

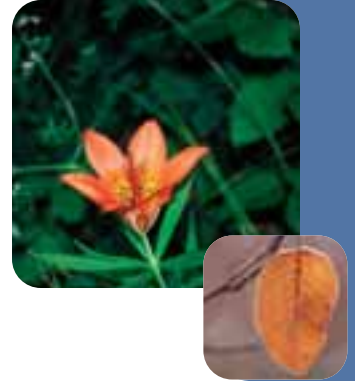


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Glossary

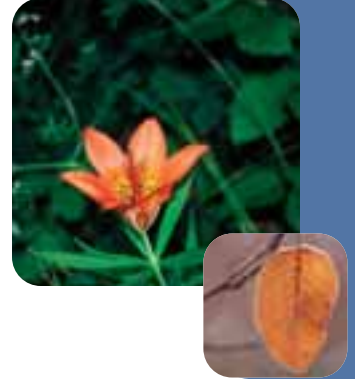
- Adaptive management** evaluating the performance of new management approaches and changing practices over time as experience is gained (Curran 2003b).
- Agro-forestry** refers to the act of managing a woodlot in a “farming” manner (e.g. cultivation or plantation) or when a woodlot is integrated with farming operations (e.g. grazing or rangeland).
- Algal bloom** a heavy growth of algae in and on a body of water; triggered by environmental conditions such as high nitrate and phosphate concentrations; the decay of algal bloom may reduce dissolved oxygen levels.
- Aquifers** underground layers of porous rock, sand or gravel containing large amounts of water (Alberta Environment 2002).
- Biosolids** primarily an organic product produced by wastewater treatment processes that can be beneficially used; treated solid or semi-solid residues generated during the treatment of domestic sewage in a wastewater treatment facility.
- Brownfield** unused industrial lands that may or may not be contaminated, or that have been remediated (Curran 2003b).
- Climate change** long-term change in atmospheric and/or ocean conditions due to natural or human activity. Climate change is sometimes used synonymously with the term global warming, but climate change is a broader term because it includes natural changes in climate (Wilkie 2005).
- Conservation Subdivision Design (CSD)** a form of subdivision design based on rearranging development as it is being planned so that half (or more) of the buildable land is set aside as open space; cluster development is an important tool for CSD.
- Cluster development** see “green cluster development”.
- Cumulative impacts** the environmental impacts of an action in combination with the impacts of other past, existing and proposed actions. Each increment from each action may not be noticeable but cumulative impacts may be noticeable when all increments are considered together (Nevada Division of Water Planning).



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- Demand management** an approach that aims to conserve water by using a variety of policy instruments to reduce demand and increase efficient use. This approach recognizes that water is a finite resource (Wilkie 2005).
- Dissolved Oxygen (DO)** a measurement of the amount of oxygen available to aquatic organisms. Temperature, salinity, organic matter present, biochemical oxygen demand and chemical oxygen demand affect dissolved oxygen solubility in water (NSWA 2005).
- Drought** periods of less than average precipitation over a certain period of time. Drought is naturally occurring and can cause imbalances in the hydrologic system.
- Ecological Integrity** the degree to which all environmental (ecological) components and their interactions are represented and functioning (NSWA 2005).
- Ecosystem** an ecological system of an assemblage of plants, animals, bacteria and fungi that, in their natural environment are treated together as a functional unit (NSWA 2005).
- Eutrophication** the process by which lakes and ponds become enriched with dissolved nutrients (either from natural sources of human activities), resulting in a number of changes to the ecosystem, which includes increased growth of algae and other microscopic plants. The decay of algae may cause decreased oxygen levels (which may kill fish and other aquatic life).
- Faucet aerator** a device that is attached to a faucet that serves to mix air with water in order to reduce water flow, thus conserving water and reducing splash.
- Green cluster development** concentrating development on smaller lots on a portion of a larger site to protect the integrity of the green infrastructure (Curran 2003b).
- Green infrastructure** the ecological processes, both natural and engineered, that act as the natural infrastructure. It includes ditches, creeks, wetlands, parks, open space, trees, green roofs, gardens, working lands, aquifers and watersheds (Curran 2003b).
- Greyfield** aging strip malls and shopping centres.

- Impervious surfaces** surfaces of land where water cannot infiltrate back into the ground such as roofs, driveways, streets and parking lots. Total imperviousness means the actual amount of surface taken up with impervious surfaces. A site with total impervious of 60% can act like a site with only 10% imperviousness if strategies such as channeling roof runoff into the garden and using swales to capture rainwater from the driveway and sidewalk are used (Curran 2003b).
- Instream flow need** the quantities of water and water quality conditions needed to sustain riverine processes and associated ecosystems over the long term (Alberta Environment a).
- Instream users (of water)** water users that do not take water out of the environment but instead use it in the environment in which it is found (e.g., hydropower production, recreation).
- Integrated watershed management planning** a comprehensive multi-resource management planning process involving all stakeholders within the watershed, who, together as a group, cooperatively work toward identifying the watershed's resource issues and concerns as well as develop and implement a watershed plan with solutions that are environmentally, socially and economically sustainable (Gabor et al. 2004).
- Leachate** a liquid that has been in contact with waste in the landfill cell and has undergone chemical or physical changes (Alberta Environment 2004c).
- Natural capital** the stock of natural and environmental resources that yields many goods and services that are essential to the sustained health of our environment, communities and the economy (Olewiler 2004).
- Nitrogen** a nutrient necessary for the growth and development of animals and plants. Typically nitrogen is the limiting nutrient in terrestrial systems (NSWA 2005).
- Non-point source pollution** pollution caused by diffuse sources with no discernible distinct point of source (e.g., runoff from agriculture, urban areas, mining sites, construction sites).
- Pathogen** an agent that causes disease, especially a living microorganism (e.g., viruses, bacteria, or fungi that cause disease).



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- Phosphorus** a nutrient necessary for the growth and development of animals and plants, which is typically the limiting nutrient of aquatic systems (NSWA 2005).
- Point source pollution** pollutants discharged from a discrete, identifiable point of source (e.g., pipes, ditches, sewers, wells, animal feeding operations).
- Riparian area** the transitional zone between upland and aquatic habitat. Riparian areas perform important ecological functions, contain a diverse assemblage of plant and animal species, provide essential habitat for wildlife and are influenced by seasonal water levels (NSWA 2005).
- Rural sprawl** the uncontrolled or unplanned extension of rural development into the countryside (e.g. country residential development).
- Seismic** an exploration technique to identify oil and gas deposits by producing sound waves at the surface, recording how the waves are reflected from underlying features and interpreting these reflections to produce a computer model of subsurface geological structures (NSWA 2005).
- Smart growth** a collection of urban development strategies to reduce sprawl that are fiscally, environmentally and socially responsible. Smart growth is development that enhances quality of life, protects the environment and uses tax revenues wisely (Smart Growth BC).
- Sub-watershed** a smaller watershed that is a piece of a much larger watershed.
- Total Suspended Solids (TSS)** a measurement of the amount of solids suspended in water including a wide variety of material such as silt, decaying plant matter, industrial wastes and sewage.
- Urban Growth Boundaries** a regional boundary that is set in an attempt to control urbanization. Urban growth and development is directed to the area inside this boundary and limited in the area outside of it.
- Urban sprawl** the uncontrolled or unplanned extension of urban areas into the countryside.
- Water turbidity** the cloudy or muddy appearance of water caused by the suspension of particulate matter.

- Watershed** an area of land, bounded by topographic features, that drains into a shared destination such as a river, stream, lake, pond or ocean. The size of a watershed can be tiny or immense and its boundaries and speed of flow are determined by land forms such as hills, slopes and mountain ranges that direct water. Within each large watershed, there are many smaller watersheds. For example, a small creek that flows into the Vermillion River has its own watershed, but is also part of the larger Vermillion River watershed, which is part of the much larger North Saskatchewan Watershed.
- Watershed management** the analysis, protection, development, operation or maintenance of the land, vegetation and water resources of a drainage basin for the conservation of all its resources for the benefit of its residents (Nevada Division of Water Planning).
- Watershed stewardship** the act of taking good care of the watershed through sound management, recognizing that watersheds are not owned, but passed on to future generations.
- Wetland** land that is saturated with water long enough to promote wetland or aquatic processes as indicated by poorly drained soils, hydrophilic vegetation (i.e. plants that grow in water), and various kind of biological activity that are adapted to a wet environment (Government of Canada 1991).
- Withdrawal users (of water)** . . . water users that remove water from the watercourse and then return all or part of it to the watershed.
- Woodlot** may vary in size and diversity but generally describes a tract of forested or tree covered land. See also “agroforestry.”



Glossary

List of Acronyms

AAFRD - Alberta Agriculture, Food, and Rural Development

AESA - Alberta Environmentally Sustainable Agriculture

ASP - Area Structure Plan

ACD - Alberta Community Development

AE - Alberta Energy

AENV - Alberta Environment

AEUB - Alberta Energy and Utilities Board

ASRD - Alberta Sustainable Resource Development

BMP - Best Management Practice

DFO - Department of Fisheries and Oceans (Fisheries and Oceans Canada)

EC - Environment Canada

ENGO - Environmental Non-Government Organization

EPEA - *Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act*

IDP - Intermunicipal Development Plan

IPM - Integrated Pest Management

LUB - Land Use Bylaw

MDP - Municipal Development Plan

MGA - *Municipal Government Act*

NSRW - North Saskatchewan River Watershed

NRCB - Natural Resources Conservation Board

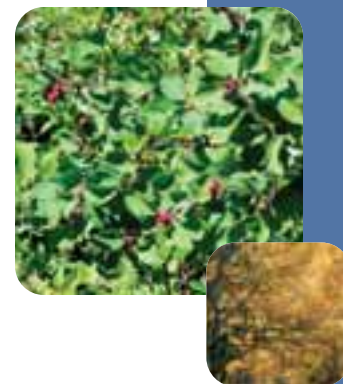
PFRA - Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration - Agriculture and Agri-food Canada

RCMP - Royal Canadian Mounted Police

WWTP - Waste Water Treatment Plant

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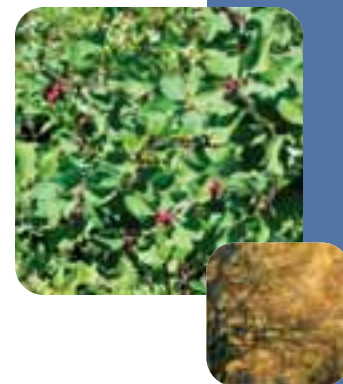


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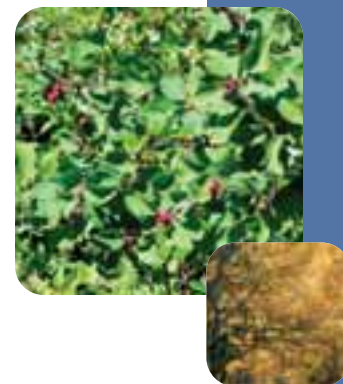
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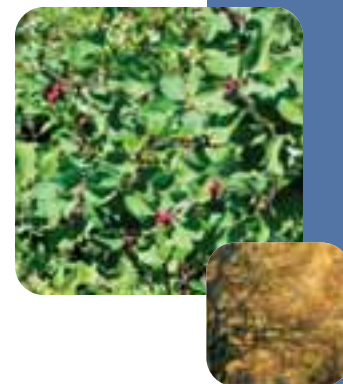


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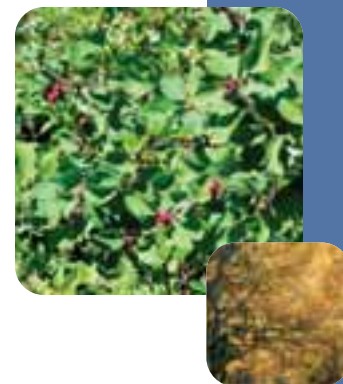


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