

# SOLVING MORaine DRAIN

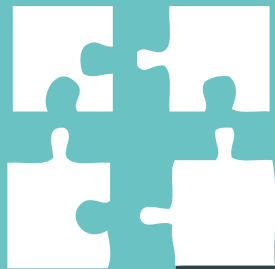
The Oak Ridges Moraine is a source of drinking water for more than 250,000 Ontarians. The Moraine is also home to more than 70 threatened and endangered species. Every day, Ontario allows millions of litres of surface and ground water to be pumped from the Moraine to water golf courses, sort sand and gravel, keep water bottling companies in business and, during the winter, to make snow. But the Ontario government's failure to monitor and report exactly how much is pumped threatens your access and right to clean and safe drinking water.

## STEPS TO A SOLUTION

no. 1

### COMPLETE THE PICTURE

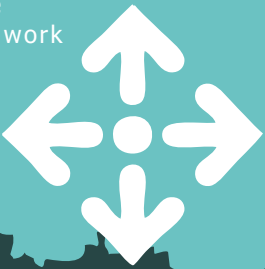
Make the data about exactly how much water use is permitted and the amount of water that's actually used more available to Ontarians.



no. 2

### COORDINATION

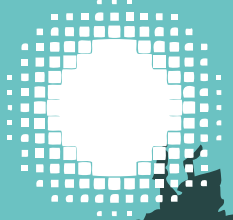
All the conservation authorities, municipalities and the three provincial ministries responsible for monitoring and protecting the Moraine must work together to ensure the continued function of this valuable resource.



no. 3

### REDUCE THE CLUSTERS

The government must create a transparent process by which it determines if a high concentration of Permits to Take Water in one area jeopardizes the ecological function of the Moraine and deny or reduce the number of permits in that area if a problem is found.



no. 4

### PRIORITIZE

The government must set policies that prioritize water use, putting people, plants and animals above commercial activities such as golf courses and water bottling companies. This may include making changes to better align the Permit to Take Water policies with the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan.



no. 4A

### CHARGE MORE

Only highly consumptive permit holders (including water bottlers) pay for the water they pump from the Moraine. The fee (\$3.71 per MILLION litres) doesn't encourage them to conserve or self-regulate the water they do take.



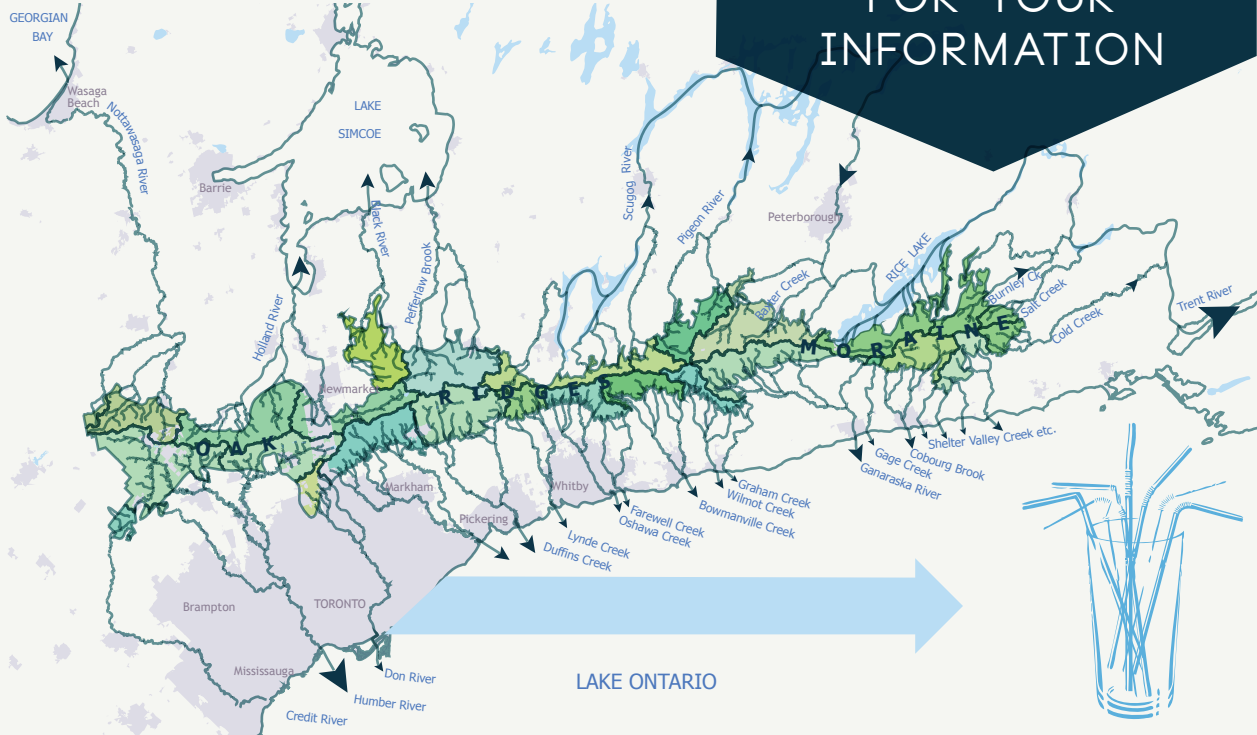
60%

of Ontarians said they were concerned or very concerned with ground water levels.\* For many Ontarians, ground water is their only source of clean drinking water.

\*Ontario Omnibus Survey Report about Ontario ground water protection and monitoring by Oraclepoll Research for Earthroots: June 15, 2012

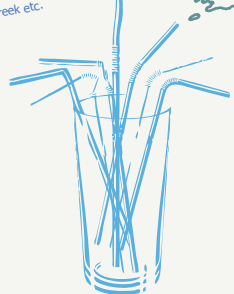
The Oak Ridges Moraine covers approximately 190,000 hectares of land and stretches 160 kilometres from Rice Lake in the east to the Niagara Escarpment in the west.

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION



### OUR VISION

The Oak Ridges Moraine is a natural water filtration system. It sustains Ontario communities by providing safe and clean drinking water. We believe that Ontarians have a right to clean water and that it is the role of the government to protect that resource.



## HOW CAN YOU PROTECT THE MORaine?

# LEARN • SHARE • CONSERVE

Discover how much water you use or discover your local watershed.

Help us spread the message by sharing this info with others.

Using less is a great way to protect your water.



Visit [ecojustice.ca/moraine-drain](http://ecojustice.ca/moraine-drain) to learn how we're helping you protect the Oak Ridges Moraine.