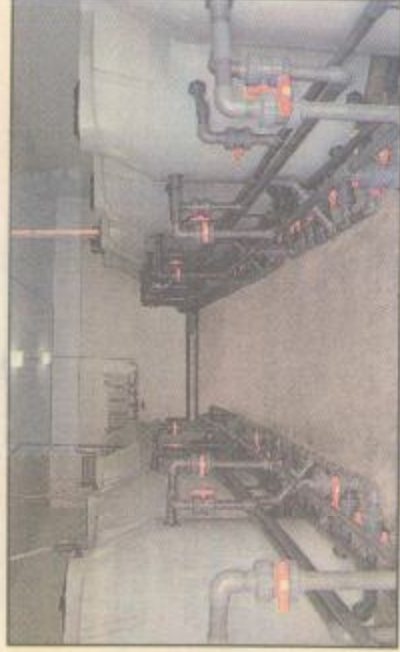


Biofiltration: living water is clean water



The Mainstream Water Solutions water treatment plant located in Guernsey, Saskatchewan.

Biofiltration is a process of water treatment in which living organisms make raw water potable by breaking down potentially harmful matter within it. These microorganisms can grow and thrive in slow sand or carbon filters.

Using biofiltration to treat drinking water effectively reduces water-borne diseases, dissolved organic carbon, turbidity, colour and odour.

Aside from treating drinking water, biofiltration is also used for wastewater treatment, aquaculture and greywater recycling.

According to Doug Price, CEO of Mainstream Water Solutions — a Regina-based manufacturer and installer of biofiltration systems — biofiltration is particularly beneficial to Saskatchewan because of the province's abundance of agricultural areas. "We take dugout water from the farm and bring it to the tap," said Price.

"Biofiltration is environmentally-friendly and a more economical water treatment system for smaller Saskatchewan municipalities and rural farming areas."

Water available to Saskatchewan's rural communities is often runoff from farm fields and can contain traces of pesticides, fertilizers and organic waste.

According to Price, the availability of biofiltration is allowing a number of small farming communities to upgrade their water treatment supply.

The water treatment options offered by Mainstream Water Solutions range from 200 gallons per day capability to half a million gallons — suitable for communities of up to 1,500 people.

Biofiltration is an alternative to conventional water treatment methods such as membrane and chemical-based filtration.