

What you do could potentially harm an entire community's drinking water source.

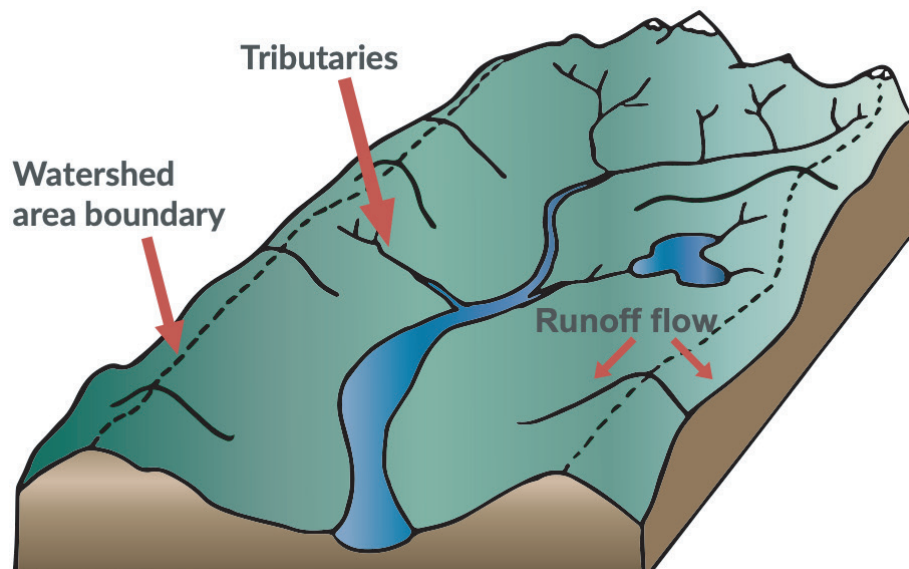
# Boating within a Protected Public Water Supply Area

## What is a Protected Public Water Supply Area (PPWSA)?

A PPWSA is an area of land around a public drinking water source that has been protected under Section 39 of the Water Resources Act and typically includes the area of land where all precipitation drains towards the water supply intake. The boundary is generally based on topography for surface sources such as ponds and rivers.

## Am I inside a PPWSA?

If you are unsure whether you are located inside a protected watershed area, you can check the mapping application within the Water Resources Portal available here: [maps.gov.nl.ca/water](https://maps.gov.nl.ca/water), call your nearest community office, or contact the nearest Water Resources Management Division (WRMD) office under the Department of Environment and Climate Change.





### Is boating allowed inside PPWSAs?

Boating is generally prohibited on source ponds where the intake that supplies drinking water to a community is located. The Water Resources Act does allow for some recreational boating in PPWSAs in circumstances where the nature and size of a PPWSA is sufficiently large to preclude an adverse effect.

### How can boating affect the environment?

Motorized boats affect water quality in many ways; but one of the riskier impacts are fuel spills. Outside of accidental fuel spills, a small fraction of fuel used in many boat motors is discharged unburned, and will likely end up in the water. One Litre of gasoline can contaminate 750,000 Litres of water.

Churning of water from propellers can increase sediment disturbance, causing increased turbidity (or cloudiness of water) and even algae blooms. Non-motorized boats such as kayaks and canoes have a much lower environmental impact and are encouraged over motorized boats.

### TIPS to help prevent spills

- Use fuel bibs/ collars
- Fill slowly to avoid overflows
- Use a fuel gauge if available
- Keep spill kits nearby
- Immediately contain and clean up any spills
- Report spills over 70 Litres to 1.800.563.9089

### How can I help?

- Be extra cautious when refueling and always use approved fuel container's
- Drive slowly through sensitive or shallow areas to lower churning
- Be respectful of wildlife and no-wake zones
- Replace old two-stroke engines with fourstroke engines, which are much more quiet and efficient, and release cleaner exhaust
- Keep your motor and boat well maintained
- Have a fuel spill kit handy at all times and especially during refueling

### Let us work together to safeguard our drinking water supplies.

Water Resources Management Division

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