

To: Chair McQueen and Members of the Planning and Community Development Committee
From: Sarah Morrison, Intermediate Planner
Date: January 19, 2016
Subject: Green In Grey – Natural Heritage Systems Study – Notification Procedures

Notification for the Green in Grey – Natural Heritage Systems Study has been as follows:

For the benefit of the Committee, the first round of open houses occurred in March 30 and 31, 2015. Regarding notification for these meetings, staff inquired if local municipalities could utilize their tax bill for circulation. Not all municipalities were able to accommodate this method, however the following municipalities were able to include the initial study notice within the tax bills: Meaford, Southgate, Chatsworth, Georgian Bluffs and Hanover. Other methods of notification for the first meeting included newspaper ads, social media posts and posting on grey.ca. The first round of meetings were well attended, with over 100 participants. At these first meetings it was requested that if attendees wished notification to provide contact information (i.e. mailing address or email address) and these individuals were added to our extensive notification list.

For the second round of public open houses, notification has been provided to an extensive email list that included municipal planning staff, municipal clerks and CAO's as well as agencies (Conservation Authorities, MNR, MOECC, etc.), consultants, special interest groups and members of the Technical Advisory Committee. This list also included members of the public, anyone that had requested being notified of upcoming meetings and had been involved in the process. The notice for the second round of public open houses was circulated on November 25, 2015.

The timing of the second round of open houses did not correlate with a tax bill.

The second round of open houses also included posting of a notice in 3 papers:

1. The Hanover Post – December 3, 2015
2. Grey Bruce This Week – December 3, 2015
3. Owen Sound Sun Times – December 3, 2015

Notice was also posted on Social Media Sites:

1. Facebook – December 1, 2015 (this post was pinned at the top of the page for at least one week, i.e. it was the top of Grey County's Facebook Page.)
2. Twitter – December 8, 2015 and December 9, 2015

It was posted on the County's website:

1. On the planning page (<http://www.grey.ca/services/planning-development/natural-environment-study/green-in-grey-notices-information/>) on November 25, 2015.
2. On the Public Notices page (<http://www.grey.ca/government-administration/public-notices/>) on December 1, 2015.

In addition to these methods staff also included a radio ad that was played on December 9, 2015 and December 10, 2015. The ad was played on Mix 106.5 and CFOS with a combined total of seven (7) occasions for the two stations.

Technical input was provided by the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), we met on three separate occasions (February 25, 2015; June 22, 2015; September 21, 2015). The TAC is comprised of County Staff and the Consultant Team, Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority (SVCA) staff, Grey Sauble Conservation Authority (GSCA) staff, Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA) staff, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) staff, Niagara Escarpment Commission (NEC) staff, and municipal representatives (City of Owen Sound staff, Meaford staff).

It was also discussed at the local planners meeting that was held on Friday May 5, 2015. Planning staff members from each municipality attended this meeting.

It was presented at both the RAGBOS Event (September 23, 2015) (realtors) and at the Agricultural Outreach Event on December 2, 2016.

Staff utilized as many available methods as possible to notify the public regarding the public meetings.

The following reports have also been provided to Committee and Council:

[PDR-PCD-41-15 Natural Heritage Systems Study Update Report](#)

[PDR-PCD-27-14 Natural Heritage Systems Study Request For Proposals Report](#)