

# Resources Available From Bow River Basin Council



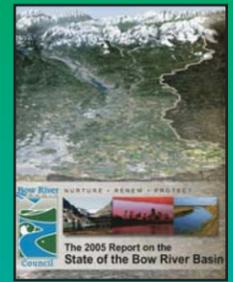
# How To Get Involved



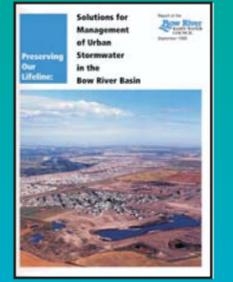
# What is the Bow River Basin Council

## Resources

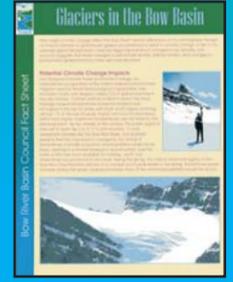
Check out our website ([www.brbc.ab.ca](http://www.brbc.ab.ca)) or contact us for information on these and or other resources.



**Bow State of Basin 2005**  
Provides up-to-date information on the water quantity, quality and natural ecosystems of the Bow River Basin



**Urban Stormwater**  
Looking for solutions to managing stormwater in urban areas? We provide best management practices and ideas that are used and proven to be effective.



**Bow Basin Fact Sheets**  
Basin fact sheets are intended to provide an overview of key topics within the Bow River Basin.

## Become A Member

Membership in the Bow River Basin Council is inclusive, participatory, and active. It is open to any interested individual or organization.

Membership is categorized as follows:

- ◆ Commercial / Industrial
- ◆ Individual / Public Members
- ◆ Licensees
- ◆ Municipal Government
- ◆ Non-profit / Academia
- ◆ Regulatory / Administrative / First Nations

## Donate

If you would like to make a financial contribution please contact the Council. By supporting the Council you will help protect our rivers.... and our future.



## Contact Us

Executive Director  
Phone: (403) 254-3353

Administrator  
Phone: (403) 254-3419

Bow River Basin Council  
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Protecting our Rivers ... Protecting our Future



## Our Vision

To be one of the best managed watersheds in the world.

## Who We Are

The Bow River Basin Council is a multi-stakeholder, charitable organization dedicated to conducting activities for the improvement and protection of the waters of the Bow River Basin. The Bow River basin Council is recognized by the Provincial Government as the Watershed Planning and Advisory Council for the Bow Basin

## Initiatives

- ◆ State of the Basin Reporting
- ◆ Quarterly Education Forums
- ◆ Water Management Planning
- ◆ Promoting Best Management Practices
- ◆ Partnerships with Watershed Stewardship Groups

## Committees

- ◆ Legislation and Policy
- ◆ Education and Communication
- ◆ Basin Planning
- ◆ Fund Development

## Read on to find out about...

- What is the Bow River Basin Council?
- What Resources Are Available?
- How You Can Help?
- How To Get Involved?



Photo by Al MacKeigan



### Did you know...?

In Alberta, the Bow Basin represents:

- ◆ 3% of Alberta's water supply
- ◆ 4% of Alberta's land base
- ◆ 35% of Alberta's population

# Bow River Basin

[WWW.BRBC.AB.CA](http://WWW.BRBC.AB.CA)

## Residential

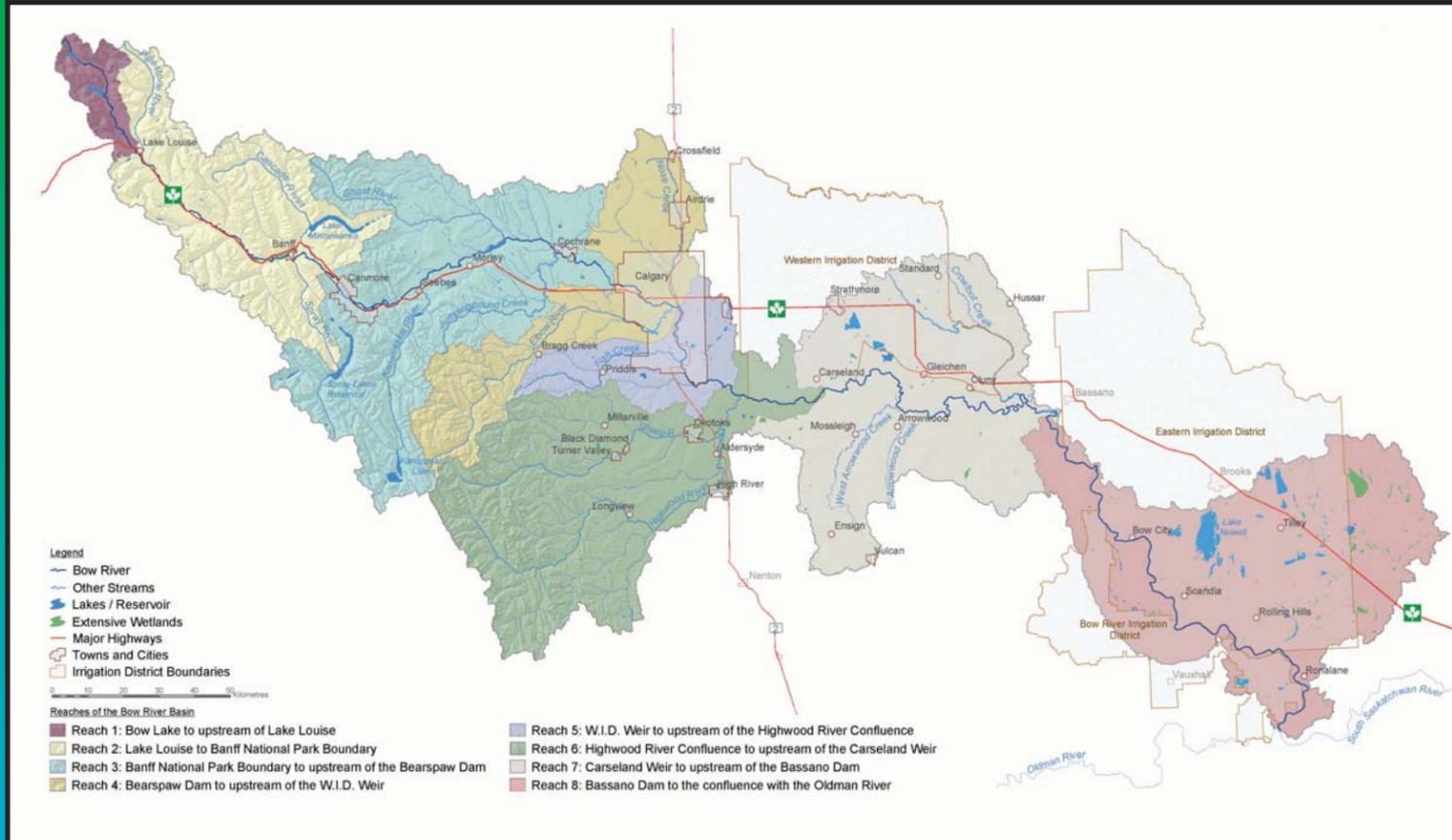
- ❑ Properly dispose of household hazardous wastes.
- ❑ Apply lawn and garden chemicals sparingly and according to directions. Where possible, use natural alternatives.
- ❑ Leaks and related water losses might seem insignificant, but a dripping faucet leaking one drop per second can use up to 25 litres per day.
- ❑ Ensuring garden hoses are equipped with automatic shut-off valves and rain sensors that can shut-down irrigation systems when it is raining are practical and cost-effective.
- ❑ By installing a low-flush toilet, the average household consisting of 2 people could save up to 50,000 litres per year as compared to a toilet manufactured in the 1980's.
- ❑ Rain harvesting captures and diverts rainwater. A 1,000 square foot rooftop (93 m<sup>2</sup>) can catch 558 litres of water from a rainfall of just 6 millimetres (one-quarter of an inch).

## Urban Design

- ❑ Consider xeriscaping or low water use landscaping. (e.g. rock gardens, mulch)
- ❑ If you live near a lake, river or wetland, allow thick vegetation or buffer strips to grow along waterways to slow runoff and soak up pollutants.
- ❑ Divert runoff from pavement to grassy, planted or wooded areas of your property, so stormwater can seep slowly into the ground.

## Recreational

- ❑ Remember to scoop when they poop! Rain tends to wash pet waste and bacteria into storm drains and waterways, resulting in polluted water.
- ❑ Wash your vehicle only when necessary, and go to a car wash that disposes of the dirty water properly.
- ❑ Refuel with care. Gas and oil spills seriously degrade water quality.



## Rural and Agriculture

- ❑ Use alternative watering systems such as solar or nose-powered pumps to draw livestock away from waterways.
- ❑ Test your soil regularly for nutrient levels, so that you don't add excess nutrients or chemicals that will pollute surface water, groundwater, dugouts or wells.
- ❑ By controlling the timing and intensity of grazing, you encourage streamside growth and healthy shorelines.
- ❑ Protect water quality by reducing soil and wind erosion. Permanent vegetative cover, shelterbelts and reduced tillage are all practical ways to achieve these results. Dispose of pesticides, containers, and tank rinsate in an approved manner.



Photo Courtesy AAFRD



Photo Courtesy AAFRD

## Industry

- ❑ A well-kept workplace is the best way to prevent water contamination. Store chemicals safely and clean up spills immediately!
- ❑ Assess your site potential for water contamination, looking at slope, natural drainage, subsurface materials, ground cover, and proximity to water bodies (including wetlands).
- ❑ Segregate your chemical collection and loading areas from other developed areas at your site, so that any spills can be contained quickly and safely!

Portions of text courtesy of Oldman Watershed Council

Our vision is to be one of the best managed watersheds in the world.