

# **BEACHVILLE LANDFILL**

**WHAT YOU MUST KNOW**

**HOW YOU CAN HELP**

**WHY YOU SHOULD**



# Clean, fresh water is more valuable than oil!



We **can** live without oil

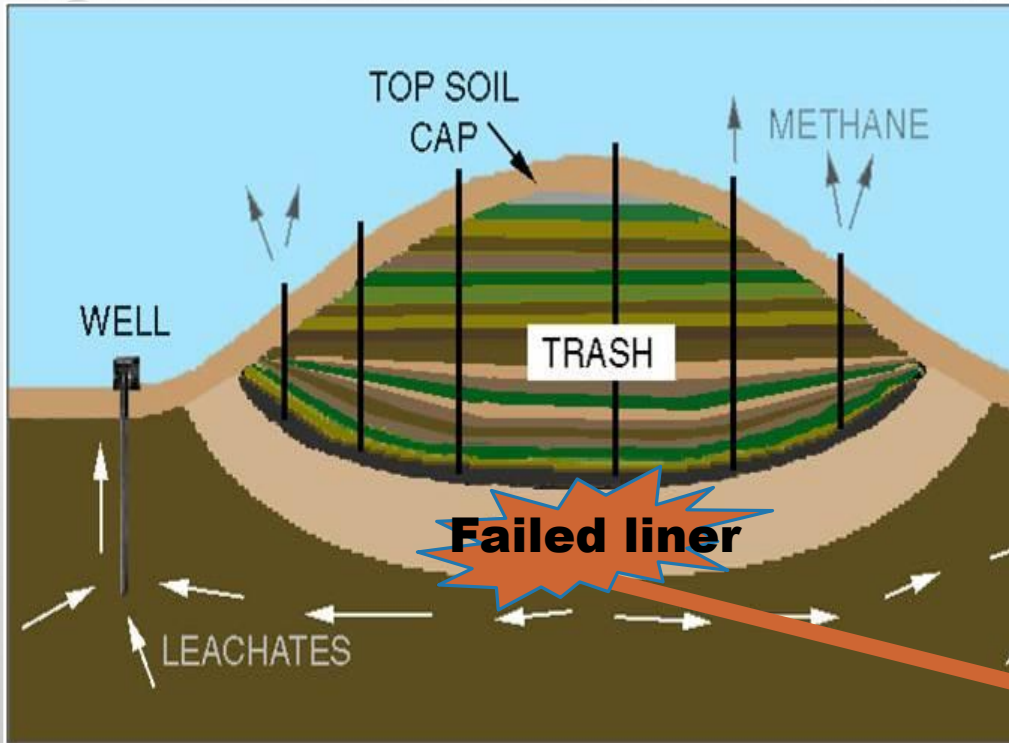
But we **can't** live without clean freshwater. It's our most valuable resource!



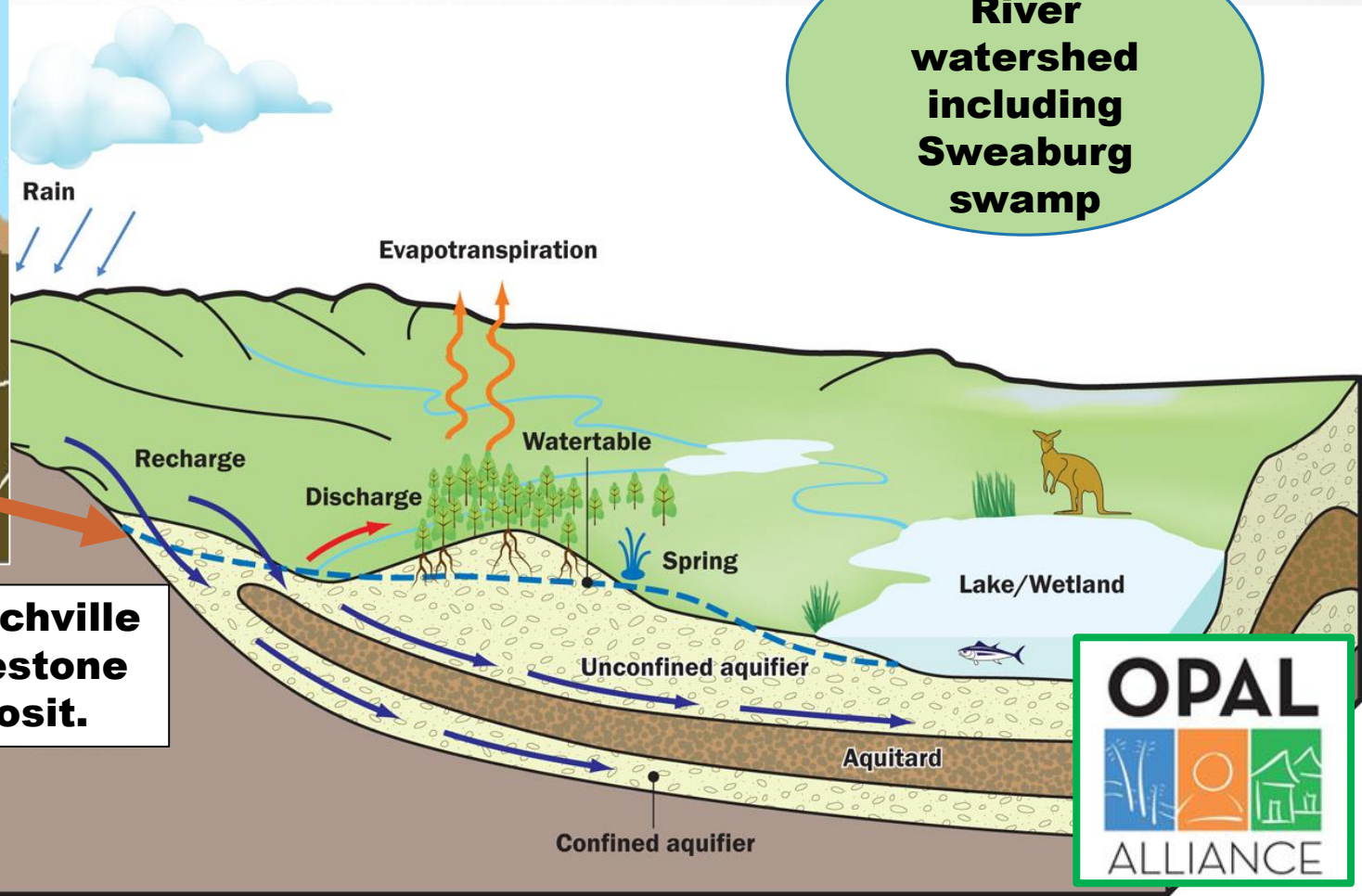
***Leaking landfills could mean a future of bottled water for all, more plastic waste, higher municipal taxes or, possibly, a lifetime of poor health for you and your family***



# Groundwater contamination risk



Thames River watershed including Sweaburg swamp



Highly toxic leachate enters the water table and pollutes groundwater, wetlands and rivers. Previously fresh water then becomes unusable.

Beachville limestone deposit.



# A clear and future threat to the Thames River



Committed to a healthy and vital Thames River

- ❖ **108 million litres** of treated leachate pumped annually into the Thames from the Beachville landfill. **That's 13.2 cubic metres every hour!** Who will monitor it?
- ❖ **Who will maintain the leachate treatment plant after the dump has closed and Walker has departed?**
- ❖ **If the dump liner leaks or the leachate treatment plant fails the Thames would become an open sewer. Who pays for the cleanup? Not Walker, but local taxpayers!**





# Much too risky!



**Continued blasting close to the dump will repeatedly impact the liner over the long term and potentially shorten its life**

**Building landfills over 30m deep on fractured rock with continuous groundwater flow allows any leachate escape to migrate quickly to drinking water wells and nearby rivers**

**Any escaping dump leachate could contain benzene, cadmium, chlorides, lead, 1,4 dichlorobenzene, dichloromethane, toluene and vinyl chloride plus additional toxins**

**Quarry blasting is considered a cause of structural property damage in Beachville and Ingersoll**



# Revitalizing Downtown London BACK TO THE THAMES RIVER



***A costly idea - threatened if toxic leachate leaks from the Beachville landfill***



# What goes into many landfills is a mystery



**Non-biodegradables.  
Toxic chemicals.  
Recyclables.  
Radioactives.**



**There's no guarantee that garbage content will be inspected for Ministry compliance at the Beachville scale house. It's all about the weight and the dollars**

**Contaminated soil capping**

# What goes into many landfills is a mystery



## ***But what comes out isn't!***

- ❖ **Methane and carbon dioxide** – potent greenhouse gases
- ❖ **Ozone gas** – potentially corrosive and injures respiratory systems
- ❖ **Ferrous nano particles** – suspected as a contributor to brain disease
- ❖ **Dust and particulates** – negatively effects respiratory, cardiac and brain health
- ❖ **Asbestos from illegal truck brake linings** – causes mesothelioma in lungs
- ❖ **Noise** – from truck exhaust brakes, backup alarms and slamming tailgates
- ❖ **Uncontrolled leachate** from dump liner failure and poor site management
- ❖ **Developer profits at the long-term risk to local taxpayers**



# Highway 401 - Toronto's garbage chute



***Imagine another **340 daily** truck journeys on Oxford's roads and Highway 401 for the next 20 years or more***

**Let's keep our highways open for valuable, time sensitive freight. Abusing public highways by shipping low value garbage:**

- ***Increases taxpayer funded maintenance costs.***
- ***Burdens emergency services.***
- ***Requires higher capacity intersections.***



- ***More greenhouse gas and particulates in the air we breathe.***
- ***More traffic noise.***
- ***Increased road salt in water courses.***
- ***Escalating traffic congestion***

**Flying wheels and accidents are more likely**



**Garbage trucks on a county road near you!**



# Loss of public amenity



**Sorry: Trail closed permanently due to toxic blue-green algae in river water resulting from dump leachate leakage and chemical runoff.**

**Human and animal exposure can severely damage kidneys and liver and is potentially fatal.**

**Cleanup will cost taxpayers \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ and take decades.**



# Who cleans up the mess?



- ***Landfills***
- ***Mines***
- ***Oil and gas wells***
- ***Water abstraction***
- ***Industrial toxins***



***Heads, investors win;  
tails, taxpayer loses.***

***Time for investors  
to assume all the risks!***

# The Right to Decide – we are not a willing host

## *Add your voice!*



The “Right to Decide” Rally –November 2017

Together we have delayed the landfill for over 2 years.

**Now, let's stop it, once and for all!**

- ❖ **More than 70 Ontario municipalities have passed the same motion as Oxford County – *Give us the right to decide if we'll host a new landfill!***
- ❖ ***Forcing new landfills on communities so that Torontonians pay the lowest property taxes and large corporations make large profits is morally and ethically wrong.***
- ❖ ***95% of Oxford County residents oppose the Beachville Landfill***



# The value of your home is at risk...



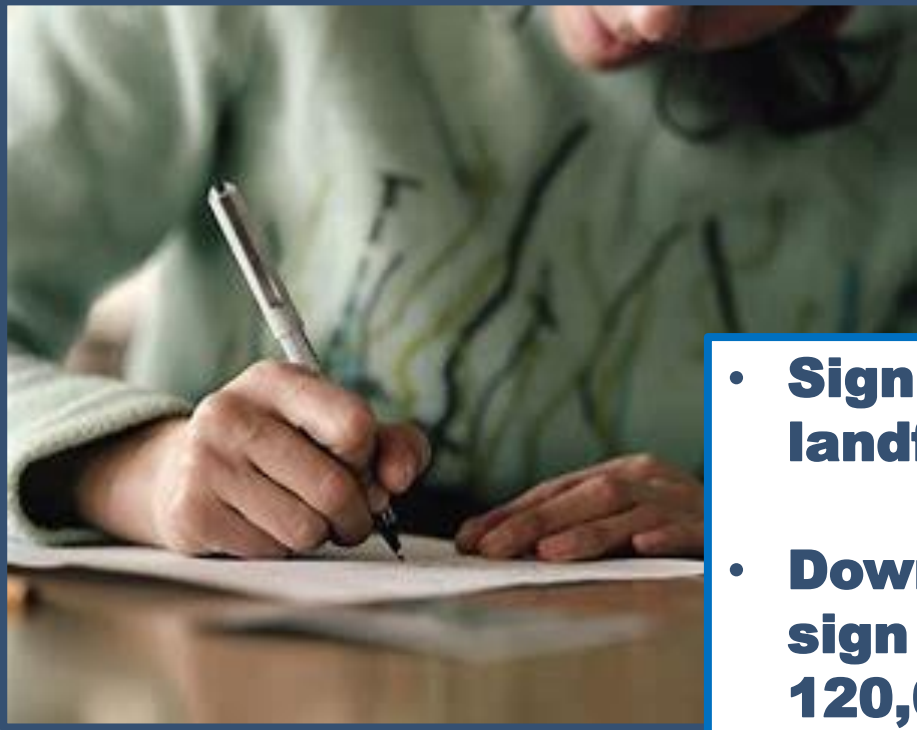
**Did you know that a 17.4 million ton dump in Beachville could reduce the value of your property by 20% - 40%?**



**Don't let airborne pollution, noise, traffic congestion, higher property taxes and the risk of polluted groundwater destroy your equity in your home!**



# Easy ways you can help.....



- **Sign letters demanding a stop to the Beachville landfill**
- **Download these and others from our web site or sign them at our frequent public events – almost 120,000 sent to the Minister so far!**
- **Be respectful when adding your own thoughts to letters you download from our web site**
- **Mail (use stamp) or e-mail to the ministers or leave your signed letters with us and we'll get them to his desk.**



# Easy ways you can help.....



**Spread the word with friends and acquaintances**



**Challenge misleading statements at Walker's outreach meetings**



**Check regularly for updates and information ([www.opalalliance.ca](http://www.opalalliance.ca))**



**Contact us with your questions and concerns**



**Attend OPAL and County public meetings**



**Donate – every penny counts!**



**Mail those letters to our provincial Environment, Parks and Conservation minister and your local MPP**



**Participate in local sustainability initiatives for future generations**