

Appendix 1 Alberta Provincial Regulations

Approvals and Water Licensing

The *Water Act* establishes that the Crown, the Province of Alberta, has ownership of all water. In Alberta, no license is required for household purposes **up to** 275,000 Imperial gallons (1250 cubic meters of water) per year. Under the *Water Act*, household purposes are defined as water used for human consumption, sanitation, fire prevention, and watering animals, gardens, lawns, and trees.

Approvals to construct a dugout are required for dugouts that:

- are located in areas that have an AESRD Approved Water Management Plan
- are located in a watercourse frequented by fish or in lake or wetland
- would change the flow of water on an adjacent parcel of land
- have a capacity greater than 2500 cubic metres (550,000 gallons)
- are located in the same parcel of land as an existing dugout.

Using water from dugouts is exempt from licensing if:

- water is naturally impounded in the dugout from surface water runoff and no pumping has been done to facilitate the impoundment
- the dugout is not situated within a watercourse, lake, or wetland at any time
- the capacity of the dugout is less than 2,750,000 Imperial gallons (12,500 cubic metres)
- the total withdrawal of water from the dugout is less than 1,375,000 Imperial gallons (6250 cubic metres) per year.

For more information, contact Alberta Environment and Parks 310-0000 .

Fish Stocking

Recreational and/or commercial licenses are required to stock fish in a dugout. The licenses are issued by Alberta Agriculture and Forestry in Edmonton and may be contacted by phoning 310-FARM (3276). Licenses may also be required by Alberta Environment and Parks if dugouts are not used for household purposes and do not qualify under the exemption noted above. For technical information on fish farming, contact the AF Aquaculture Group in Lethbridge.

Setbacks

Alberta Transportation requires a minimum setback of 40 metres (131 ft.) from the highway property line on all primary and secondary highways. Local counties and municipalities also have similar setback distances from their roads for safety purposes. For further information, and to determine if a development permit is required, contact your local county or municipality office as well as the nearest Alberta Transportation office.

Technical and Financial Assistance

For technical assistance and information about possible funding opportunities, contact the nearest Agriculture Water Specialist with Alberta Agriculture and Forestry at 310-FARM (3276).