

Stormwater and Drinking Water Quality

Stormwater refers to runoff from precipitation including rain and snowmelt. The runoff travels along impervious surfaces such as driveways, parking lots and roofs and will eventually make its way into a nearby water body. As stormwater runs over these impervious surfaces it can pick up chemicals and pathogens along the way.

Stormwater and the *Clean Water Act*

Under the Act certain stormwater facilities including storm sewers (carries stormwater to nearby waterbody) and combined sewers (carries stormwater + sewage to treatment plant) are managed to ensure they do not pose a significant threat to our drinking water sources.

These facilities could potentially contribute chemicals such as phosphorus and hydrocarbons to lakes and rivers. Through source protection planning the threat from stormwater runoff can be reduced.



Source Protection Plan Policies

- **Sewer Use By-Law:** The City of Greater Sudbury (CGS) will enforce a by-law to prohibit the disposal of hazardous chemicals into sanitary and storm sewers to protect municipal drinking water sources.
- **Official Plan:** CGS will incorporate policies into its official plan to aid with reducing stormwater runoff volume from developments close to drinking water sources.
- **Environmental Compliance Approvals:** The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks will include terms and conditions into stormwater management system approvals to protect drinking water sources.
- **Education & Outreach:** CGS will deliver a program to educate residents on the importance of reducing detrimental stormwater from private properties.
- **Stormwater Management Strategy:** CGS will develop a plan for the Ramsey Lake Issues Contributing Area to evaluate stormwater management technologies to protect drinking water quality.