

## **Ripple Effect Water Minute # 42**

### **Restoring our Basin's Natural Wonder, Lake Winnipeg – 60 seconds**

The waters of Lake Winnipeg, the world's 10<sup>th</sup> largest freshwater lake, are suffering from excessive algae growth. This is a result of too many nutrients—especially phosphorus—entering the lake. And there is no single large source. That means ALL OF US WHO LIVE IN THE RED RIVER BASIN CONTRIBUTE TO THE PROBLEM. IT ALSO MEANS THAT ALL OF US CAN BE PART OF THE SOLUTION.

### **SO WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP RESTORE THIS NATURAL WONDER OF OUR BASIN?**

YOU CAN CHOOSE LOW PHOPHORUS PRODUCTS (THIS INCLUDES DISHWASHER DETERGENT AND FERTILIZERS).

YOU CAN REGULARLY PUMP OUT SEPTIC FIELDS AND MANAGE ANIMAL WASTE SO IT DOESN'T ENTER STREAMS.

YOU CAN KEEP LAWN CLIPPINGS ON THE GRASS AND OUT OF WATERWAYS OR SEWERS.

YOU CAN MINIMIZE RUNOFF AND ENCOURAGE INFILTRATION OF RAINWATER THROUGH THE USE OF RAIN GARDENS OR RAIN BARRELS.

YOU CAN PREVENT SOIL FROM ERODING OFF YOUR PROPERTY BY USING PLANTS OR SHRUBS, OR, ON FARM FIELDS, GRASSED BUFFERS.

YOU can make a difference in keeping our waters clean!

This Ripple Effect is brought to you by the Red River Basin Commission.