

Ripple Effect #1

Red River Basin Commission

Today's Ripple Effect is the first in a series of water and land management-related educational pieces, brought to you by the Red River Basin Commission (RRBC).

The purpose of this first Ripple Effect is to tell you about the RRBC, and their vision of "a Red River Basin where residents, organizations and governments work together to achieve basin-wide commitment to comprehensive integrated watershed stewardship and management." Future Ripple Effects will cover a variety of topics, including: flood preparation and clean-up tips, ways in which we can all help to conserve our water resources, and keep them clean; water-based recreational opportunities; and other general water and land management information that can help all of us better understand the relationship between our everyday lives and our natural resources, here in the Red River Basin.

Recognizing that there are diverse natural resource issues and challenges facing basin residents, and to encourage cooperation and the development of a unified voice with regard to improved natural resource management here in the Red River Basin, the RRBC completed a Natural Resources Framework Plan. Through the RRBC, this plan was developed *by* Red River Basin residents - *for* Red River Basin residents. More specifically, it is a guide to be used by all entities in their decision-making processes. It is a guide to use when making choices for activities on the land, and in making decisions that have an impact on our water. And finally, it is a guide to move the basin forward with a unified purpose and a unified voice.

The Natural Resources Framework Plan contains thirteen goals. The first four focus on encouraging communication, research, and coordination, regardless of political jurisdictional boundaries. The remaining nine focus on improvements in water quality, water supplies, flood damage reduction, drainage, conservation, and recreation.

The RRBC believes that if basin residents work together in dealing with our land and water management challenges, we can maintain and improve the quality of life for present and future generations here in the Red River Basin.

Until the next Ripple Effect,

The Red River Basin Commission

The RRBC is a grassroots organization that is a chartered not-for-profit corporation under the provisions of Manitoba, North Dakota, Minnesota and South Dakota law. Our offices in Moorhead, Minnesota and Winnipeg, Manitoba can be reached at (218)-291-0422 and (204)-982-7254, or you can check out our website at www.redriverbasincommission.org.