



Legislation

Please keep in mind, that Water bodies, riparian and upland areas could be subject to various governing legislation, such as:

- Alberta Water Act
- Alberta Wetland Policy
- Alberta Environment Protection and Enhancement Act
- Canadian Fisheries Act
- Canadian Navigable Water Protection Act

Some activities and or diversions of water are exempt from requiring an approval or license, however, don't take the risk!!

Visit <https://www.alberta.ca/water.aspx> for more information, or contact Alberta Environment and Parks for confirmation.

Any unauthorized activity may result in enforcement action ranging from fines to prosecution .

References

- “Quality Farm Dugouts” – Alberta Agriculture and Forestry
www.agriculture.alberta.ca
- For Dugout Funding visit:
www.cap.alberta.ca/CAP/Programs
-“Farm Water Supply”

Environmental Emergency or Complaints

Report environmental issues to Alberta Environment and Parks.

- 24-hour toll-free line: **1-800-222-6514**

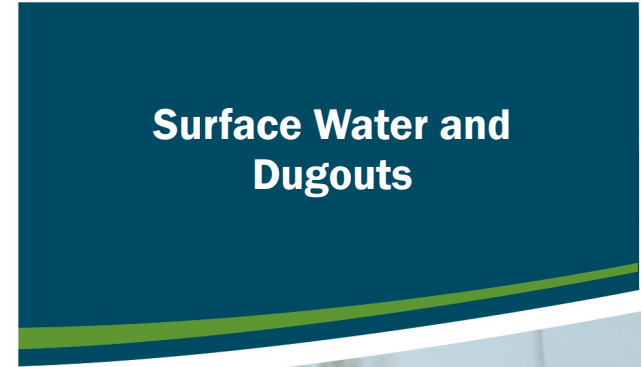


Mountain View
C O U N T Y

1408 TWP 320, Bag 100
Didsbury, Alberta TOM OWO

P 403.335.3311 1.877.264.9754
F 403.335.9207

www.mountainviewcounty.com



Surface Water and Dugouts



Mountain View
C O U N T Y

Agricultural Production and Surface Water

Surface water, shorelines, riparian areas and upland drainage areas provide an important role. They assist with absorption, collection and storing of water to reduce flooding, recharge groundwater, and supply water for household & livestock consumption. They also assist with filtering out sediment, excess nutrients, and remove chemical residues. Approvals may be required to redirect surface water, either into a dugout or draining a field.



Approvals

The “Crown” is the owner of all water in Alberta and the Department of Environment and Parks is responsible for managing this resource. The local municipality also has a role in the management, reflected in land use policies.

The Alberta Water Act requires that an approval be obtained before undertaking a construction activity for any of the following:

- Activity in a waterbody
- Diverting and using water from a water body
- For the purposes of drainage
- Flood control
- Erosion control
- Channel realignment
- Draining farmland into an adjacent parcel of land or County ditch

For further information see the Water Act Regulatory Requirements Guide .

Before You Start

Determine if the Project:

- Is in or near a water body frequented by fish
- Is diverting water from a water body
- Includes installation of a crossing
- Creates a change to the flow, volume or velocity of flow of water on another parcel of land
- Could affect an aquatic environment
- Requires removal of debris from a water body

If any of the circumstances listed could apply contact Alberta Environment and Parks at **403-340-7052**. If the project is part of a building or land development please ensure you contact Mountain View County Planning and Development at **403-335-3311** .

Dugouts

When planning your dugout, please ensure you adhere to Mountain View County setbacks as identified in the Land Use bylaw. Alberta of Environment and Parks approvals may be required for the placing, constructing or filling in of a dugout, especially if any of the following could apply;

- The dugout is located in a watercourse frequented by fish or in a lake or a wetland
- That water is being diverted and pumped into the dugout
- The dugout has a capacity greater than 2500 cubic meters in volume
- The dugout is located in the same watercourse and parcel of land as an existing dugout

Contact **Alberta Environment and Parks**, and they will confirm what approvals, if any may be needed.

