Working together to protect drinking water

Drinking water source protection documents are developed by the Department of Water in consultation with local communities, state and local government agencies, water service providers (such as the Water Corporation) and other interested stakeholders.

The support we receive from stakeholders through the development and also implementation of these plans greatly assists in ensuring the ongoing availability of reliable, safe, good quality drinking water source now and in the future. Ultimately, the quality of water provided to consumers depends on everyone working together to keep the water reserves clean.

There are 134 drinking water sources in Western Australia servicing towns and cities. We have completed 119 drinking water source protection reports to date for these sources. We will continue to prepare, implement and review these drinking water source protection reports, consistent with the Australian drinking water guidelines 6, 2004 to protect public health.

Want to know more?

If you would like a copy of the Australind, Eaton and Picton Water Reserves drinking water source protection plan go to www.water.wa.gov.au > Publications > Find a publication > Series browse > Water resource protection plans.

To read about best management practices to help protect water quality, go to www.water.wa.gov.au > Publications > Find a publication > Series browse > Water quality protection guidelines, water quality protection notes, water quality awareness brochures and information sheets.

To find out more about how we protect drinking water, visit our website http://drinkingwater.water.wa.gov.au/ or contact us.
Where does the Australind region’s drinking water come from?

The Australind Regional Water Supply Scheme supplies water to over 20 000 people in the towns of Australind, Brunswick Junction, Burekup, Eaton, Pelican Point, Picton and Roelands. Drinking water for this scheme comes from seven bores located in Australind and Eaton. An additional drinking water bore is under development in Picton. These bores draw groundwater from confined aquifers. As there are confining layers of impermeable rock present between the water sources and the land uses above them, there is a low risk of these sources becoming contaminated. The Australind, Eaton and Picton Water Reserves comprise small areas surrounding the bores to protect them from immediate contamination threats.

Where are the Australind, Eaton and Picton Water Reserves

This plan protects the Australind region’s drinking water

The Department of Water has developed a drinking water source protection plan to protect the quality of water in the Australind, Eaton and Picton Water Reserves and to help ensure a reliable, safe, good quality drinking water supply. The Australind, Eaton and Picton Water Reserves drinking water source protection plan was completed in 2011. This plan defines the boundaries of the Australind, Eaton and Picton Water Reserves and considers water quality risks and recommends management strategies to address them.

What are the risks to Australind region’s drinking water quality?

Water quality risks to the Australind regional water supply are negligible because the groundwater in the Leederville and Yarragadee aquifers is naturally protected from above-ground land uses by confining layers of rock. The main risk we need to manage is from other bores drilled into the Leederville or Yarragadee aquifers. If other bores are improperly constructed they can become conduits for surface contamination across the confining layers of rock.

How can we manage these water quality risks?

Recommended actions to help protect the Australind regional water supply include:

- proclaiming the Australind, Eaton and Picton Water Reserves under the Country Areas Water Supply Act 1947
- incorporating the boundaries of the Australind, Eaton and Picton Water Reserves into the Shire of Harvey and Shire of Dardanup local planning scheme
- licensing bores drilled into the Leederville or Yarragadee aquifers, with requirements for minimum bore construction standards.