

Drought Support

Temporary Livestock Water Assistance



Program Description

Livestock and poultry producers impacted by water shortage and drought conditions can receive streamlined temporary livestock water assistance through Alberta Environment and Protected Areas (EPA). Producers who have an urgent need for water should contact EPA for support to identify alternative water sources and receive authorization for use under the *Water Act*.

Program Eligibility

Assistance is available to any livestock or poultry producer who has an urgent need for an alternative water supply for their animals and need assistance in finding an alternative water source.

How It Works

Step 1: Producers in need of support should email their EPA district office and include the details outlined under the “What to include in your email” heading.

A map with district boundaries and contact information can be found on page two. Producers can also call the Water Pumping Program at 780-422-5000.

Step 2: Within three (3) business days, an EPA staff member will contact the producer directly to discuss their specific situation.

Step 3: EPA staff and producer will work together to identify and assess alternative water sources, and potential impacts to the aquatic environment and other water users.

Step 4: Where required, EPA will work with the producer through a streamlined authorization process under the *Water Act* to authorize temporary use of the new water source.

Step 5: Once the producer has received their authorization, such as a Temporary Diversion Licence, they can begin using the new water source.

What to Include in your Email

Producer requesting assistance should include the following information in their email:

- **‘Livestock Water Assistance’** in the subject line of the email.
- The legal land location(s) of your livestock.
- Number of animals.
- If you currently have a Water Licence under the *Water Act*, and the licence number(s).
- Suggested options for water source (if known).
- Phone number or alternative contact information.

Alternative Water Sources

Examples of alternative water sources may include:

- Storm water ponds.
- Gravel pits.
- Stock watering dams greater than 2,500 cubic metres.
- Beaver dams or ponds on non-fish bearing water courses.
- Larger rivers or wetlands.
- Municipal bulk watering stations.
- Last polishing cell from a municipal wastewater treatment lagoon.

Contact us

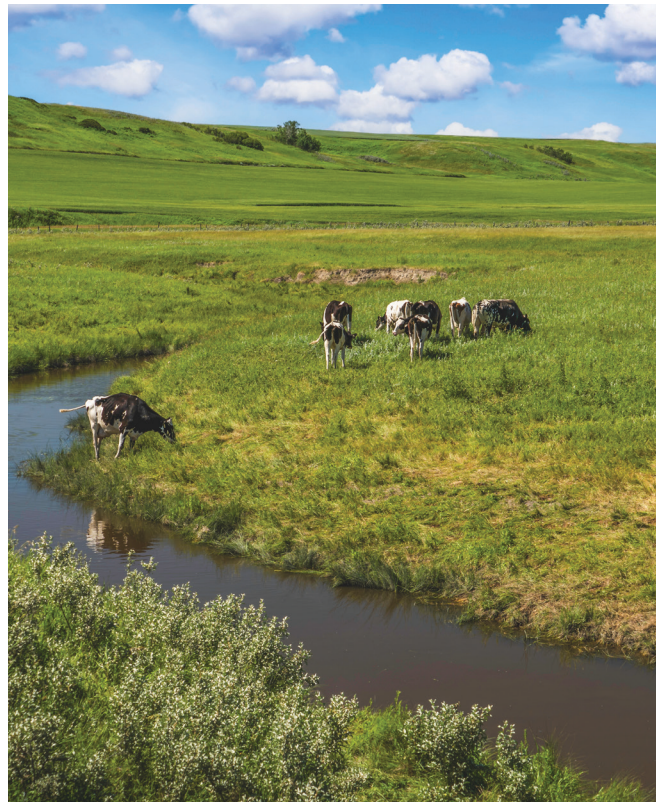
Regional Assurance Division Boundaries



Information as depicted is subject to change, therefore the Government of Alberta assumes no responsibility for discrepancies at time of use. Base Map Data provided by the Government of Alberta under the Alberta Open Government Licence, November, 2014. Cadastre - Dispositions Data provided by Alberta Data Partnerships. ©2023 Government of Alberta. 10203, Airbus DS, Licensed by Planet Labs Geomatics Corp, www.geomatics.com

EPA District Office Emails

Boreal District: aep.waborealregion@gov.ab.ca
Capital District: aep.wacapitalregion@gov.ab.ca
Red Deer District: waterapprovals.reddeer@gov.ab.ca
Calgary District: aep.waapprovcal@gov.ab.ca
Lethbridge District: waterapprovals.lethbridge@gov.ab.ca



Water Pumping Program

EPA works closely with Agriculture and Irrigation (AGI) to support livestock producers across the province that have been affected by water shortage and drought conditions. One way AGI provides assistance to producers in securing adequate water supplies is through their Water Pumping Program. The Water Pumping Program provides access for producers to pipe and pumping equipment to fill dugouts from nearby water sources.

More information related to the Water Pumping Program can be found at <https://www.alberta.ca/water-pumping-program.aspx>, or by calling 780-422-5000.

Other Resources

- Temporary Diversions Licences under the *Water Act*: <https://www.alberta.ca/temporary-diversion-licence.aspx>
- Alberta River Basins Website: <https://rivers.alberta.ca/>
- *Water Act*: Water Diversion for Agricultural Uses During Low Flow Conditions: [aep-water-act-water-diversion-for-agricultural-uses-during-low-flow-conditions-2022-04.pdf](https://www.alberta.ca/aep-water-act-water-diversion-for-agricultural-uses-during-low-flow-conditions-2022-04.pdf)
- Farming in dry conditions: <https://www.alberta.ca/farming-in-dry-conditions.aspx>
- Information and resources regarding drought: <https://www.alberta.ca/drought.aspx>