

Watershed Planning and Programs
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Dear Interested Manitoban:

Under the authority of the *Water Protection Act*, the Province of Manitoba partners with conservation districts to develop integrated watershed management plans. The purpose of integrated watershed management planning is to provide direction for the protection, restoration and management of water, aquatic ecosystems, and drinking water sources. The primary goals of the planning process are to engage watershed residents in the identification and prioritization of watershed issues, collect and analyze local, technical and traditional knowledge, and develop recommendations that focus limited resources to address priority issues in targeted areas. Source water protection and surface water management are key components of the planning process.

The implementation of these ten-year plans is shared by conservation districts, all levels of government, stakeholder organizations and watershed residents. Since conservation districts receive core funding from the Province of Manitoba, their annual budgets and programming is linked directly to the implementation of integrated watershed management plans. To date, 24 integrated watershed management plans have been initiated, of which 20 plans have been completed and the remaining four are at various stages of development.

As directed by Clause 38 of the *Water Protection Act*, all integrated watershed management plans approved by the Minister under Part 3 of the *Water Protection Act* have been posted to Manitoba's Public Registry. For further information on these plans, please contact me at (204) 945-7487 or Kristin.Hayward@gov.mb.ca.

Sincerely,
“*original signed by*”

Kristin Hayward
Manager
Watershed Planning and Programs