



# Onsite Wastewater Management Systems

**Proposed Regulatory Amendments**

**Consultation**

**January 2009**

**Manitoba** 

## **OWMS Regulation**

- **Regulatory amendment package approved by Cabinet for consultation**
- **Objective is to enhance protection of water quality**
- **Amendments could be ready by June 2009**
- **Linkages to Nutrient Management Reg. (WSD)**
- **Linkages to municipal planning (IGA)**
- **Linkages to municipal infrastructure (MIT/WSB)**

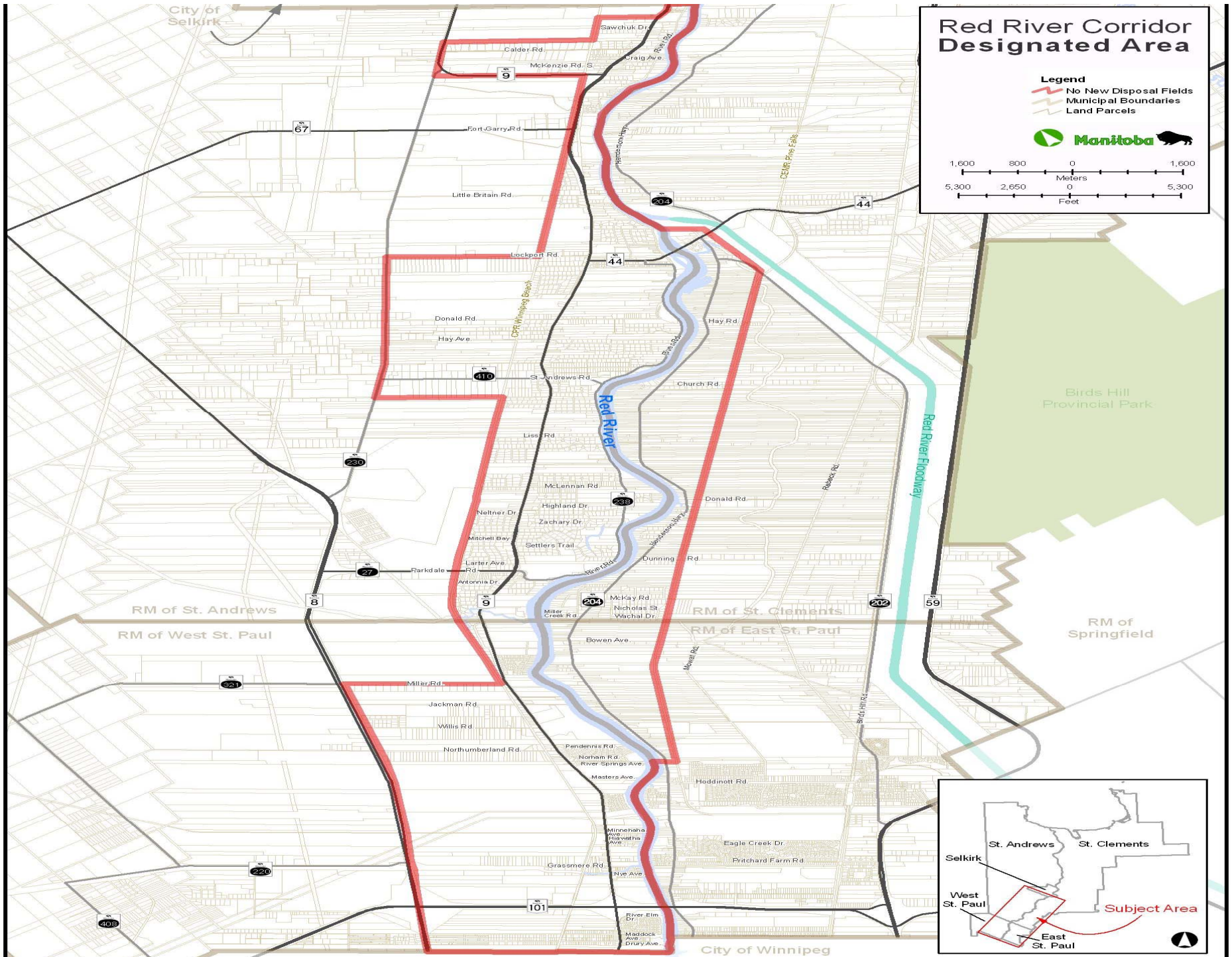
## **Holding tanks and septic fields**

**Prohibits (except with the approval of the director)  
the use of disposal fields for *new systems* in:**

- **Crown land cottage developments**
- **Provincial Parks**
- **Sensitive areas**
- **Portions of the Red River Corridor**

## Holding tanks and septic fields, cont'd.

- Limits options for *new* systems in these areas to *holding tanks only*
- Variances considered where there is no lagoon or limited treatment capacity
- Variances limited to
  - advanced treatment systems
    - bio-filtration systems
    - sewage treatment plants
  - alternative disposal fields (except in Red River Corridor)
    - sand mounds
  - other equivalent systems





## Sewage Ejectors

- **Prohibit installation of *new* sewage ejectors anywhere in the province**
- **Eliminate existing sewage ejectors at the time of any property transfer**
  - **ejector must be decommissioned and replaced with a disposal field or holding tank**

## **Minimum Lot Size for Disposal Fields**

- **2 acres (0.8 hectares) and 198ft. (60 m) frontage**
- **Consistent with Subdivision Regulation under Planning Act**
- **Variations limited to advanced treatment and/or alternative disposal systems**

## Serviced Areas

- **No new septic fields in areas serviced by municipal wastewater infrastructure**
- **Mandatory hookup in serviced areas**
  - within 5 years of new infrastructure
  - at time of property transfer

## Decommissioning

- **Out of service OWMS must be decommissioned**
- **Primarily applies to dismantling of septic tanks**
- **Departmental guideline developed**
  - **how to abandon a system (field) or dismantle in place**



# **Wastewater Management Planning**

- **Requirement for municipal wastewater management planning**
- **Implementation through PLUPs**
- **In keeping with Lake Winnipeg Stewardship Board Recommendation**

# Wastewater Management Planning

- **OWMS only approved in accordance with an approved municipal wastewater management plan**
- **Holding tank only for areas identified for municipal infrastructure within 2 - 5 years**
- **Holding tank or alternative/advanced system where municipal infrastructure is planned but more than 5 years away**

## City of Winnipeg

- Regulation would apply within the City
- Would replace existing comparable City by-law

## Repeal of Schedule B

- Sets out standards for septic tanks and disposal fields used in connection with low use water closets.
- No longer applicable and is inconsistent with the requirements as set out in Schedule A.

# Consultation

- **January through March**
- **Internal and external audiences**
  - government departments
  - associations and organizations
  - municipal governments
  - general public
- **Format**
  - media release
  - website
  - letters
  - pamphlet
  - presentations

# Proposed Regulatory Amendments

Questions ?

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<http://www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/envprograms/wastewater/index.html>