



Rural Water Watch Board of Directors' Report of Activities 2022

2022 Board of Directors:

Juliet Egbulefu

Courtney Bonner

Lauchie MacLean

Dave Redden

Fred Bonner

www.ruralwaterwatch.org



Report of Activities 2022

RWW was busy this year developing partnerships with organizations and researchers near and far. Of particular interest is our support of Dalhousie University's Centre for Water Resources Studies' (CWRS) proposal to the Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund. The research proposal focusses on issues with groundwater availability as a result of climate change. RWW's role will be to assist outreach activities if the proposal Moves forward.



RWW began researching home-based test kits and laying the groundwork for another project involving CWRS researchers. Home-based water testing products have the potential to reduce barriers to testing drinking water. Our project will evaluate these technologies and products for accuracy, ease of use, understanding and affordability. The initial work will focus on biological contaminants.

RWW has been organizing a well disinfection project with the southwest NS communities of Shelburne, Weymouth Falls and Greenville. Wells in these communities consistently test positive for coliforms and in some cases E. coli. Well condition and animal activity around wells are primary sources of contamination.

The project will begin in early 2023.






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Healthy Wells Presentations

Through our networking with the Provincial Library of NS, we organized and delivered two Healthy Wells presentations in partnership with South Shore Public Libraries. The first was in Liverpool April 22nd and the second was in Bridgewater October 11th.

We have also been approached to deliver another presentation at the River Hebert Branch of the Cumberland Public Libraries in early 2023.

Other community organizations have contacted RWW for presentations and to help organize sample collection events in 2023.





Tuesday Night Environmental Series
Healthy Wells Workshop
with Rural Water Watch Association

Join us to learn how to keep your well water healthy. Learn about common issues with water quality and quantity, as well as how to test your well for bacteria and metals. We will also discuss local concerns like the impacts of climate change and introduce you to resources to help you manage and protect your well water.

*For more information, email: ruralwaterwatch@gmail.com
Website: ruralwaterwatch.org*

Tuesday, October 11, 7 pm
Margaret Hennigar Public Library





Report of Activities 2022

Healthy Wells Day 2022

Healthy Wells Day
Oct. 16th, 2022

Healthy Wells Day is an annual campaign to remind well owners to test their wells for water quality. Did you know...

50% of property owners have not tested for chemical quality

Yes! 50/50 No

Dug wells are highly susceptible to bacterial contamination from surface runoff, animals & household chemicals

75% of private wells are in high-risk areas for metal contamination due to Nova Scotia's geology

92 U Uranium, 33 As Arsenic, 25 Mn Manganese

Exposure to bacteria & metals can cause sickness & long-term disease

You cannot taste, see or smell contaminants

Regular water testing is the ONLY way to know if your water is safe to use. Visit www.ruralwaterwatch.org for more information about Healthy Wells Day & well water safety tips.

OCTOBER 16 2022
HEALTHY WELLS DAY

WHAT IS IT?
An annual awareness campaign organized by Rural Water Watch to promote the need to regularly test your well water.

THINGS YOU CAN DO:

- TEST YOUR WELL WATER
- ASSESS THE CONDITION OF YOUR WELL
- LEARN ABOUT WELL WATER ISSUES
- FOLLOW RWW TO LEARN MORE
- TUNE INTO ZOOM PRESENTATION (SEE WEBSITE FOR DETAILS & LINK)

ruralwaterwatch@gmail.com
www.ruralwaterwatch.org
[facebook.com/ruralwaterwatch](https://www.facebook.com/ruralwaterwatch)

Private Wells and Drinking Water Quality

Colin Walker, M.Sc., P.Geo., FGC
Senior Hydrogeologist
Saint Mary's University
CBCL Limited

Thanks Colin!!

We promoted Health Wells Day through social media and email campaigns and had good attendance at our virtual Healthy Wells Day presentation via Facebook Live. Our guest speaker Colin Walker P. Geo. talked about various chemical water quality issues with dug and drilled wells such as minerals & metal contamination, their distribution in NS, potential effects on health and treatment options. Thanks to Courtney and Kyle for assisting and hosting!!

You can watch a recording of the presentation and discussion at:
<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=485168356974136>



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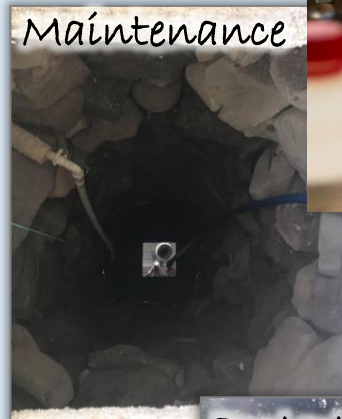


South Shore Public Libraries TURNING PAGES SINCE 1972

To continue our goals of reducing barriers to water testing and achieving healthy well water, we have been busy developing the ‘Water Information Station’ program with South Shore Public Libraries. We hope to have the pilot installation ready in the first quarter of 2023.

The focus is the “What’s in Your Water?” campaign to start a conversation around the need for testing and the actions well users can take to protect themselves and their families from waterborne illness and disease, including testing drinking water, protecting the well area from contaminants, maintaining the well condition and treating water where necessary – based on water quality.

The campaign will have materials created by RWW and government covering these topics as well as others.





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Appointment of Executive Director

Fred Bonner P. Geo. was appointed as part time Executive Director in the fall of 2022. Fred is a co-founder of RWW, a licensed professional geologist/hydrogeologist with many years of drinking water protection experience, and expertise in community engagement and corporate governance.

Fred will be responsible for email correspondence, networking and cultivating partnerships, research on topics of interest to RWW, our partners and our communities, fundraising, updating the website, and managing and developing programming with RWW committees. Reach Fred @ fredbonner@gmail.com.

THANK YOU!!

Supporters:

Apex Sales

NS Environment and Climate Change

NS Natural Resources

Centre for Water Resource Studies

**Special thanks to Juliet Egbulefu
(past Director) for her dedicated
and insightful work.**