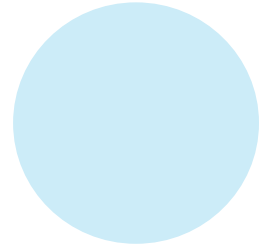
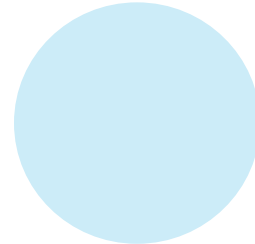
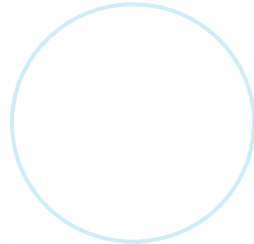




# The Hydro Files



## Did you know???

- If all of the world's water were fit into a one gallon jug, the fresh water available for us to use would equal only about one tablespoon.
- One drop of oil can render up to 25 litres of water unfit for drinking.

Source: *The Alberta WaterPortal*

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## Water in the News

Natural Resources Canada has recently released a 453-page report entitled “*From Impacts to Adaptation: Canada in a Changing Climate 2007*”. The report is a look into how climate change will affect the country in the next 10 years.

David Sauchyn from the University of Regina was the lead author for the Prairie chapter of the report. Warmer temperatures will mean a hotter, drier Alberta. “Even though the models predict more precipitation each year, the models predict it will occur in winter and spring when we need it least. By the time we get to the end of a long, warm summer, we’ll actually have less water than we used to.” Sauchyn says.

Climate change does have some benefits for Albertans, including a shorter winter and a longer

growing season. But, along with the good points comes bad points, including water shortages, which is predicted to be Alberta’s number one problem in the coming years. Lower water levels in Alberta will lead to more algal blooms, water pollution, droughts and forest fires.

***By 2080, the province could be six degrees warmer than it is now.***

Dr. David Schindler, who reviewed the report, says dams and reservoirs aren’t the answer to water shortage problems. The province needs to protect its wetlands and shorelines to raise its natural storage capacity,

Schindler says. Conservation programs in industry and agriculture will be key, and the oil sands will likely have to maximize water recycling and reuse contaminated water that currently sits in tailings ponds. Development within the province will need to be examined as demands for water increase and supply volumes are

reduced.

The full report is available for free downloading in PDF format at:

[www.adaptation.nrcan.gc.ca](http://www.adaptation.nrcan.gc.ca)

Source: *St. Albert Gazette, Sunday, March 15, 2008.*



## Alberta Water Council

On January 30, 2008, the Alberta Water Council released its report with recommendations for the renewal of Alberta’s *Water for Life* strategy, entitled “*Water for Life: Recommendations for Renewal*”. In the report, the Council calls for the Government of Alberta to accelerate action and investment, and take stronger, bolder steps to safeguard Alberta’s water sources. The report is available online at:

<http://www.albertawatercouncil.ca/Portals/0/pdfs/WFL%20Renewal%20Report%20-%20For%20Web.pdf>



## North American Lake Management Society—Annual Symposium

The Alberta Lake Management Society and the North American Lake Management Society are pleased to present the 2008 symposium, which will take place in Lake Louise, Alberta, on November 11-14, 2008. The theme for this symposium is “Lake Management in a Changing Environment” and will feature sessions on topics such as Alpine Lakes, Water Quality, Methods, and Lake and Watershed Management.



Anyone interested in presenting must submit abstracts by June 1, 2008. Abstracts can be submitted to Ron Zurawell via email at [nalms2008@alms.ca](mailto:nalms2008@alms.ca). Full submission details can be found at:

[http://www.nalms.org/Conferences/PDF/Lake\\_Louise\\_Conference\\_CFP\\_2008.pdf](http://www.nalms.org/Conferences/PDF/Lake_Louise_Conference_CFP_2008.pdf)

Special conference rates are available at the Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise Hotel. Identify yourself as being with the North American Lake Management Society to receive the conference rate. Special rates are available until October 9, 2008.

**Come and join us in the beautiful Rocky Mountains!**

**For more information, please go to:**

<http://www.nalms.org/Conferences/2008LakeLouise/Default.aspx>

### Did you know???

- **More than 1 trillion litres** of untreated sewage are dumped into our waters every year (about 3.25 billion litres per day) by 21 cities across the country.
- **20%** - The percentage of all municipal drinking water lost to leaks.

Source: The Alberta WaterPortal



*Have you ever wondered about the quality of a local stream, lake or wetland? ...Get out and test it!*



We have extended our testing season this year so even MORE Albertans can test their local waterbodies!

Stay tuned over the coming months for exciting information on this year's contests and prizes!

**For more information, please contact Jill at:**

[info@alms.ca](mailto:info@alms.ca)

**or call (780)702-ALMS (2567)**

**AWQA Day 2008 is Coming Soon!** The snow is melting and AWQA Day is soon approaching!

Registration opens in late **March** and will continue until **April 30th**, and testing can be done anytime between **May 1st** and **August 31st**.

## Alberta Lake Management Society

The Alberta Lake Management Society is gearing up for the 2008 LakeWatch season. The LakeWatch Program is a community water quality testing program offered to concerned Albertans who are interested in collecting detailed information about their local lake or reservoir. ALMS technicians assist local volunteers to test the lakes 5 times during the summer, collecting important physical data such as water temperature, clarity and pH. Once all the data is collected a water quality report is produced for the lake,

including recommendations, that both educates lake users and guides water restoration and management efforts.

### How can I get my lake tested?

Organized lake associations or committed individuals are requested to contact ALMS if you are interested in getting your lake assessed. Only 10 lakes per year can be tested so space is limited. If you or your association is interested in participating, please

contact ALMS at:

[www.ALMS.ca](http://www.ALMS.ca)

[www.lakewatch.ca](http://www.lakewatch.ca)

(780)702-ALMS (2567)



## Aquality News and Updates

Aquality is looking forward to a very exciting project year in 2008! We have settled into our new downtown office space and are working with some very exciting clients, including the Red Deer River Watershed Alliance, the Heart River Watershed Advisory Committee, Lac La Biche County, the City of Calgary and many others.

### Welcome to the newest Aquality Staff Members!!

We are pleased to announce our newest Aquality staff members! **Fran Thompson** will be starting with Aquality in April as our new administrative assistant. Fran has many years of experience and has

many valuable skills to offer the Aquality team. **Dr. Markus N. Thormann** from the University of Alberta will be joining us full time in April as well. Markus will be one of our senior researchers and writers and we look forward to having his experience in our project team.

### The year in review...

In 2007, Aquality was pleased to see one of their clients, the Lac La Biche Watershed Steering Committee, obtain the silver award for the Canadian Geographic environmental awards. Aquality also worked closely with Lac La Biche County in the development of the **Riparian Setback Matrix Model**,

which is a tool that can be used by municipalities to determine appropriate riparian setbacks for pollution abatement and preservation of water quality while maximizing the amount of land available for development.

For more information, please see our website at:

[www.aquality.ca](http://www.aquality.ca)

or call us at:

(780) 757-5530



## Red Deer River Watershed Alliance

The Red Deer River Watershed Alliance is the Watershed Planning and Advisory Council for the Red Deer Watershed and, with guidance from Aquality, is embarking on the completion of a State of the Watershed Report. This report will form the basis for a future Integrated Watershed Management



Plan for the Red Deer River watershed. Public outreach for the project is planned throughout 2008 and into 2009. The RDRWA has been busy over the last few years completing public outreach and educa-

tion regarding watershed health, best management practices for the protection of water quality, and the wise use of water quantity.

For more information about the RDRWA or to find out how you can become involved, please go to:

<http://www.rdrwa.ca/>

or contact the RDRWA at: (403) 340-RDRW (7379)

### Did you know???

- Alberta has an agreement with Saskatchewan that guarantees that 50% of the water in each of the shared, major river basins, must be allowed to flow into Saskatchewan. This agreement is called an apportionment agreement.

Source: *The Alberta WaterPortal*

## Heart River Watershed Management Plan

The Heart River is the source water for many residents in the Nampa region of Alberta. Source water quality has been of concern in this region and Aquality has been monitoring the water quality in many streams within the watershed since 2003 in an attempt to identify specific areas of concern.

The Heart River Watershed Advisory Committee, along with Aquality have recently completed a draft watershed management plan for the area. This plan is currently open for public review and com-

ment, and can be found on the Northern Sunrise County website:

[www.northernsunrise.net](http://www.northernsunrise.net)

or on the Aquality website at:

[www.aquality.ca/heart](http://www.aquality.ca/heart)

There is an online comment form available on the Aquality website for watershed residents interested in leaving feedback about the plan. The approved Terms of Reference and water quality reports can also be viewed on both sites.





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**About Us**

Aquality is an Alberta based company specializing in watershed management and planning, source water protection, lake and wetland management, treatment wetlands, water quality testing and project management. Our main purpose is to assist our clients working in the aquatic environment with innovative approaches to identifying water quality impacts from point and non-point source pollutants, and recommending best management practices to improve water quality.

**Join our team!**

Are you a biologist or other surface water professional with at least 5 years of project management experience living in the Calgary area, or interested in relocating to Calgary? If so, we want to talk to you! Please send a detailed cover letter and curriculum vitae to : [jobs@aquality.ca](mailto:jobs@aquality.ca)

*think. water.*

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WE'RE ON THE WEB:

[WWW.AQUALITY.CA](http://WWW.AQUALITY.CA)

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**Water Quotes and Jokes**

*"In wine there is wisdom, in beer there is strength, in water there is bacteria."*

-- David Auerbach

**Dihydrogen Monoxide! The Invisible Killer**

Dihydrogen monoxide is colourless, odourless, tasteless, and kills uncounted thousands of people every year. Most of these deaths are caused by accidental inhalation of DHMO, but the dangers of dihydrogen monoxide do not end there. Prolonged exposure to its solid form causes severe tissue damage. Symptoms of DHMO ingestion can include excessive sweating and urination, and possibly a bloated feeling, nausea, vomiting and body electrolyte imbalance. For those who have become dependent, DHMO withdrawal means certain death. It is also known as hydroxyl acid, and is the major component of acid rain. contributes to the "greenhouse effect." may cause severe burns. contributes to the erosion of our natural landscape. accelerates corrosion and rusting of many metals. may cause electrical failures and decreased effectiveness of automobile brakes. has been found in excised tumours of terminal cancer patients.

**Contamination Is Reaching Epidemic Proportions!** Quantities of dihydrogen monoxide have been found in almost every stream, lake, and reservoir in Canada today. But the pollution is global, and the contaminant has even been found in Antarctic ice. DHMO has caused millions of dollars of property damage in the Midwest United States, and recently California.

**It's Not Too Late!** Act NOW to prevent further contamination. Find out more about this dangerous chemical. What you don't know can hurt you and others throughout the world.