Making Zoning "Aquifer-Friendly":

The Fredericton Experience

by Ken Forrest, MCIP
and Jill Green

Because clean water is a precious resource, most Canadians agree on the importance of protecting our streams, lakes and marshes. Many people forget, however, that water is also located beneath the surface. Ground-water is a critical source of drinking water for millions of Canadians. The Province of New Brunswick and the City of Fredericton have been working toward the adoption of regulations to protect groundwater resources. This approach to groundwater protection is among the first in Canada to combine regulations for land use and chemical storage. Successful implementation will require the cooperation of land use planners, hydro-geologists, civil engineers, and property owners. The CIP 2000 Conference presentation conveyed the importance of protecting groundwater resources, its impact on an urban municipality, the process proposed for Fredericton and New Brunswick, and the specific land use and chemical storage restrictions under consideration.

Ken Forrest is Senior Planner and Jill Green is Water and Sewer Engineer, for the City of Fredericton. They can be contacted at: ken.forrest@city.fredericton.nb.ca jgreen@ggiengineers.com