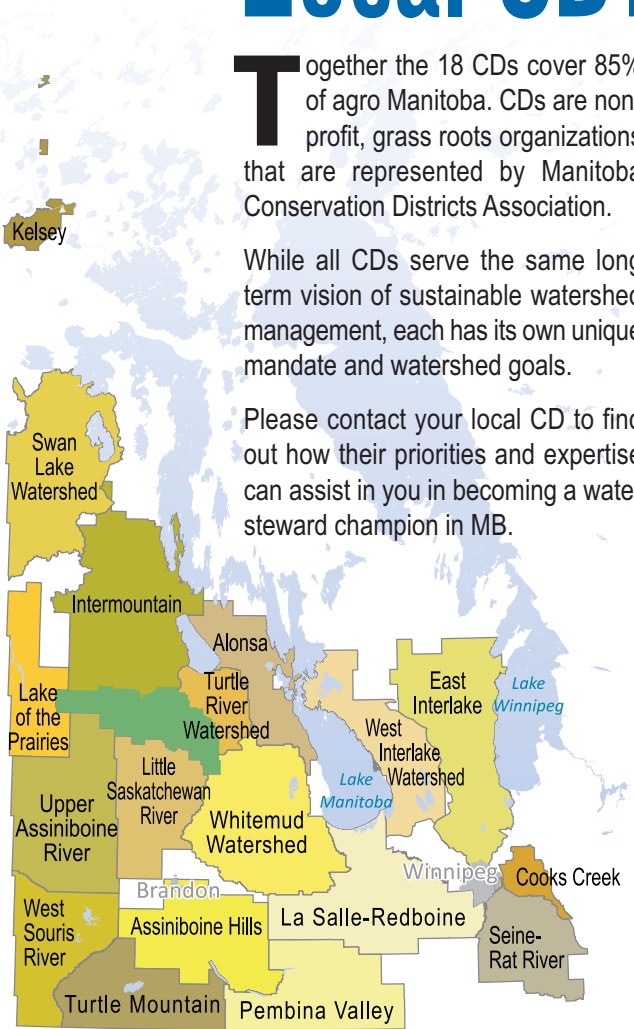


Where is your Local CD?

Together the 18 CDs cover 85% of agro Manitoba. CDs are non-profit, grass roots organizations that are represented by Manitoba Conservation Districts Association.

While all CDs serve the same long term vision of sustainable watershed management, each has its own unique mandate and watershed goals.

Please contact your local CD to find out how their priorities and expertise can assist in you in becoming a water steward champion in MB.

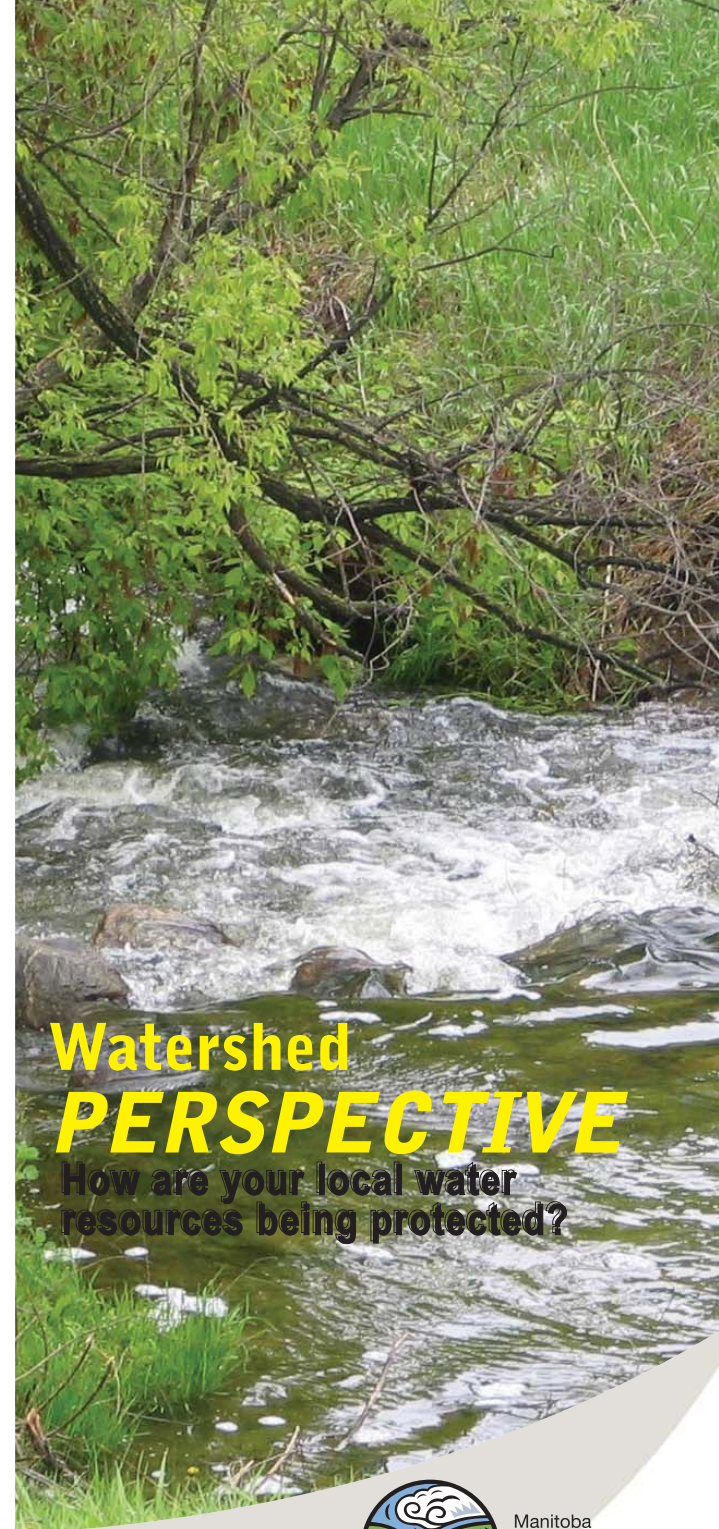


Contact your local CD Office for more information on programs and funding opportunities within your area:

ALONSA 767-2101 alonsacd@mts.net	PEMBINA VALLEY 242-3267 pvcd@goinet.ca
ASSINIBOINE HILLS 535-2139 ahcd.mgr@inethome.ca	SEINE RAT RIVER 424-5845 manager@srrcd.ca
COOKS CREEK 777-2223 cccd@mts.net	SWAN LAKE WATERSHED 734-9550 slwcd@mts.net
EAST INTERLAKE 642-7578 eicd@mts.net	TURTLE MOUNTAIN 747-2530 tmcd.mgr@goinet.ca
INTERMOUNTAIN 742-3764 imcd@mts.net	TURTLE RIVER WATERSHED 447-2139 mgr.trwcd@mts.net
KELSEY 623-3353 kelseycd@mts.net	UPPER ASSINIBOINE RIVER 567-3554 uarcd@mts.net
LA SALLE REDBOINE 526-2578 mail@lasalleredboine.com	WEST INTERLAKE WATERSHED 762-5850 admin.wiwcd@mts.net
LAKE OF THE PRAIRIES 564-2388 lpcd@mts.net	WEST SOURIS RIVER 877-3020 manager@wsrzd.com
LITTLE SASKATCHEWAN RIVER 566-2270 lsrzd.mgr@mts.net	WHITEMUD WATERSHED 476-5019 whitemud@mts.net

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Manitoba Conservation Districts Association
570-0164 ~ info@mcda.ca ~ www.mcda.ca

All pictures in this brochure were provided courteous of the CDs



Watershed PERSPECTIVE
How are your local water resources being protected?



Manitoba Conservation Districts Association

What's in your water?

Within Manitoba (MB), the Conservation Districts (CDs) administer land and water programming on a watershed basis. Drinking Water and Groundwater Protection are specific priorities in healthy watershed management.

Groundwater flows through our watersheds. It is the water held below the earth's surface in an aquifer, a layer of water which can be utilized through a well for agricultural, industrial, municipal and private uses. Groundwater is an often overlooked resource, as we cannot see it and therefore it can be difficult to measure the extent to which we use and depend on it daily. In MB many residents rely on groundwater for safe drinking water.

Many variables, including the local topography and our land use activities affect the vulnerability of our groundwater resources. **Poor groundwater quality has a direct, negative impact on our drinking water.**



Following a flood event private wells are particularly vulnerable to contamination.

Flood waters often carry a variety of contaminants, a well can become contaminated when flood waters wash up over the well's lid and leak into the system. Throughout MB, CD's support watershed-wide well water testing programs and events.

Boil advisories may suggest possible widespread aquifer or groundwater contamination within a community

Private wells are tested for health indicators, including: E.coli, fecal coliform and nitrates. Bacteria present in drinking water can cause severe illness or even death.

What's in your Well Water?

Wells that are safe for drinking should meet the Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality. If it does not, there are programs and information available to assist you in treating your well and understanding your well condition.

Most often problems stem from the well situation itself and not the general aquifer, a well assessment can point to possible causes of the problem.



Your local CD office can connect you with the proper tools and resources to assess your well to ensure your water supply is safe and serves your needs.

Abandoned wells provide a direct link for contamination to occur

Open, unused wells are termed abandoned wells. These wells are often no longer maintained and are a prime source for contaminating groundwater resources as potential contaminants no longer filter through soil particles prior to reaching the water table. Open wells are also a serious safety hazard, especially if you have small children around. Your local CD can provide you with financial and technical assistance for sealing an abandoned well properly.



Prevention is key as groundwater problems are difficult to detect in early stages. Remediation measures are often expensive and time consuming to administer.

