pet waste, reducing your use of fertilizer and sidewalk salt and properly maintaining your furnace oil tank and septic system.





Drinking Water Protection Zones
are the areas around a municipal well or river intake pipe where human activities could impact the shared drinking water source. These are the areas where we need to take special precautions so that the drinking water source remains clean and plentiful.

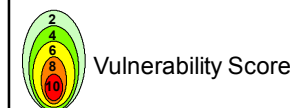
More information:

For detailed maps of drinking water protection zones and information about drinking water source protection, visit: ottawa.ca/sourceprotection

Source Water Protection Road Signs



■ Source Water Protection Signs



Intake Protection Zone

- IPZ-1 (Score 9)
- IPZ-2 (Score 8.1)

Source Protection Region

- Mississippi-Rideau
- Raisin-South Nation



GIS and Data Management
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