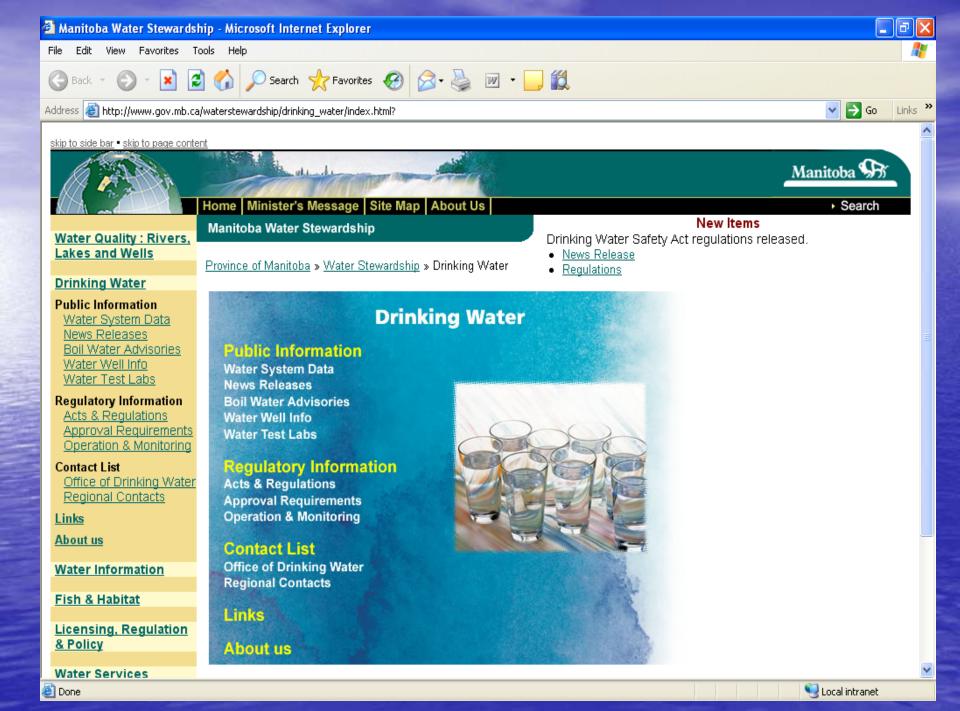
SEINE RIVER WATERSHED OFFICE OF DRINKING WATER WATER PLANTS IN THE WATERSHED





NewsRelease

March 1, 2007

NEW REGULATIONS TO FURTHER PROTECT DRINKING WATER QUALITY IN MANITOBA: MELNICK

New regulations under the Drinking Water Safety Act that come into effect today will help protect and improve drinking water quality across Manitoba, Water Stewardship Minister Christine Melnick has announced.

The new regulations establish clear water-quality standards, including bacterial and microbial levels, that are to be met by public and semi-public water systems. Other areas covered by the new regulations include the construction and alteration of water-supply facilities and protocols on reporting of laboratory results.

"This is another step in our efforts to ensure drinking water supplies are safe and reliable for all Manitobans," said Melnick. "Protecting drinking water is a top priority. These new regulations under the Drinking Water Safety Act, combined with other initiatives under the Water Protection Act, work to protect the well-being of Manitobans and the environment while promoting safe and sustainable use of this precious resource."

The new regulations address the terms and conditions for operating a water-supply system and define the responsibilities for water-system owners and operators, to ensure a supply of safe drinking water. The regulations also call for mandatory testing and record keeping for such water systems.

The new regulations will also require water utilities serving 1,000 or more people to issue an annual report which will help ensure accountability to their customers and assist the public to better understand their local water systems.

Related requirements under the Water and Wastewater Facility Operators Regulation take effect May 1, requiring water and waste-water facility owners to be properly classified and their operators certified.

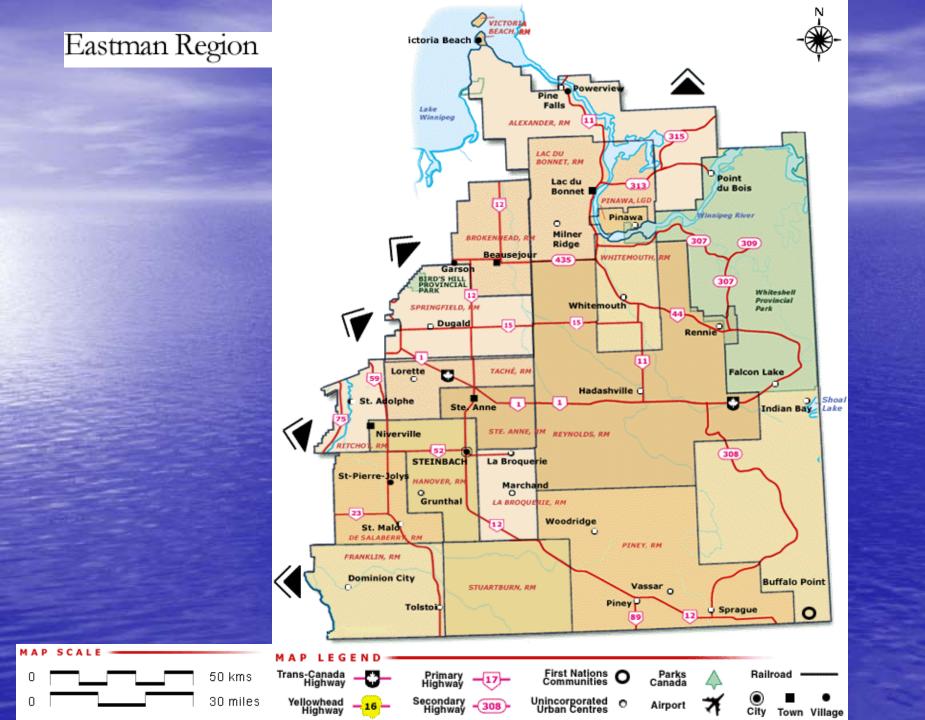
Combined with other initiatives, Manitoba has now addressed nearly all 29 recommendations from the Drinking Water Advisory Committee report, Melnick said.

Further information on the new Drinking Water Safety Act regulations is available by contacting Manitoba's Office of Drinking Water at 204-945-5762.

New Regulations

Water surface plants will have to test for:

- Turbidity, water clarity
- 4 times a year: THMs are trihalomethanes, chemical compounds that can be formed when water is disinfected with chlorine. THMs occur when chlorine reacts with organic matter in water, and for this reason are more common in surface water supplies throughout Canada.



Water Plants in the Watershed

- Water plants in my region: 49
- Water plants in the watershed: 15
- Plants with well water in the watershed: 15
- Plants with surface water in the watershed: 0

Water Plants in the Watershed

	Number of:	wells	Meters	pop.
•	Cherry Hill Resort (seasonal)	1	66	198
•	Colorado Trailer Park	1	35	105
•	Grunthal	2	450	1,350
•	lle de Chenes + (rural)	4	304 + 159	1,150
•	Kleefeld	2	150	500
•	Landmark	2	340	1,200
•	Lilac Resort (seasonal sites)	2	280	1,500/day
•	Lorette	3	340	2,000

Water Plants in the Watershed

	Number of:	wells	Meters	pop.
•	Town of Niverville	2	150	2,464
•	Paradise Village	2	243	450
•	Riverbend Trailer Park	1	25	75
•	Southside Estates Trailer Park	n/a	n/a	n/a
	St. Adolphe	3	385	1,250
•	St. Agathe	3	154	550
•	Steinbach	3	3,625	11,069
•	Loewen Windows	0	3	nil
•	Biovail	O	4	nil