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Creating Liveable Communities and Protecting Stream Health: Helping goals become practice

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Outline

- 1. Changing the Rules for Greener Communities**
- 2. Living Water Smart**
- 3. Funding for Green Infrastructure**





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1. CHANGING THE RULES FOR GREENER COMMUNITIES

Who likes rules?

A few common approaches regarding rules:

~~1. *“Rules? There are no rules. We are trying to accomplish something here.”* Thomas A. Edison~~

~~2. It is a good idea to obey all the rules when you're young just so you'll have the strength to break them when you're old. Mark Twain~~

3. If you don't like the rules, then change them.





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Bill 27: Green Communities Amendments

Purpose: Provide Local Governments with broader authorities to make communities more sustainable.

- Amendments address:
 - Environmental Protection
 - Water Conservation
 - Green House Gas Emissions
 - Transportation
 - Energy
 - Affordable Housing





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Bill 27 Amendments

Development Cost Charges (DCCs):

- Improve environmental performance of developments by applying or reducing DCCs

Development Permit Areas:

- Establish DP Areas to
 - Promote energy conservation
 - Reduce GHG emissions
 - Improve water conservation



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2. LIVING WATER SMART

Living Water Smart

BRITISH COLUMBIA'S WATER PLAN

water makes *life* on earth possible

B.C.'s Plan to protect and preserve water resources through planning, regulatory change, education, and incentives like economic instruments and rewards.



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Actions at a Glance

- By 2012, all **land** and **water managers** will know what makes a **stream healthy**, and therefore be able to help **land** and **water users** factor in **new approaches** to securing **stream health**.
- Government will support communities to do **watershed management planning**.
- Government will work with the **private sector** and support communities to conserve and **restore stream function**.

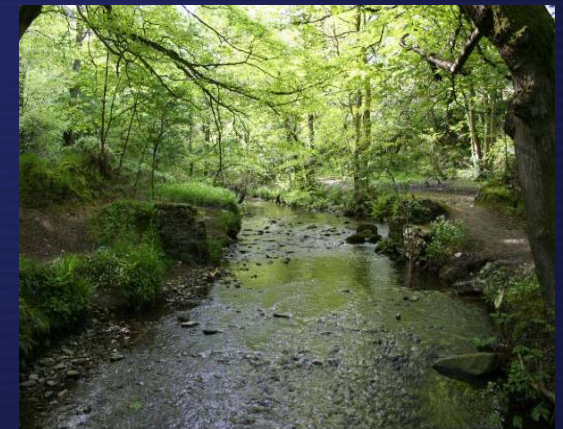




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Actions at a Glance

- Government will provide **incentives** for **restoration of streams or wetlands**.
- Community development strategies will be developed to recognize the **importance of riparian zones** in **adapting** to **climate change**.
- Adapting to **climate change** and **reducing our impact** on the environment will be a condition for receiving **provincial infrastructure funding**.





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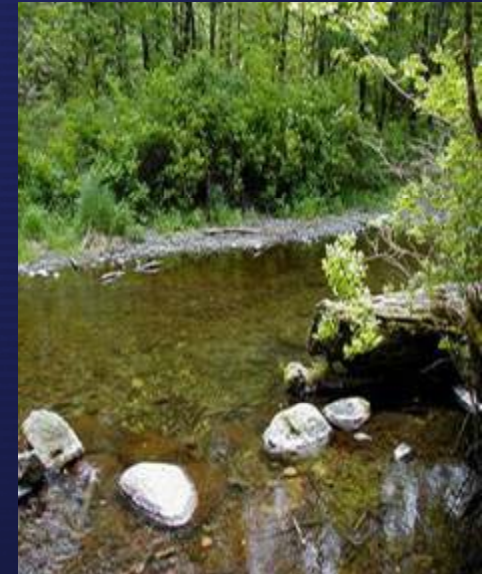


Protecting Stream Health

**Traditional
Stormwater
Management**



**Integrated
Rainwater
Management**





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3. FUNDING FOR GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

PLANNING: Infrastructure Planning Grants

CONSTRUCTION: Towns For Tomorrow
Building Canada Fund (1st intake Sep. 30)

RECOGNITION: Green City Awards





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Infrastructure Planning Grant Program

- Purpose: To assist local governments in developing sustainable infrastructure.
- Grants up to **\$10,000** each, per application, to support infrastructure planning and feasibility studies.
- You can apply for more than one.

Next deadline: **expected January, 2009**





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Infrastructure Planning Grant Program

- Ideas:
 - **Stream health feasibility study**
 - **Watershed plan**
 - **Creek catchment area plan**
 - **Study of locations for rainwater management with pathways along creeks or shorelines**



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BC Building Canada Fund

Eligible projects include:

- **Rainwater (stormwater):**
 - **improve quality, manage quantity**
- **Drinking Water**
- **Wastewater**





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Capital Grant Programs

typically support applications that:

- **Minimize hydrological footprint**
- **Incorporate low impact development**
- **Support sustainable principles**
- **Reduce demand and conserve resources**
- **Recover or re-use resources**
- **Support provincial plans, goals and guidelines**
- **Generate transferable knowledge**
- **Encourage innovation**



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Gaining Ground in View Royal

\$7.4 MILLION for an innovative rainwater management project and to improve road works



“Design with Nature”
approach used for
rainwater management





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Leveraging Change

TODAY:

Eligibility: Open to all projects

Assessment criteria: The greener the better

Conditions: E.g., Water Conservation Plan

TOMORROW:

Eligibility: All projects must meet a green standard

Assessment criteria: Strong support for green projects

Conditions: E.g. Watershed Management Plan

Today's Expectations are Tomorrow's Standards

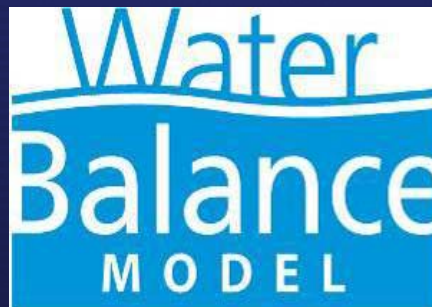


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Grant Funding: New Rules for Assessment Criteria

- **Watershed Health:** Integrated Rainwater Management
- **Climate Change:** GHG mitigation and adaptation
- **Asset Management:** Infrastructure maintenance & renewal
- **Resources from Waste:** Heat recovery & energy generation





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RECOGNITION: **Green City Awards**

- **\$500,000** a year awarded to local governments
- Awarded to BC's most **SUSTAINABLE** communities



2007 Green City Awards Winners



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**Adapting to climate change and
reducing impact on the environment
will be conditions of receiving
provincial infrastructure funding**



Making the Rules Serve the Goals



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