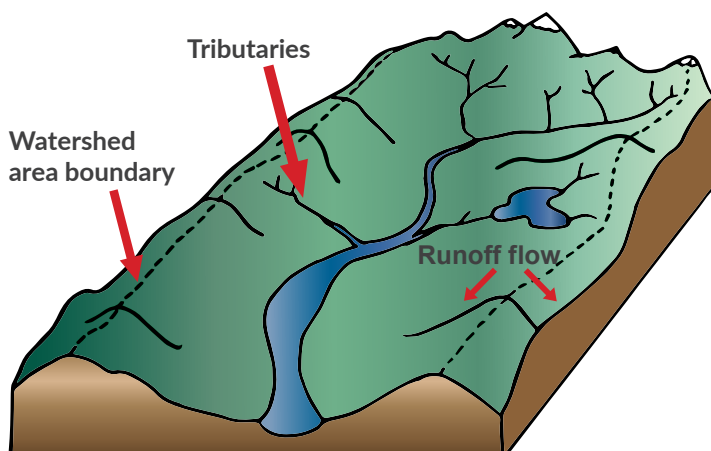


What you do on your property could potentially harm a community's drinking water.

Do You Live within a Protected Public Water Supply Area?

What is a Protected Public Water Supply Area?

A Protected Public Water Supply Area (PPWSA) is an area of land around a source of public drinking water that has been protected under Section 39 of the Water Resources Act. The area of protected land is called a watershed and typically will include any land where all precipitation drains towards the water supply intake. The watershed area is generally based on topography.



Am I inside a PPWSA?

If you are unsure whether you fall within one of these protected areas, you can check the mapping application within the Water Resources Portal here: maps.gov.nl.ca/water, call your community office, or contact the nearest Water Resources Management Division (WRMD) office.

Why is it important I be aware of the PPWSA?

As your property is located within a PPWSA, you are required to apply for approval to complete any major activities and developments under the Water Resources Act. This regulatory process is in place to help preserve the water quality of the source and is governed by Policy Directive W.R. 95-01. Should a drinking water contamination event be traced back to your property, you could be liable under the Act. The Act and Policy Directive can be found here:

<https://www.gov.nl.ca/ecc/waterres/regulations/>

New residential developments will not be approved within the below listed buffer zones around waterbodies. If you already reside within these buffer zones, additional restrictions may apply to your property. Standard buffer zones are as follows:

Water Body	Width of Buffer Zones
Intake pond or lake	a minimum of 150 metres
River intake	a minimum of 150 metres for a distance of one km upstream and 100 m downstream
Main river channel	a minimum of 75 metres
Major tributaries, lakes or ponds	a minimum of 50 metres
Other water bodies	a minimum of 30 metres

What requires a permit application?

- Construction of a residence
- Accessory buildings that include ground disturbance (e.g. shed)
- Installation or replacement of a septic system
- Installation or replacement of a water well
- Replacement of a heating oil storage tank
- Demolition of buildings
- Clearing land or paving
- Major landscaping that include ground disturbance
- Installation of a bridge or culvert
- Expansion of a driveway

What activities do not require a permit application?

- Regular maintenance of your property including:
 - Lawn mowing
 - Snow removal
 - Removal of dead or fallen trees
- Tree/flowerbed planting
- Domestic home gardening
- Painting or renovations that do not require ground disturbance

Ground disturbance includes activities such as:

- excavating
- digging/backfilling
- trenching
- drilling/auguring
- topsoil stripping

A good rule of thumb is: **if you need to use heavy equipment, you will need to apply for a permit. If you are unsure if an activity or development requires a permit, please contact the nearest WRMD office.**

How do I apply for a permit?

Applications can be found online: <https://www.gov.nl.ca/ecc/waterres/permits-licenses/appforms/>

If you have questions or need help with this application, please call the nearest WRMD office.

How long will a permit take?

PPWSA permits typically take four to six weeks to process, so be sure to apply early. All applications are initially reviewed for completeness, and then referred to the community for a minimum 15-day review and comment period. WRMD will assess each application on an individual basis and will recommend either approval, modification, or rejection of the application.

Let us work together to safeguard our drinking water supplies.

Water Resources Management Division

waterandsewer@gov.nl.ca

709.729.4817 Eastern

709.292.4280 Central

709.637.2542 Western and Labrador