

Walkerton Clean Water Centre Standard of Care - Safe Drinking Water Act

Course Overview

This course was developed by the Ontario Ministry of the Environment and the Walkerton Clean Water Centre with significant guidance and input from an Advisory Group of municipal councillors and mayors.

This course is designed to inform municipal councillors and officials of their oversight responsibilities under Section 19 of the Safe Drinking Water Act, which comes into effect on December 31, 2012. Severe penalties are possible for municipal officials who fail to act in good faith and do not exercise honesty, competence and integrity to ensure the protection and safety of the users of municipal drinking water systems. Several examples of waterborne disease outbreaks are examined which highlight the importance of competent oversight.

The course describes some general information about drinking water systems, the multi-barrier approach to drinking water treatment and some of the risks associated with drinking water production and distribution.

Target Audience

Mayors, councillors and municipal officials with oversight responsibility for drinking water treatment and/or distribution systems.