



OUR COMMUNITY
OUR WATER
QUARRY SITE REVITALIZATION

Decisions about our community's drinking water will always be fair and transparent

We've launched a campaign to tell you about a proposed solution to address the City's concerns about how operations at the Dolime Quarry could affect the long-term quality and quantity of Guelph's drinking water

The proposed solution supports our community's values and priorities, especially around environmental stewardship, fiscal responsibility, integrity, innovation and respect

The proposal



Close the quarry and make the quarry site part of the City of Guelph



Give the City control of the quarry's water supply and build an on-site water management system



Create a new mixed-use residential neighbourhood that people can call home

Next steps



In-person and online opportunities for residents to learn more about the proposed solution and share their thoughts

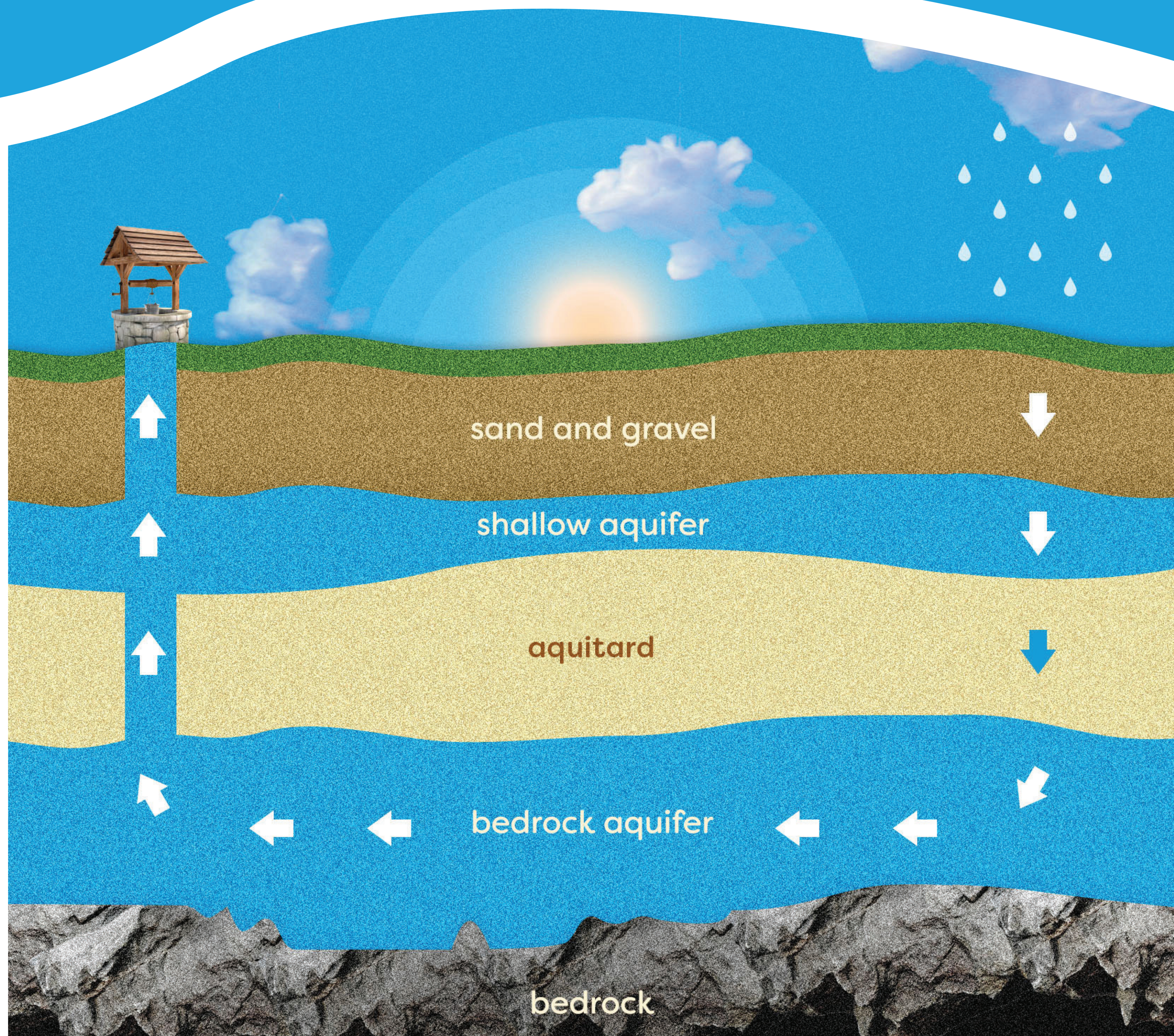


Council decision in 2020

To learn more, please visit
guelph.ca

Guelph is a groundwater community

Guelph is one of the largest cities in Canada relying almost entirely on groundwater for its clean drinking water



Groundwater is a more limited resource than surface water (lakes and rivers)



Groundwater comes from rain and melted snow that seeps through open spaces and cracks in soil and rock into underground reservoirs called aquifers



Guelph's aquifers are protected by an aquitard—a layer of dense rock that acts like a barrier



To learn more, please visit
guelph.ca

Guelph puts the safety and security of our drinking water above all else

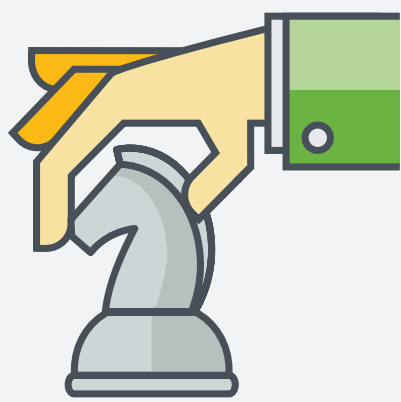
The City wants what's best for the future of our community



What are the City's concerns?

The quarry uses a lot of water that could provide high quality drinking water for our community

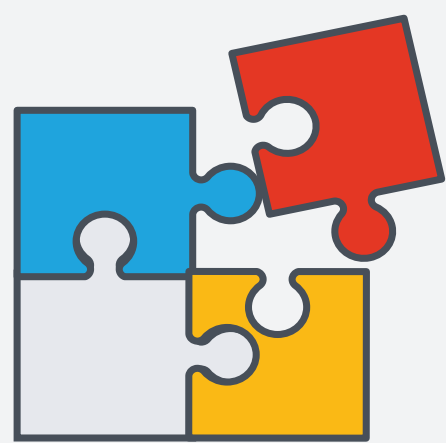
Quarrying digs deep into the ground where the aquitard lies—the layer of dense rock that acts as a barrier to protect our groundwater



What are the challenges?

Guelph is growing and we need to protect our drinking water

The Dolime Quarry property is not in the City's boundary and therefore not included in Guelph's growth plans



What is the opportunity?

While the owners of the quarry don't agree with the City's concerns, we're working together on a solution

The quarry would close sooner than expected

The City would get control of the quarry's water supply

A residential neighbourhood would provide a more fitting land use in this urban setting



To learn more, please visit
guelph.ca

A short history

The City has been working to address its concerns since 2002. It's taken many years to find a viable solution that makes sense for all parties

2002

Guelph starts investigating local water quality following the introduction of Ontario's Safe Water Drinking Act

2003

City advises regulators of concerns with quarry operations and their potential impact on groundwater quality

2008

City staff discover that quarrying has reached the aquitard—the dense layer of rock that protects our drinking water

2009

City experts, River Valley Developments and provincial regulators establish a technical working group to explore concerns related to water quality and quantity

2013

City requests leave to appeal the quarry's water-taking permit based on water quality and quantity concerns

2014

City's leave to appeal is granted and City enters into confidential mediation with the Ministry of the Environment and River Valley Developments

2014

2018

Appeal parties work to find a viable solution to protect Guelph's drinking water

2018

A solution that addresses the interests of all parties emerges

2019

City launches campaign to share proposed solution to protect drinking water with the community



To learn more, please visit
guelph.ca

How do we get there?

The proposed solution would take time to implement and includes a number of steps



1

Moving Guelph's boundary to include the quarry lands.

An annexation process would bring the quarry lands into the City limits; the land would still belong to the quarry owners

2

Land use planning approvals.

This would include both provincial and City planning approvals to allow residential development and determine how it fits into growth plans

3

Building a system to protect Guelph's drinking water.

The system would prevent surface water mixing with groundwater

4

Planning and building the residential development.

Our community will have an opportunity to comment on the development plans before they are approved



To learn more, please visit
guelph.ca

Aligned with our community's values

The proposed solution supports Guelph's values and priorities



Environmental stewardship

We understand the crucial need to take care of our environment

Fiscal responsibility

We believe that doing what's right for future generations includes making the right investments for the greatest return

Integrity

What we say matters. How we behave matters even more

Innovation

We value the beauty that follows innovation in how we collaborate and solve problems

Respect

For each other and the land we share



To learn more, please visit
guelph.ca