

Applying for an AG Water Management Permit

SaskFSA, is working with the government to establish a solution based, agriculture water management policy, with the overall goal of reducing production risks due to excess moisture, while protecting the environment and mitigating downstream flooding.

All water management projects (drainage) require a permit through the Water Security Agency (WSA). Following is a checklist of how to get a project registered, contacts and information links. **PREPARE FOR DELAYS.** The new application process is still in the pilot phase. It is recommended to participate in the system sooner versus later.

EVALUATE THE SCOPE OF THE PROJECT:

- Whether the project will be a sole application (affecting your land base only) or a joint application involving others.
- In the event the water may impact / flow through other land owners, this becomes a joint application and you will need signed consent (land control) for your application. Start communicating with involved land owners.
- Larger scale projects may consider formation of a Conservation Development Area Authority (often referred to as a C&D) or development of a Watershed Association. More information on how to form a C&D can be found within the [Conservation and Area Authority Guide](#). Contact WSA for information on how to form a Watershed Association.
- You will also need to work together with your local rural municipality (RM) for water flow, permission (land control) and flow controls if the works involve passage of water along-side a road or increasing the natural flow through RM infrastructure (culverts, bridges etc.)

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL WSA OFFICE TO ESTABLISH CONTACT AND TO OBTAIN AN APPLICATION FORM:

- Make contact - [WSA Regional Office Contacts](#)
- Make contact with a Qualified Person (QP) – QP's are certified through WSA to consult with and assist you with the application process. This information is available at your Regional WSA Office.
- Depending on the project, engineered hydrology plans may also be required.

FILL OUT THE APPLICATION FORM AND COMMUNICATE WITH ALL INVOLVED LAND OWNERS AND RM'S:

- Map out the project – map the contributing water flow area, flow controls and adequate outlet
- Determine duration of approval – this will depend on the risk area. NOTE: the application will need to be renewed at the end of this term
- Legal land descriptions (LLD) for all land the water will impact
- Names on Title – required to be written on the application EXACTLY as it appears within the Information Services Corporation (ISC) database. NOTE: applications will not be valid if names are not exact, once approved ISC will send a notice that WSA has a registered interest on the land title to simply verify the approval to manage water on that land
- Specify type(s) of water management works – surface and/or tile drainage, flow controls, etc.
- Determine maintenance of water management works – develop a maintenance plan
- Determine adequate outlet – justify what makes the most sense for you, WSA will make the final decision

ONCE APPLICATION HAS BEEN SUBMITTED:

- Aquatic Habitat Protection Permit (AHPP) – must be obtained prior to beginning any work. Types of work that require an AHPP are listed in the [Aquatic Habitat Protection Guidelines](#) section on the WSA website
- Approval to Construct – Limitations, liability and conditions, refer to application form
- Approval to Operate - Limitations, liability and conditions, refer to application form and develop an operational plan

OTHER DEFINITIONS AND INFORMATION

- What is Land Control - [Land Control Requirements](#)
- Drainage Easements – [Instructions for Easements](#), [Easement Template](#)
- Funding for water management projects - [Farm Stewardship Program](#)