

Who is the Carrot River Valley Watershed Association?

The Carrot River Valley Watershed Association Inc. (CRVWA) is a non-profit, non-governmental organization incorporated in 2011. The association is dedicated to preserving and maintaining the character and integrity of the watershed through education and awareness. Working with our member organizations and developing partnerships, our goal is to give community members the informed insight and tools they need to make positive changes in the watershed by working together to protect source water and the natural beauty of our watershed for current and future generations.

The Carrot River Watershed, located in both Saskatchewan and Manitoba, covers a total area of approximately 17,500 square kilometres. Of this, nearly 15,750 square kilometres of the watershed are situated in Saskatchewan. The Carrot River Watershed includes the City of Melfort, seven towns, 11 villages, 21 Rural Municipalities and six First Nation Reserves. The total population of the Watershed is estimated at 25,500.



The Carrot River Valley Watershed Association gratefully acknowledges the valued support of our members

St. Peter C & D Area Authority	Tisdale Wildlife Federation
Melfort & District Wildlife Federation	RM of Nipawin
City of Melfort	RM of St. Peter
Town of Arborfield	Pasquia Regional Park Authority
Town of Carrot River	Arborfield C & D Area Authority
Town of Wakaw	Moose Range C & D Area Authority
Wakaw Lake Regional Park Authority	RM of Fish Creek
RM of Connaught	RM of Hoodoo
RM of Tisdale	RM of Moose Range
RM of Humboldt	Resort Village of Tobin Lake
RM of Kinistino	Kipabiskau Regional Park Authority
Resort Village of Wakaw Lake	<i>New Members Welcome</i>
RM of Invergordon	
RM of Pleasantdale	

Carrot River Valley Watershed Association

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Office: 202 Main Street, Melfort

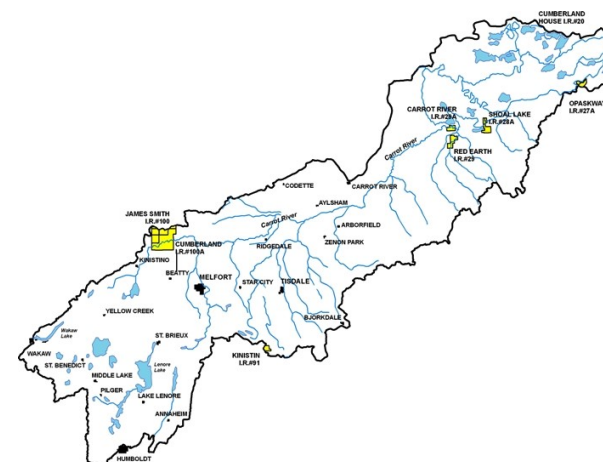
Phone: 306-752-1270 or 306-920-7228

Email: info@crwatershed.ca

On-line: crwatershed.ca



Source Water Protection & Awareness



Dedicated to preserving and maintaining the character and integrity of the watershed through education and awareness.

crwatershed.ca



Carrot River Valley Watershed Association And You—Partners in Watershed Protection

What is a Watershed?

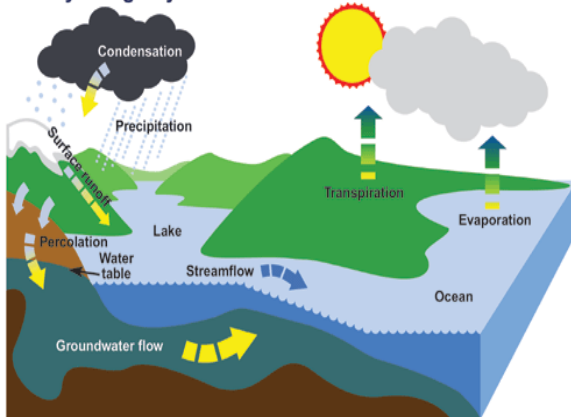
A watershed or catchment basin is the region of land that drains into a specific body of water, such as a river, lake, sea, or ocean. Watersheds are dynamic, functioning ecosystems made up of a mixture of land and water habitats.



What is source water ?

Source water is untreated water from streams, lakes, rivers or underground aquifers that we use to supply private wells and public drinking water systems. Source water comes from two sources: surface water and/or ground water.

The hydrologic cycle

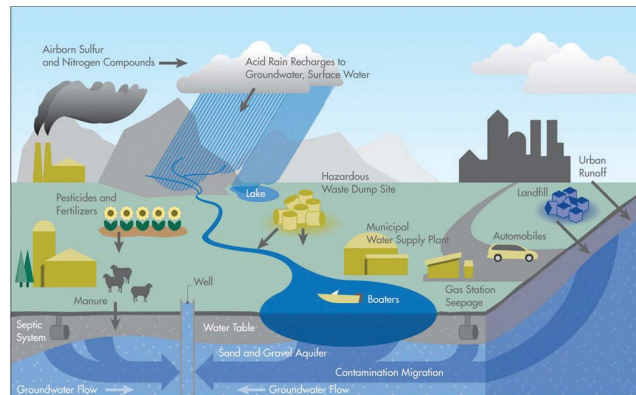


How is source water contaminated?

Some examples of human activities that may negatively affect local water quality if not managed properly include:

- Chemical storage
- Spreading sewage treatment sludge
- Storing and spreading road salt
- Animal feedlots
- Improper use of fertilizers and pesticides
- Accidental spill of hazardous materials
- Septic systems
- Underground storage tanks
- Underground pipelines or sewers
- Landfills
- Waste water discharge
- Sewage bypass
- Storm water runoff

What is source water protection?



Source water protection is the act of protecting surface water and groundwater sources from contamination or overuse. It is the first step in a multiple barrier approach to protecting drinking water. Other barriers include water testing and monitoring, reliable water treatment and distribution systems, and training of water managers and staff.

Why protect source water?

If source water becomes contaminated, threats to public health are increased. In addition, expensive treatment, replacement, or relocation of the water supply may be required. Treatment or relocation costs are often passed on to end users, resulting in higher costs to the public for water. Further, water is limited resource. If a source becomes contaminated, there may not be another source available that can be developed. **Source water protection is the most cost-effective and reliable way to protect our drinking water for generation to come. It can cost 40 times more to treat contaminated groundwater than to protect it from getting contaminated in the first place.**

How can we protect source water?

- Dispose of hazardous waste properly
- Recycle
- Conserve water and use it wisely
- Use non-toxic products for cleaning
- Collect and recycle used oil
- Take your car to commercial car washes
- Keep your septic system in proper working order
- Protect and maintain your private well
- Do not flush medications down toilets or sinks
- Manage animal waste on farms
- Manage livestock grazing,
- Install low flow toilets and shower heads
- Protect the vegetation along the banks of ponds, streams and lakes (riparian areas)
- Decommission abandoned water wells
- Fix leaky taps and faucets
- Collect rainwater for watering lawns and gardens

*Be water wise!
Let's work together to protect our water!*