

DISTRICT OF CHETWYND

WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM



Water was not much of an issue for Little Giant until he got the big scare that we all did in 2000, the Pine River oil spill happened. Since then, Little Giant has taken water much more seriously and been careful to conserve water, while the District has dedicated considerable resources to fixing the water system. Today, Little Giant and the District of Chetwynd are asking you to be water wise.

WHY CONSERVE WATER?

Because the average person in Chetwynd uses almost twice the water per day that the average Canadian does.

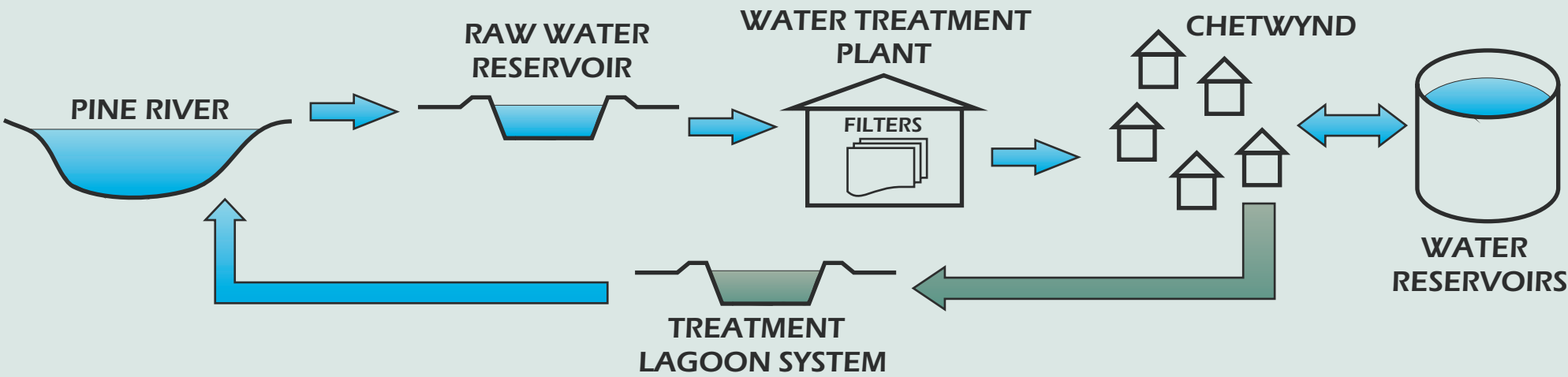
Chetwynd - 675 L  Canada - 350 L 

To ease the demand on the water system. In the summer at peak times of day, the system literally has to give 110%. This is because the demand for water is 10% higher than the capacity of the water system.

Because water is a precious resource that we all need to work together to conserve.

HOW DOES CHETWYND'S WATER SYSTEM WORK?

Follow the journey of the water from the river to your house and back again.



HOW DO I CONSERVE WATER?

BATHROOM (35% of household use)

- Purchase and install low flow toilet, shower, and faucet fixtures.
- Reduce your shower to 5 minutes.
- Plug the bathtub before turning the water on, then adjust the temperature as the tub fills up.
- Turn off the water while you shave, brush your teeth, and wash your face.
- Turn faucets off tightly after each use.
- Check faucets and pipes for leaks.
- Check the toilet for leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring in the tank. Color in the bowl means that there is a leak.
- Place plastic bottles filled with sand in your toilet tank.

LAUNDRY (10% of household use)

- When buying a new washing machine, choose the water and energy-efficient model.
- Run your washing machine only when you have a full load, or be sure to adjust the load size.

KITCHEN (5% of household use)

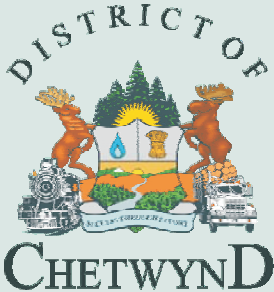
- Use garbage disposal sparingly - it requires a lot of water to operate.
- When washing dishes by hand, don't let the water run while rinsing.
- Soak your pots and pans instead of letting the water run while you scrape them clean.
- Wash vegetables and fruit with a vegetable brush and a basin of water rather than under running water.
- Reuse water that vegetables are washed in for watering houseplants.
- Run your dishwasher only when it is full.
- Install flow restrictors and aerators in faucets.
- Keep a container of water in the fridge.
- Don't use running water to thaw food.

YARD (45% of household use)

- Listen to the weather forecasts. This way you can choose not to water the lawn when it is going to rain.
- Use a screwdriver as a probe to test soil moisture. If it goes in easily, don't water.
- Water in the evening or early in the morning to reduce evaporation. Most lawns need only an inch of water per week to stay healthy. Use a shallow can to measure this amount.
- Adjust sprinklers so only the lawn is watered, not the house, sidewalk, or street. Do not water on a windy day.
- Collect rain water in a barrel and use it to water your garden.
- Use mulch to reduce evaporation.
- Aerate your lawn periodically.
- When mowing, leave the grass at least three inches high. Closely-cut grass makes the roots work harder, requiring more water.
- Water trees slowly, deeply, and infrequently to encourage deep rooting.
- Plant native species and water-efficient grasses, plants, trees, and shrubs.

DRIVEWAY (5% of household use)

- Use a broom when cleaning the driveway.
- When washing vehicles, use soap and water from a bucket. Use a hose with a shut-off nozzle for the final rinse.



For more information, contact
the District of Chetwynd at
401-4100