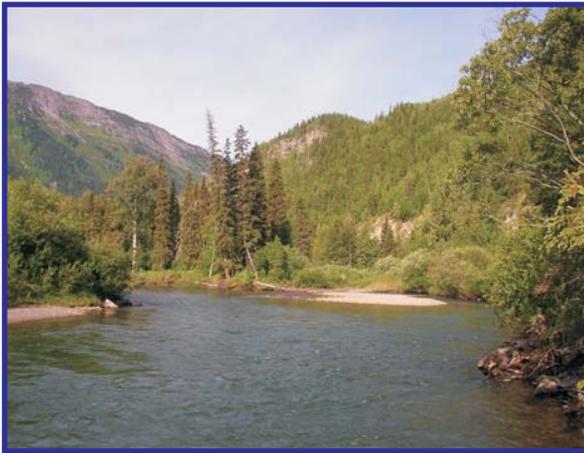


## Watershed Activities

### What activities take place in our watershed?

- Forestry
- Mining and Exploration
- Oil and Gas
- Agriculture
- Electric Transmission
- Transportation (railways and highways)
- Recreation including hunting and trapping
- Urban Activities



Little Giant Wants Chetwynd



To Be Water Wise



### What impacts water quality in the watershed?

#### Natural processes:

- Excess sedimentation (steep cut banks, landslides)
- Forest heath, such as Mountain Pine Beetle Epidemic
- Forest fire activity

#### Human impact:

- Sewage or industrial outfalls
- Storm water runoff
- Sedimentation from activities such as road building and urban development
- Nutrients from animal waste and fertilizers
- Toxins including pesticides

For More Information, contact:

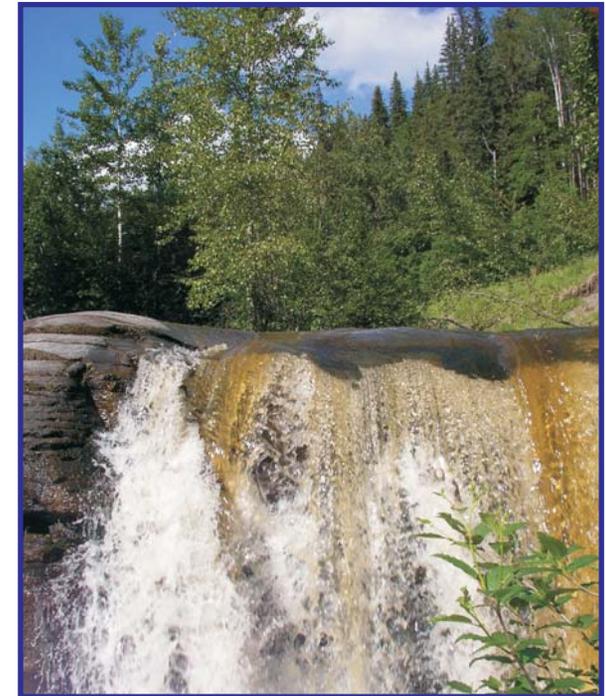


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Getting to know the

## PINE RIVER WATERSHED

The primary source of water for Chetwynd



## What is a watershed?

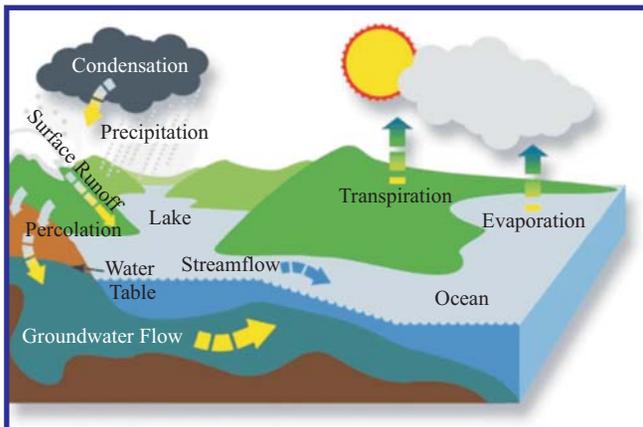
A watershed can be described as “the land area that drains into a stream”. A watershed is bordered within a valley and is defined by features of the surrounding local landscape. Precipitation in the form of rain or snow is filtered through the watershed and returns in the form of surface or groundwater.

## Surface Water

In British Columbia our lakes, streams, and oceans are valuable water resources. Apart from being a vital source of drinking water, surface water is used for a variety of other purposes such as producing hydroelectricity, multiple industrial and agricultural purposes and recreation. All forms of wildlife also depend on surface water for survival.

## Groundwater

Groundwater, sometimes referred to as a hidden resource, is at times the only water source for many British Columbians. Although less obvious than surface water, it is equally important.



## Pine River Watershed Facts

- Drainage area of approximately 700,000 ha (one fifth of Vancouver Island).
- Prior to the oil spill in 2000, the Pine River was Chetwynd’s only source of water.
- After the spill, groundwater wells were drilled to provide water.
- Today both the Pine River and groundwater wells provide water to Chetwynd.
- The watershed receives 45 cm of precipitation per year, just over one third as snow.
- The District of Chetwynd and the Northern Health Authority have teamed up to prepare the Watershed Source Protection Plan with support from the Canada-British Columbia Infrastructure Program.

## Help protect your watershed...

- Be a responsible consumer, read labels and choose environmentally friendly products whenever possible.
- Learn to conserve water and teach others to do the same.
- Avoid dumping waste products such as oil, antifreeze and detergents into storm drains.
- Reduce water consumption by sweeping walkways and driveways.
- Wash vehicles over gravel or grassy areas and use biodegradable, phosphate free products.
- Drain your hot tub slowly onto your lawn, not into storm drains.
- Plant native species that require less water and are well adapted to your local environment.
- Compost yard and kitchen waste. Compost will benefit your garden and is a good alternative to chemical fertilizers.

