

Convening for Action on Vancouver Island Leadership in Water Sustainability



Showcasing Green Infrastructure Innovation On Vancouver Island: The 2007 Series

WHEN & WHERE:

Friday, September 14, 2007 Regional District of Nanaimo
Friday, September 28, 2007 Cowichan Valley Regional District
Friday, October 12, 2007 Regional District of Comox-Strathcona

Each event comprises presentations in the morning and a tour of project sites in the afternoon

WHO:

The Series will be of interest to Engineering, Planning, Public Works, Development Services, Parks and Environment Departments in Regional Districts and Municipalities

AGENDA:

Refer to page 2 for details of **October 12** program

TO REGISTER ON SEPT 28:

Contact Sheila Van Nus at Comox-Strathcona Regional District at svannus@rdcs.bc.ca or Tel: 250-334-6057 Toll free: 1-800-331-6007

There is a Registration Fee of \$25 to cover bus transportation and lunch costs. Please make cheques payable to the Regional District.

Attendance will be capped once all seats on the bus are filled. First come, first served. So respond quickly! Payment will guarantee your seat on the bus. To accommodate lunch arrangements, the deadline for registration is **Wednesday, October 10, 2007**

Bring safety boots and reflective vest because we will be walking along roadways: and wear clothing suitable for a walk through the forest - rain or shine.

Showcasing Innovation in the Comox Valley: 'Connecting to Sustainability'

The Regional District of Comox-Strathcona and the City of Courtenay will showcase on-the-ground benefits that result when local governments collaborate to integrate their efforts, and are guided by an holistic way-of-thinking and acting. Case studies will demonstrate how to 'connect the dots' to achieve integrated and sustainable outcomes.

Featured projects will range from the *Comox Lake Watershed Assessment*, the first to be completed pursuant to the Province's new 'Comprehensive Drinking Water Source to Tap Assessment Guideline'...to servicing of the Home Depot site and surrounding commercial development area. Home Depot is the first application of deep-well injection in BC for returning rainwater runoff to the ground. Also, the innovative design of the water supply system serving the surrounding area is saving everyone money while reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

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Showcasing Innovation in the Comox Valley: 'Connecting to Sustainability'

Time	Program for Friday, October 12, 2007	Speakers
0830	Meet & Greet at the offices of Comox-Strathcona Regional District (600 Comox Rd, Courtenay)	
CONTEXT PRESENTATIONS (Kim Stephens, Moderator)		
0900	Context & Overview <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Opening Remarks ▪ Convening for Action on Vancouver Island: Leadership in Water Sustainability ▪ Green Infrastructure Partnership: Convening for Action in British Columbia 	Mayor Starr Winchester John Finnie, CAVI Susan Rutherford
0920	Municipal Collaboration – Making it Happen at the Operational Level The Regional District, Courtenay and Comox are making progress on the ground because they communicate and collaborate. Examples will be provided to illustrate how efforts are being integrated and resources are being pooled.	Kevin Lagan, City, & Graeme Faris, CSRD
0945	Comox Lake Watershed Assessment – from Awareness to Action Continued urbanization within the Comox valley coupled with competing land uses and recreational interests within the Comox Lake watershed have led to shared concerns and co-operative actions aimed at managing watershed uses to ensure water quality is preserved. Completed in accordance with provincial drinking water source to tap assessment guidelines, the watershed assessment process shows how a range of interested parties – including numerous governments - can work cooperatively towards common watershed protection objectives.	Graeme Faris & Ron Neufeld, CSRD
1030	Innovation in the Comox Valley: First Wal-Mart, Then Home Depot Both Wal-Mart and Home Depot capture rainwater runoff, treat it and retain it in the catchment area. Wal-Mart was the first big box store to come to Courtenay. This development precipitated the beginning of a major change in how the City administers the zoning/development/approval process, collaborates with other agencies and also manages the rainwater resource. Home Depot established a BC precedent when it implemented a deep deep-well system for injecting rainwater runoff and recharging the underlying groundwater aquifer. Also, a unique partnership with other commercial property owners resulted in an innovative plan for sustaining water supply pressures without relying on BC Hydro.	Kevin Lagan, City
1115	Absorbent Soil for Rainwater Management - Lessons Learned The City of Courtenay was the first BC municipality to adopt a policy requiring developers to provide a minimum soil depth on building sites as a rainwater management tool. The challenge is in how to ensure that developers and house builders fulfil their obligations to provide and preserve the minimum required depth	Sandy Pridmore, City
1145	Lunch will be provided	
1230 until 1530	Field tour on a transit bus that has Internet access! <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Veterans Memorial Parkway: <i>engineered detention pond; Findley Creek tributary stormwater separation; and habitat compensation for the Red Legged Frog</i> 2. Muir Road Development: <i>Findlay Creek flow augmentation and community detention ponds</i> 3. Comox Lake 4. Compost/Skyrocket Plant 	

For more information on the Showcasing Innovation Series, contact sustainabilitycoordinator@shaw.ca