

Water Management Strategy & Wetland Policy



Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities



The Water Security Agency's (WSA) Water Management Strategy and wetland policy are key to sustaining agricultural productivity and preserving wetlands.

With 86% of wetlands undrained, these areas enhance water quality, reduce flood risks, and recharge groundwater. A balanced Water Stewardship Policy is needed to promote sustainable agriculture, protect resources, and drive economic growth.

Challenges

Saskatchewan's lack of a clear water management strategy endangers the balance between agricultural needs and conservation, impacting water quality, flood control, and groundwater recharge.

Immediate action is essential to support farmers and protect ecosystems.

SARM's Response

SARM members need a Water Management Strategy that balances agricultural productivity and environmental protection through:

- Leveraging existing drainage practices
- Promoting effective communication
- Tailoring policies to regional needs
- Ensuring flexibility for long-term success

The Voice of Rural Saskatchewan

Advocacy Asks



The federal government can play a crucial role in addressing water management and wetland policy challenges in rural Saskatchewan through various actions.

Key initiatives include:

WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING: Support reservoirs and irrigation systems for water-saving technologies.

RESEARCH INVESTMENT: Focus on sustainable agriculture and climate change impacts for better policies.

GOVERNMENT COLLABORATION: Align federal, provincial, and local water management efforts.

DROUGHT PROGRAMS: Provide financial aid, tax deferrals, and a centralized water resource database.

LOCAL ADAPTATIONS: Enable region-specific policies and emergency support for severe weather recovery.

INNOVATIVE PRACTICES: Encourage rainwater harvesting and wetland restoration with technical and financial support.

**Thank you
for your time!**

SARM looks forward to working with the federal government on projects and initiatives positively impacting Saskatchewan's rural municipalities.