

Where to find more information on water quality issues

Flathead Basin Commission

This watershed group was established by the Montana Legislature in 1983. Its mission is to “protect the existing high quality of the Flathead Lake aquatic environment; the waters that flow into, out of, or are tributary to the lake, and; the natural resources and environment of the Flathead Basin.” The watershed extends into south-eastern British Columbia, where much attention has been focused in recent years on the prospect of large scale mining activities. The FBC’s coordinated monitoring activities are central to identifying the primary sources of pollution and developing strategies to reduce such threats to water quality.

www.flatheadbasincommission.org / 752.0081 / fbc@mt.gov

Flathead Lakers

Formed in 1958, the Flathead Lakers has a long history of volunteer efforts to protect Flathead Lake and water quality, working for clean water, healthy ecosystems and lasting quality of life in the Flathead Watershed. In recent years, the Lakers’ “Critical Lands” project has targeted efforts to protect particularly vulnerable areas upstream from Flathead Lake. The Lakers also conduct extensive education projects and act as advocates for better public policy related to the protection of water quality.

www.flatheadlakers.org / 883-1346 / lakers@cyberport.net

Flathead on the Move

Flathead on the Move was created to inform citizens about our emerging economy, to explore differences and similarities with other communities, and lead to fresh ways to address opportunities and challenges. The organization has conducted an ongoing series of workshops to bring together a broadly-based cross section of the community to address water quality, growth and other issues.

212-7242 / ncooney@montanasky.us

Citizens for a Better Flathead

Founded in 1992, Citizens for a Better Flathead (CBF) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving the qualities that make the Flathead a great place in which to live, work, invest and recreate. Its primary goal is to promote patterns of growth that keep the community an attractive, friendly and affordable place to live and work. Through education, research, advocacy, policy development and networking, Citizens encourages vital community dialogue on growth issues in the Flathead.

www.flatheadcitizens.org / 756.8993 / citizens@flatheadcitizens.org

Flathead Conservation District

Conservation districts work locally to fulfill the state’s policy to conserve soil, water, and other natural resources of the state. The Flathead Conservation District (FCD) covers all areas within the county boundaries except within the original (1947) city limits of Kalispell and Columbia Falls. Permitting work in or near streams is one of the FCD’s primary responsibilities; any person or corporation proposing to work in or near perennial streams must first apply for a 310 permit from the FCD.

www.flatheadcd.org / 752-4220 / fcd@digisys.net

A wide range of government agencies and nonprofit organizations are sources of additional information relating to water quality-related topics. Links to these sites are available at both the FBC and Flathead Lakers websites.