

DATE: September 5, 2013
October 11, 2013 (update)

Following please find the technical submission from the Office of Drinking Water for the Cooks – Devils Creek watershed management plans. Your information request consisted of the following questions:

- 1) Can you provide a list of all the public and semi-public drinking water systems in the watershed, including any information related to the source water for each system, as well as other general information such as treatment type, population served, system owner, etc.?
- 2) Can you provide information on the past and present boil water advisories in the watershed and any other issues related to drinking water quantity or quality?
- 3) Are you aware of any public drinking water systems in the watershed that have a history of poor source water quality thought to be a result of hazardous or non-complimentary land use activities in the near vicinity of the wellhead or intake?
- 4) Are the impacts of gravel pit operations a concern?
- 5) What recommendations do you have for the local Conservation District and municipalities to protect source water?

And we will address these questions in that order.

- 1) Can you provide a list of all the public and semi-public drinking water systems in the watershed, including any information related to the source water for each system, as well as other general information such as treatment type, population served, system owner, etc.?**

As you note there are two types of regulated water systems under the Drinking Water Safety Act; Public Water Systems and Semi-Public Water systems. Public water systems consist of 15 or more service connections, while Semi-Public Water systems are defined as anything that is not a private home, and contains fewer than 15 service connections.

As Semi-Public water systems are a new category of water system (created with the Drinking Water Safety act of 2003 and the associated regulations of 2007) the Office of Drinking Water has been engaged in a risk based approach to ensure these facilities are meeting their regulatory requirements.

To date inspections have been conducted at the majority of Public Water systems, as well as the following Semi-Public water Systems: Hospitals, Personal Care Homes, Commercial Licenced Day Cares, Schools, and Children’s Camps. However, many food handling establishments and other semi-publics require identification and inspection. Following is a list of known water systems in the watershed and conservation district in order of RM.

Birds Hill Provincial Park

Several public and semi-public systems exist in Birds Hill Provincial Park. These water systems are inside of the watershed, but outside of the conservation district.

Code	Name	Source	Treatment	Population	Owner
22.00	Birds Hill South	Secure Well	Chlorination	1800	Province
22.25	Birds Hill North	Secure Well	Chlorination	7000	Province
22.30	Birds Hill Group Use 1 sites 1-3	Secure Well	Chlorination	400	Province
22.40	Birds Hill Group Use 1 sites 4 - 7	Secure Well	Chlorination	400	Province
22.50	Birds Hill Group Use #2	Secure Well	Chlorination	400	Province
22.60	Birds Hill Folk Fest	Secure Well	Chlorination	40,000	Province
1378.00	Birds Hill Nature Centre	Pit Well	None	100	Province

RM of Brokenhead

Code	Name	Source	Treatment	Population	Owner
29.31	RM of Brokenhead	Secure Well	Chlorination/filtration	1100	RM
190.10	Sandhill Pines campground	Secure Well	Chlorination	135	Sue Ryynanen

East St. Paul

Water systems in East St. Paul are inside the watershed, but outside of the conservation district.

Code	Name	Source	Treatment	Population	Owner
57.50	East St. Paul	Secure Well	Chlorination	2461	RM of East St. Paul.
2553.00	Hyland Park	Secure Well	Chlorination	100	Province of Manitoba leased to the RM of East St. Paul.

RM of Reynolds

None

RM of Springfield

Code	Name	Source	Treatment	Population	Owner
157.20 & 157.25	Oasis Campground	Secure Well	none	1000 total	New Oasis RV & Trailer Resort Inc.
155.25	Oakbank	Secure Well	Chlorination	2000	RM of Springfield
166.90	Pine Drive (Oakbank)	Secure Well	None	75	Norval Kristopherson
5.50	Anola	Secure Well	Chlorination	120	RM of Springfield

RM of Ste. Anne

Code	Name	Source	Treatment	Population	Owner
183.15	Rock Garden Campground	Secure Well	Chlorination	380	DKJ Holdings Ltd.
250.35	Wild Oaks Campground	Secure Well	None	400	Giselle Turenne

St. Clements

Water systems in St. Clements are inside the watershed, but outside of the conservation district.

Code	Name	Source	Treatment	Population	Owner
57.25	East Selkirk	Secure Well	Chlorination and UV	1350	RM of St. Clements
167.50	Pine Ridge Trailer Court	Secure Wells	Chlorination	850	Bill Asham
2131.00	59 er Restaurant	Well	None	200	Ken Webb
3573.00	River Creek Estates	Well	Chlorination	400	Condo

RM of Tache

None

2) Can you provide information on the past and present boil water advisories in the watershed and any other issues related to drinking water quantity or quality?

There are no active boil water advisories for public or semi-public water systems in the RM's of St. Clements, East St. Paul, or Birds Hill Provincial Park.

Boil water advisories (BWA), exist for Oasis Campground (yr 2013) , Pine Drive (2010), and Wild Oaks Campground (2009). BWA have previously been issued in the watershed to private wells in Garson/Tyndall (2000), Oakbank (2005 when pit wells caused contamination of neighboring wells) and in East Selkirk (2002) and Anola (2000) due to bacteria and nitrate contamination.

The Oakbank BWA was rescinded following repair of damaged well components in 2007. Note, the majority of the community is still serviced by private wells. The BWA remains in place for homes in East Selkirk and Anola who are not connected to the Public Water Systems there. However, the majority of the homes in those communities have been connected to the PWS .

3) Are you aware of any public drinking water systems in the watershed that have a history of poor source water quality thought to be a result of hazardous or non-complimentary land use activities in the near vicinity of the wellhead or intake?

No. However, there are examples of private well contamination as a result of non-complementary land use activities. Examples include bacteria and nitrate contamination in the communities of East Selkirk, Tyndall & Anola, and hydrocarbon contamination in the communities of Birds Hill and Garson.

4) Are the impacts of gravel pit operations a concern?

Gravel pit operations west of Oakbank in the RM of Springfield have been flagged as a concern by locals. Mines branch , Groundwater Management Division and Manitoba Conservation Environment Officers may be able to provide a more informed response to this question.

5) What recommendations do you have for the local Conservation District and municipalities to protect source water?

- Continue the abandoned well sealing programs.
- Expand the private well program to include upgrades to wells in densely populated areas ie – the elimination of pit wells which will help prevent contamination of neighboring wells.
- Offer a drop off service (transportation to the lab) for private well bacteria samples on a regular basis to encourage private well owners to collect bacteria samples.