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 implementation of the Quickup River Dam Catchment Area drinking water source protection plan will greatly assist in ensuring the ongoing availability of reliable, safe, good quality drinking water sources now and in the future. Ultimately, the quality of water provided to consumers depends on everyone working together to keep the catchment 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 Quickup River Dam Catchment Area 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.

www.water.wa.gov.au
Email: drinkingwater@water.wa.gov.au
National Relay Service 133 677

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This publication is available at our website or for those with special needs it can be made available in alternative formats such as audio, large print, or Braille.
Where does Denmark’s drinking water come from?

Denmark’s drinking water comes from Quickup Dam, located on the Quickup River, about 6 km north of Denmark. The Quickup River Dam Catchment Area is the area that naturally drains into the Quickup Dam.

Where is the Quickup River Dam Catchment?

The plan to protect Denmark’s drinking water

The Department of Water has developed a drinking water source protection plan to protect the quality of water in the Quickup River Dam Catchment Area and to help ensure a reliable, safe, good quality drinking water supply. The Quickup River Dam Catchment Area drinking water source protection plan was completed in 2011 and it discusses water quality risks and recommends management strategies to address them. It also identifies priority areas and protection zones, which guide land use planning and development decisions in the catchment area to protect water quality.

What are the risks to the Denmark’s drinking water quality?

The main land uses in the Quickup River Dam Catchment Area are national park, state forest, public roads, agriculture (cattle grazing) and rural living. Some of the water quality risks associated with these land uses are:

- pathogens and nutrients from people and animal waste
- hydrocarbons from vehicles via spills and leaks of fuel
- nutrients from fertiliser
- turbidity from soil erosion and road run-off
- pesticides and other chemicals from agricultural land uses.

How can we manage these water quality risks?

Recommended actions to help protect Denmark’s water supply include:

- proclaiming the proposed amended boundary of the Quickup River Dam Catchment Area under the Country Areas Water Supply Act 1947
- incorporating the Quickup River Dam Catchment Area boundary into the Shire of Denmark’s Local planning scheme
- promoting best management practices to landowners and managers within the catchment area
- appropriate signage in place to make people aware of the catchment area boundary and why it is important to protect it.

What am I allowed to do in the catchment area?

Existing, approved land uses and activities can continue. We encourage land owners and managers to adopt best management practices to protect the quality of this important drinking water source.

We have a range of publications that provide advice on best management practices. See Want to know more? on the back of this brochure.

New developments, or expansion of existing land uses or activities will need to consider the priority areas, protection zones and recommendations in the Quickup River Dam Catchment Area drinking water source protection plan and our Water quality protection note no. 25: Land use compatibility in public drinking water source areas.