



Canoeing Kluane Lake (left), young boy drinking water (above)

## Water Licensing and Permitting in Yukon

### Water Licences

The Yukon Water Board is an independent administrative tribunal established under the *Waters Act*. The Board is responsible for the issuance of water use licences for the use of water and/or the deposit of waste into water. Water licences fall into nine categories: Agricultural (AG), Conservation (CN), Hydro (HY), Industrial (IN), Municipal (MN), Miscellaneous (MS), Placer (PM), Quartz (QZ), and Recreational (RE). Other criteria that can trigger the requirement for a water licence under the *Waters Regulation* include watercourse crossings, diversions, and the deposit of waste. Detailed information is available at [www.yukonwaterboard.ca](http://www.yukonwaterboard.ca).

### Public Drinking Water System Permits

The Yukon government's Environmental Health Services Branch is responsible for issuing permits for public drinking water systems under the *Drinking Water Regulation*. An "approval to construct" is required prior to the construction or substantial modification of a large public drinking water system. The proposed design/plan must meet the requirements of the *Drinking Water Regulation* and be capable of producing safe drinking water.

Large public drinking water systems and trucked distribution systems are required to have a Permit to Operate from Environmental Health Services prior to the provision of drinking water.

PUBLISHED: JUNE 2014

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Village of Faro and the Pelly River

### Sewage Disposal Permits

Environmental Health Services is responsible for issuing sewage disposal permits under the *Sewage Disposal Systems Regulation*. A permit is required prior to the construction, installation, or substantial repair of a sewage disposal system or connection to an existing sewage disposal system.

Written approval from Environmental Health Services is required prior to use of a sewage disposal system. To facilitate the process, Environmental Health Services must be contacted 72 hours prior to back-filling a sewage disposal system. In addition, a photographic record of the stages of installation, together with a completed notification form, must be submitted within 30 days of system installation.

The installation is evaluated against the information provided on the application and compliance with regulatory requirements is verified prior to issuing approval to use the system.

### Solid Waste Permits

Solid waste permits are issued under the *Environment Act* and *Solid Waste Regulations* to all operators of active public waste disposal facilities where waste is being or has been disposed on site. Permits require the installation of groundwater wells and regular monitoring of water quality in the wells and surface water around the facility, both while the facility is in operation and afterward. The Environmental Programs Branch of the Department of Environment is responsible for the issuance of solid waste permits.



A Hydrology Technologist installs a water level gauge