

Our Lakes Need Your Help!

Do Your Part To Fight Algae - Buy Phosphorus-Free Products

The City of Yorkton needs your help to reduce the amount of phosphorus in our wastewater.

When excess phosphorus is added to freshwater, it can cause the water to become over-fertile, which encourages the growth of potentially toxic algae. That drastically reduces the recreational appeal of our lakes, and can even make them dangerous to use.

Part of the phosphorus in our city's wastewater comes from dishwasher detergents and household cleaners. And while our wastewater is treated before it continues along its path to the lakes and rivers downstream from us, removing all of the phosphorus from it is difficult and expensive. It makes more sense – both environmentally and economically - to reduce the amount of phosphorus in our wastewater right at the source.

So how can you help? Simply look for dishwasher detergents and cleaners that say they are low in phosphorus or are phosphate-free. National regulations set to come into effect in July of 2010 will lower the allowed phosphorus concentration limit for these products to 0.5%, and there are a number of products already available that meet those limits. When in doubt, check the back of the label, which should specify the percentage of phosphorus in it.

Partners in this initiative include the City of Yorkton, the Assiniboine Watershed Stewardship Association, and the Saskatchewan Watershed Authority.



Saskatchewan
Watershed
Authority



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