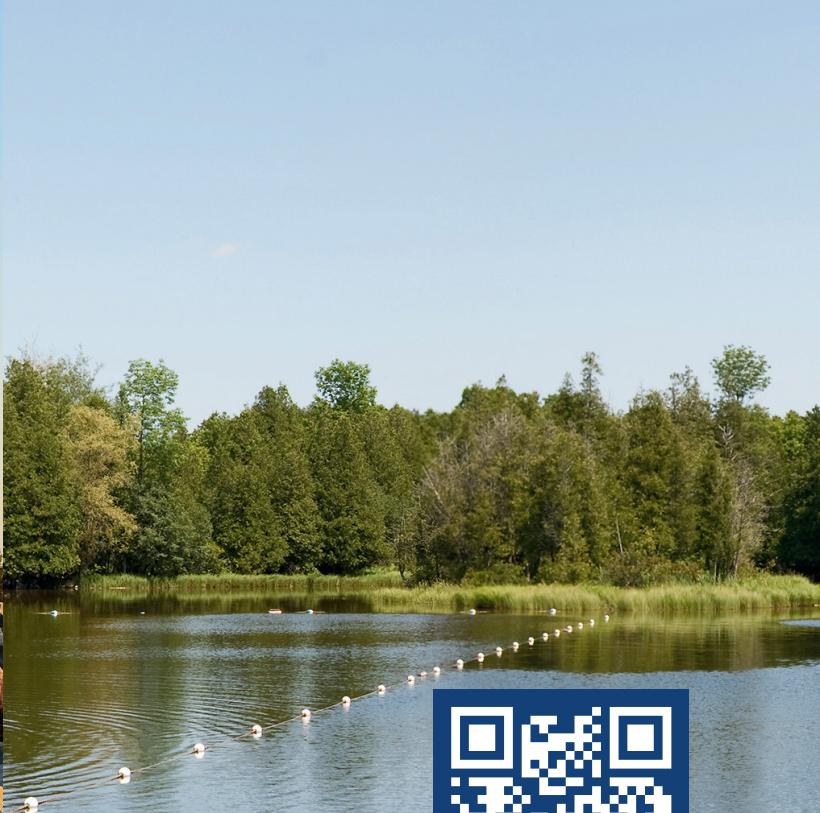


ROMA 2026

Ministry of Natural Resources
January 19, 2026



MUNICIPALITY OF
West Grey



westgrey.com/conferences

With a population of over 13,500, the Municipality of West Grey is the largest geographic municipality in Grey County (876 square kilometres), with the River Styx and Saugeen River being the connecting links between our rural communities of Elmwood, Durham, Neustadt and Ayton.

Benefits of Changes to the Aggregate Resources Act and Provincial Policy Statement

West Grey acknowledges and supports the recent changes made to the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS) and the *Aggregate Resources Act* (ARA).

- Providing more flexibility for aggregate development and rehabilitation to support housing and infrastructure goals, while also aiming to reduce regulatory burden.
- Modernizing the aggregates sector, reducing administrative burden, and enhancing environmental protections.

Challenges for Rural Municipalities Dealing with Community Resistance to Aggregate Operations

- Inadequate oversight and enforcement for aggregate operations shifts the burden of managing negative local impacts onto communities with limited resources and authority.
- Rural municipalities have a small tax base and limited revenue options, making it difficult to manage costs associated with aggregate operations and related infrastructure impacts.
- Concerns related to long-term impacts on source water protection, natural habitats, and the degradation of soil quality on prime agricultural land, are pitting community members and interests against one another with municipalities being caught in the middle.

Our Asks: Sustainable and equitable policies that support municipalities in managing impacts of aggregate operations.

- **Fair Taxation** - to ensure aggregate industries pay their fair share in property taxes so municipalities are not subsidizing aggregate operations.
- **Collaboration** – industry and government working together to implement policies and regulations that are responsive to the needs of local municipalities.
- **Fair Aggregate Levy** – to be transferred to municipalities to repair roads and assist with the rehabilitation of abandoned pits and quarries.
- **Extracting Zoning** – align community, industry and provincial goals and establish local municipal criteria for extractive zoning.