

Connecting the drops The Case For Sustainability



We aren't in the waste water business,

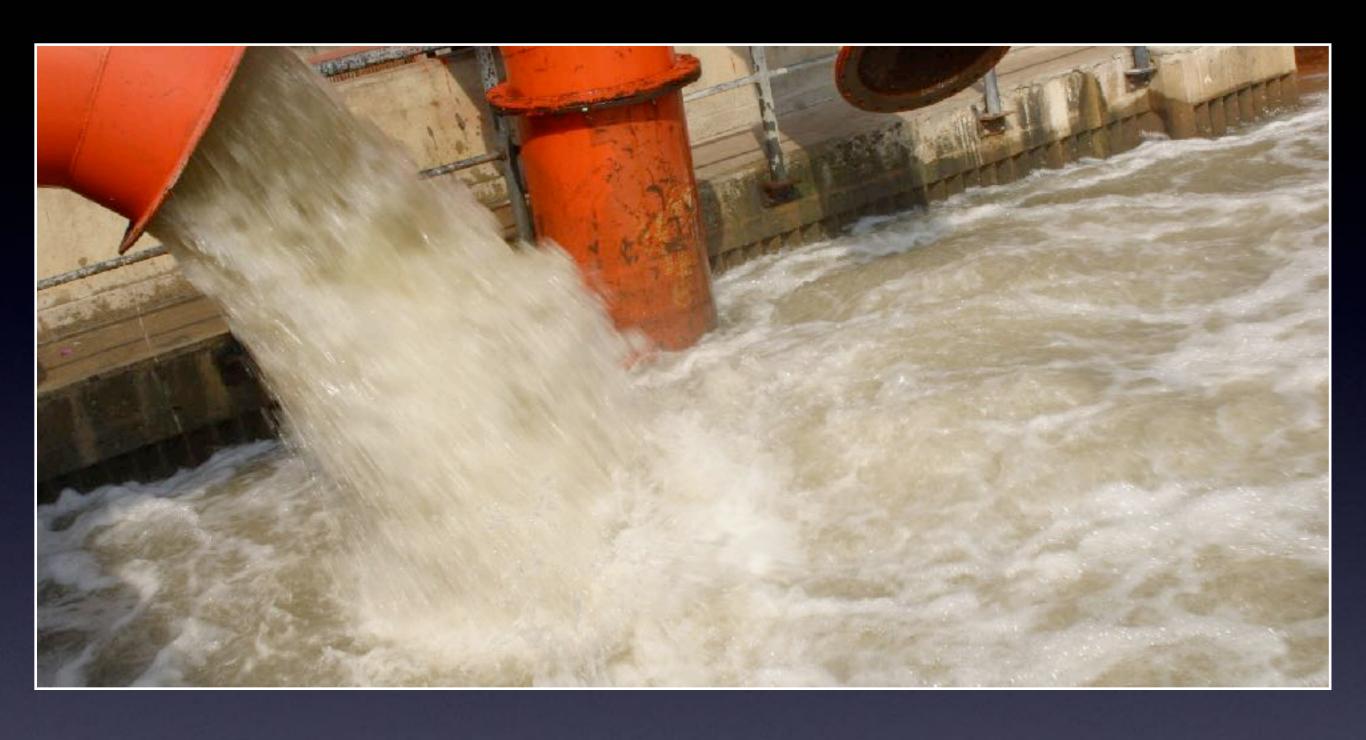
We're in the clean water business

The Joyce Foundation

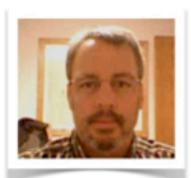
- Sustainability of Great Lakes water
- Water Use = Energy
- Wastewater Systems are cheaper to operate, maintain, and last longer, if we design for need and suitability
- Engage communities in critical thinking to achieve informed consent



Wise water use protects the environment



Is this sustainable?



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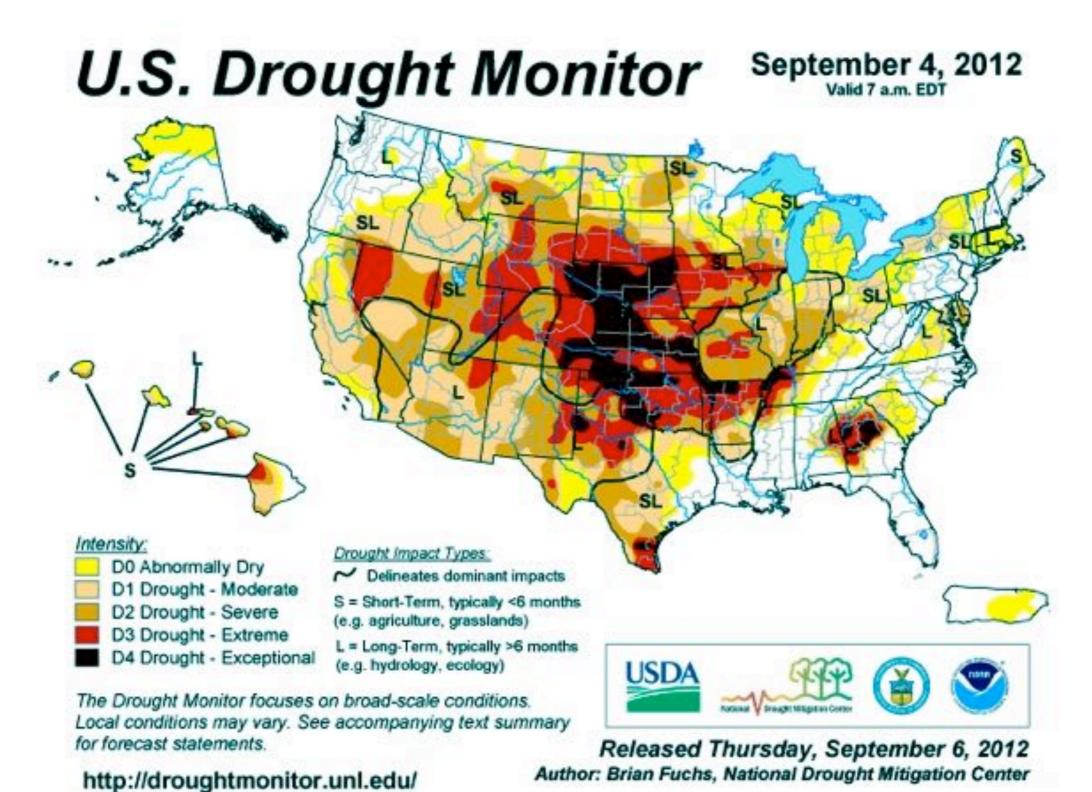
Daniel Thorell dthorell@gtchd.org



A recent government survey showed at least 36 states are anticipating, or already experiencing, local, regional, or statewide water shortages

Launch USDM

http://www.drought.gov







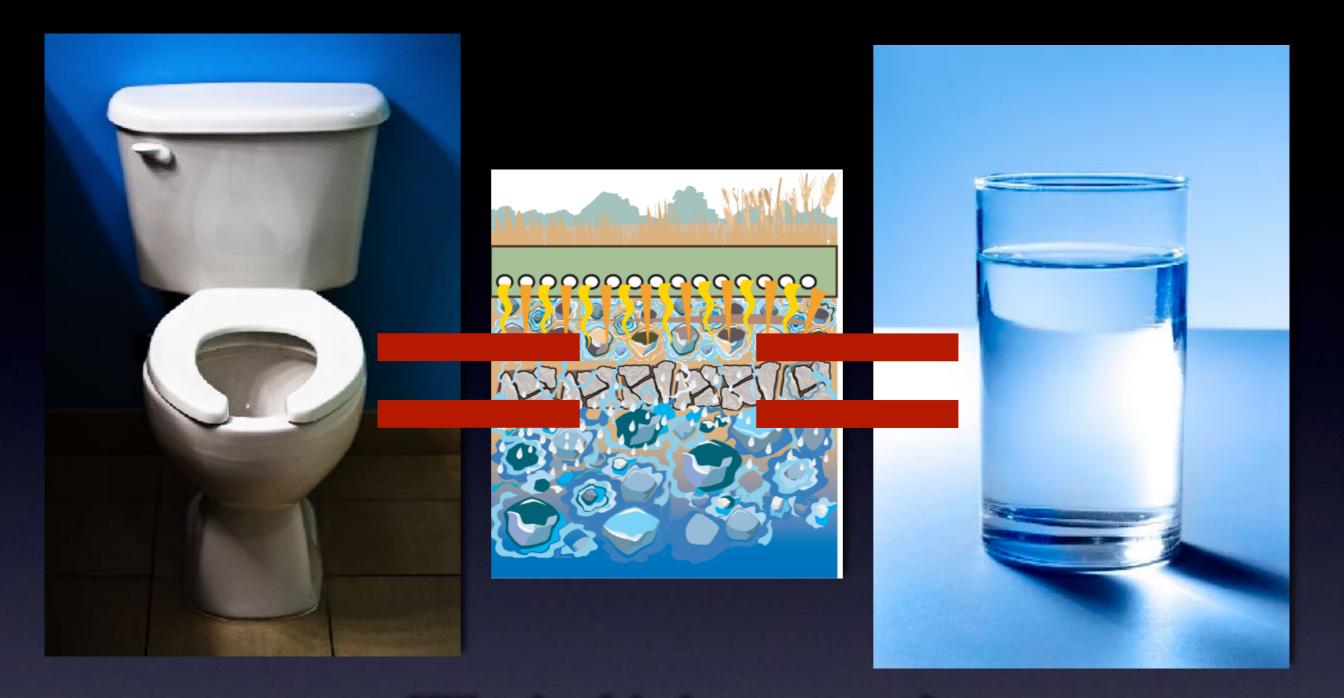
Where Does 'It' Go, When You Do?





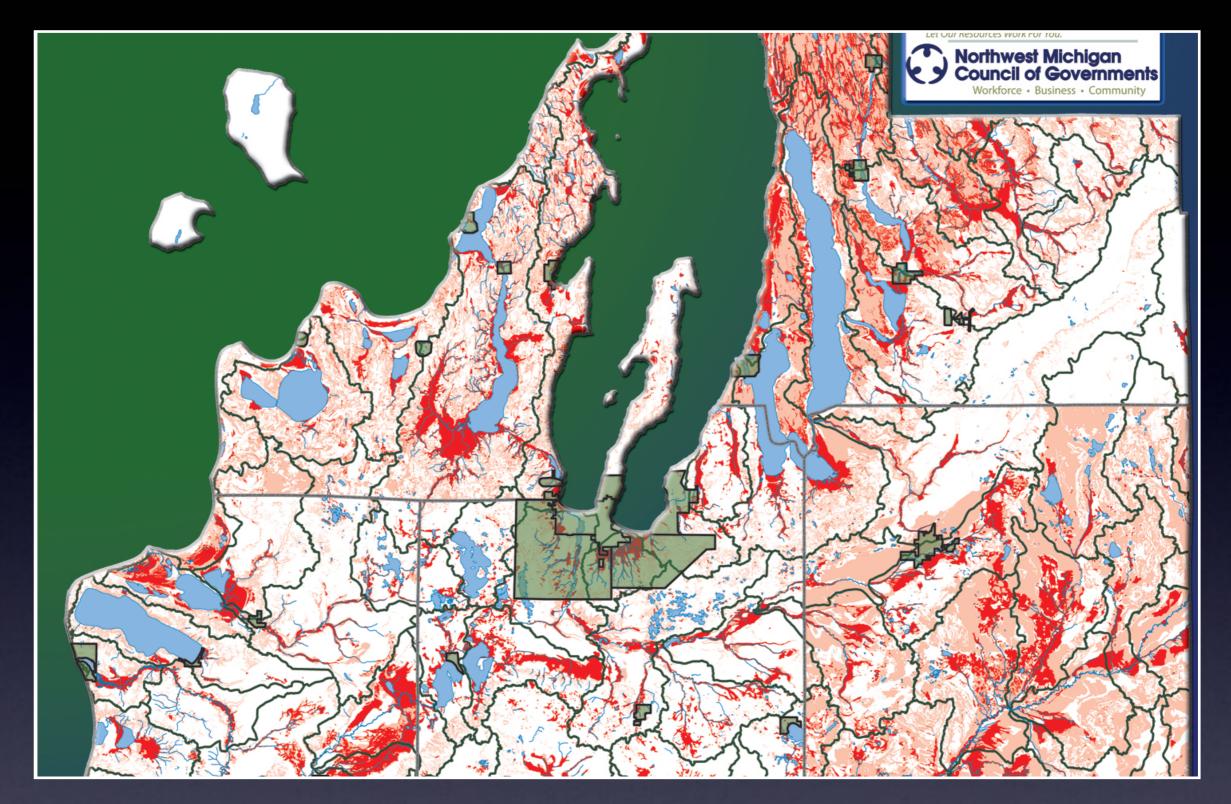
All the water there is, or was, is already here.

You drank from a dinosaur this morning!



Why is this important?

- 1. Less than 1% of Great Lakes Basin waters are renewed annually.
 - 2. A majority of us rely on the Lakes or groundwater drinking water wells.



This is what the glaciers blessed us with a landscape of hills, rivers, valleys, streams - a conventional collection system nightmare!



Hydrologic Events

Env'l Health Risk of Natural Disasters





21 herbicides, 27 degradates, 36 antibiotics in 51 Midwest Streams





Wet weather affects Britain's rail and roads

Continuing wet weather is affecting rail and road travel in Britain, with forecasters warning of possible further flooding over the weekend.

There are 82 flood warnings and 182 flood alerts in England and Wales, and six flood alerts in Scotland.

Lightning is thought to have started a fire in a Dorset school, and a west Highlands A-road has reopened after a Christmas Day landslide was cleared.



The Met Office has warned further rainfall on already saturated ground could lead to more flooding

Rail passengers have been warned not to travel to or from Devon and Cornwall.

Residents in the village of Burton Fleming in East Yorkshire have appealed for sandbags because of flooding from the Gypsey Race stream that runs through the village. About 40 homes are at risk, and there are reports that a small number have already been flooded.

Yorkshire East Riding council says it has supplied 1,000 sandbags, with more available.

Fire crews say they have prevented flood water damaging an electrical substation near Reading, in Berkshire, which could have affected some 40,000 properties in the area and south Oxfordshire.

Related Stories

Lightning 'may have caused fires'

Flood fear village's sandbag plea

Disrupted trains back on track http://
www.thestar.com/
ajax/photoplayer/
1293304--photosflooding-in-england

http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-20851043

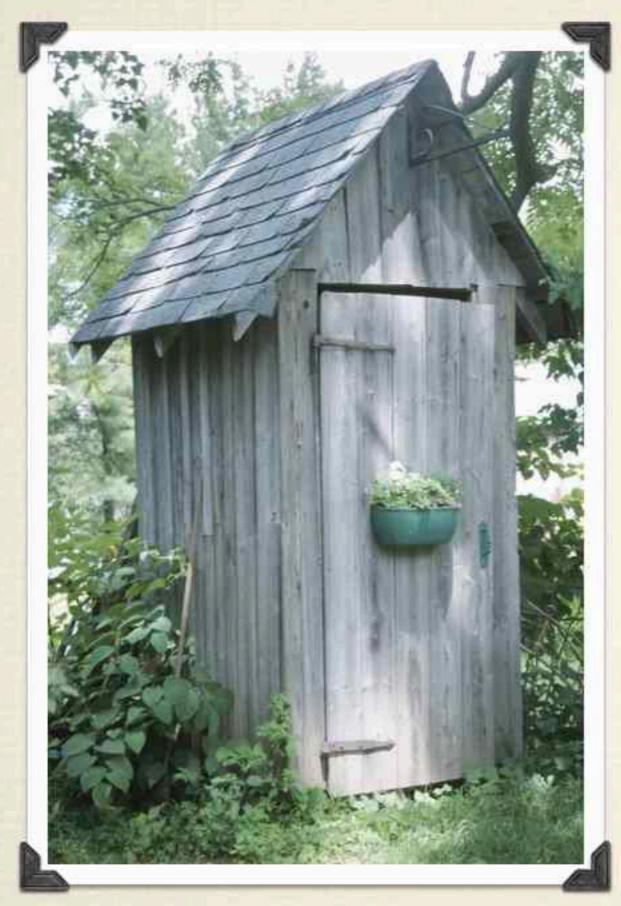
In the face of potential catastrophic, system-wide failure, built in decentralization makes absolute sense and is being actively pursued by major cities in Europe especially those on the seaboard facing future innundation of major water infrastructure systems as climate change raises sea levels

And if we need reminding of why the strongest forces in nature is water make a note of this!

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y5MaEVK1fLg



Unsewered areas should not be viewed, or treated, as second class

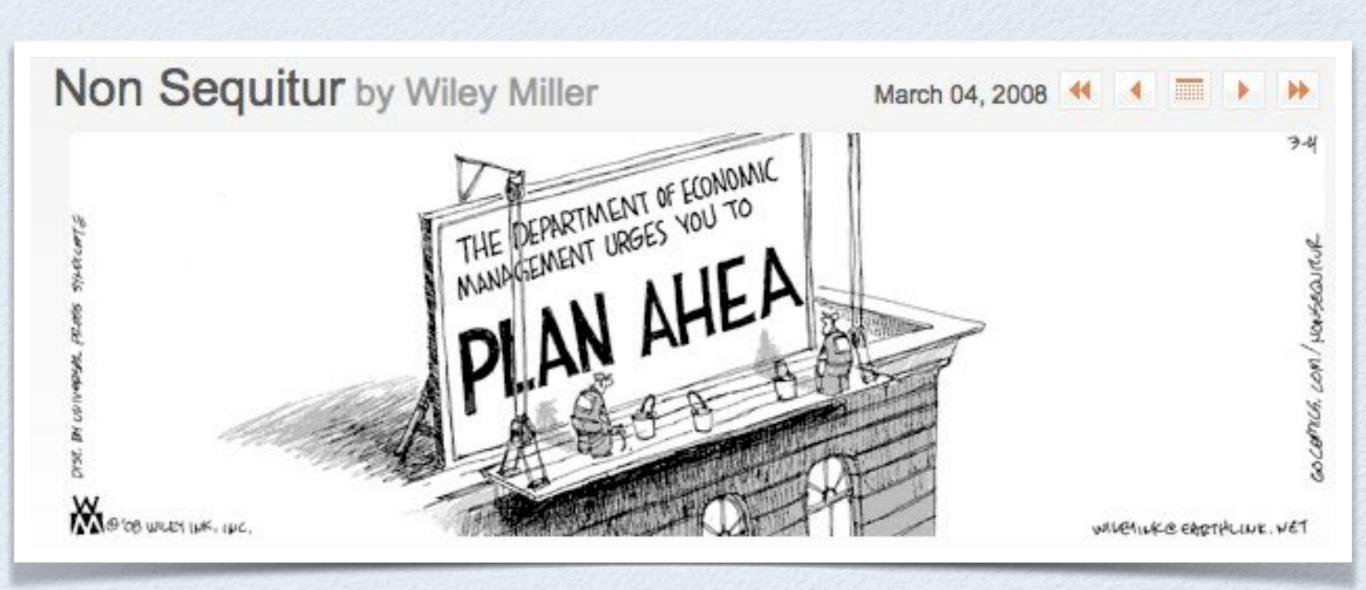


WHAT IS YOUR OPINION ABOUT SEPTIC SYSTEMS?

They are not a backwoods solution until 'the sewer' arrives.

Does the word 'septic' still have any real meaning?

Credit to: the excellent Non Sequitur!!





New Concepts for Rural, Urban and Suburban Water Reuse Using Distributed Systems

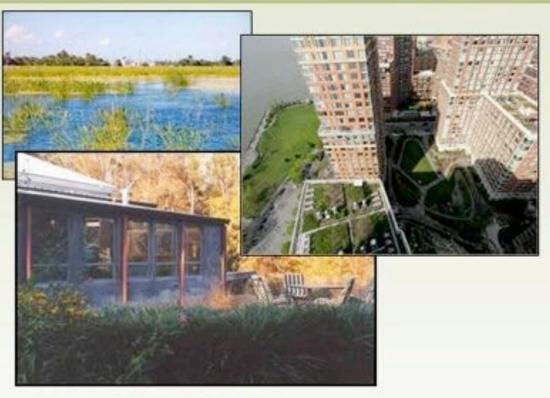
Victor A. D'Amato, PE



21st Century water management

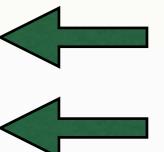


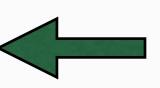




Old paradigm

- -Highly specialized
- -Centralized
- -Segregated
- -Linear
- -Extractive
- -Inflexible





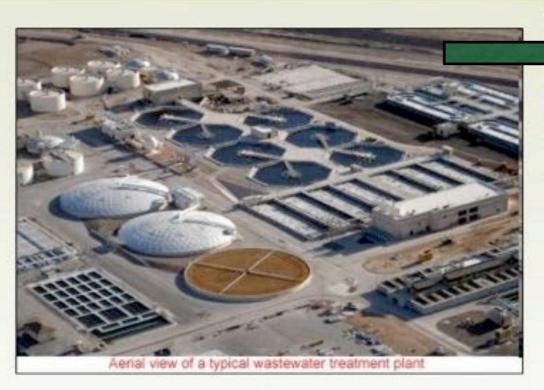


New paradigm

- -Multifunctional
- -Decentralized
- -Integrated
- -Systemic
- -Restorative
- -Adaptive

21st Century water management







Old paradigm

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New paradigm

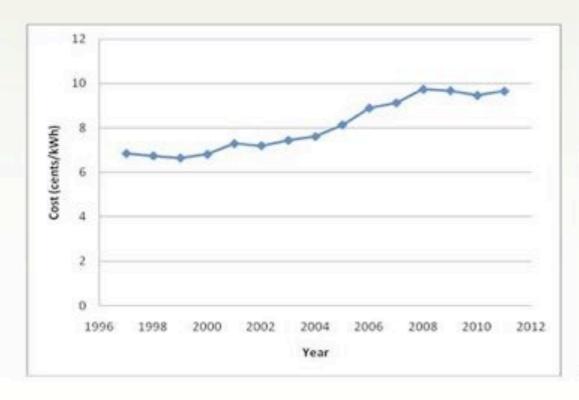
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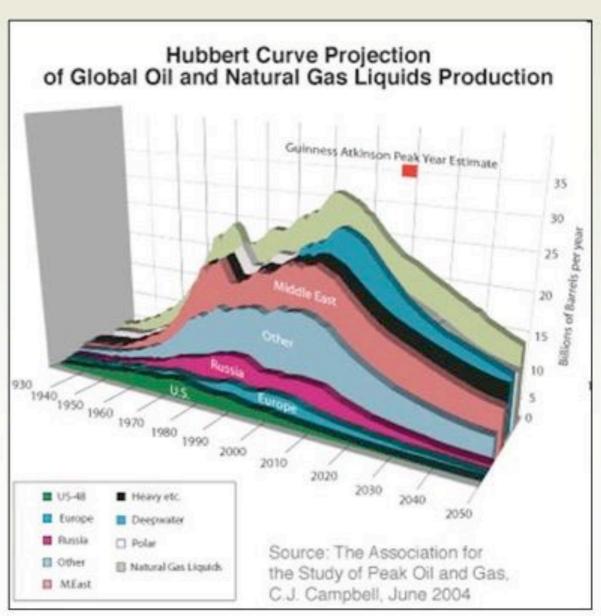
21st Century energywater challenges



Energy supply

- Supply constraints
- Increasing and volatile energy costs

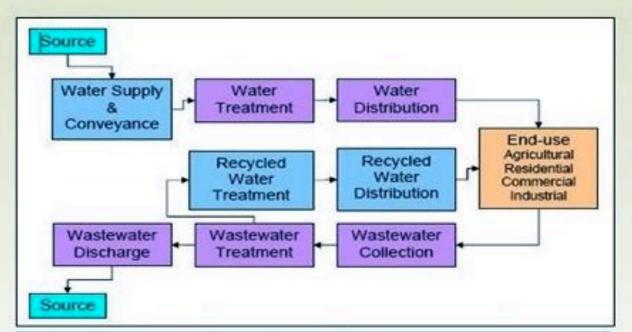




Energy implications of water infrastructure



- Recurring (operational) energy demand
- Embedded (life cycle) energy
- Secondary energy impacts
- Recovered energy
 - Biological
 - Thermal
 - Gravitational

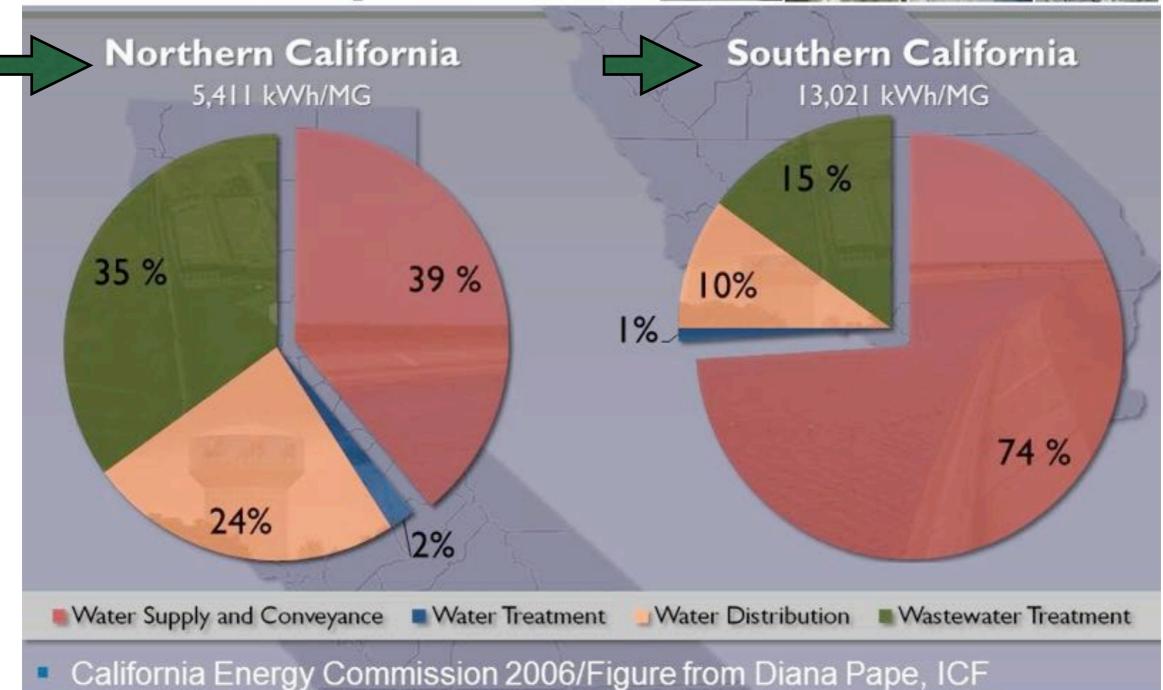


Water Use Cycle Segments	Range of Energy Intensity (kWh/MG)	
	Low	High
Water Supply and Conveyance	0	14,000
Water Treatment	100	16,000
Water Distribution	250	1,200
Wastewater Collection and Treatment	700	4,600
Wastewater Discharge	0	400
Total:	1,050	36,200

The Carbon Footprint of Water, by Bevan Griffiths-Sattenspiel and Wendy Wilson www.rivernetwork.org

Water-related energy use varies by locale



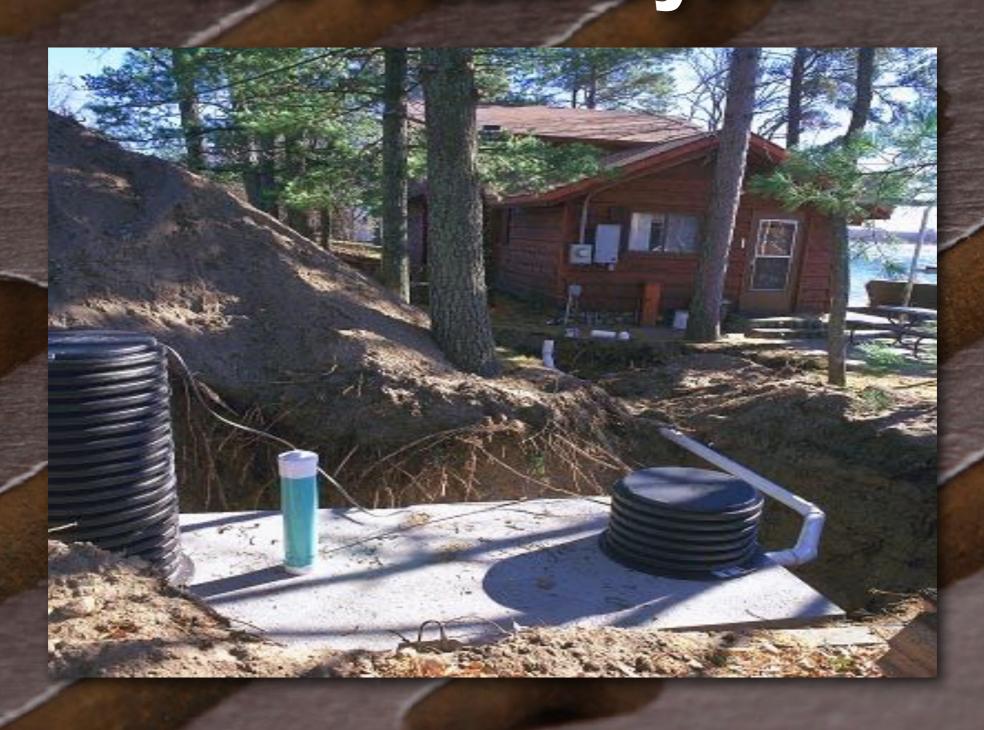


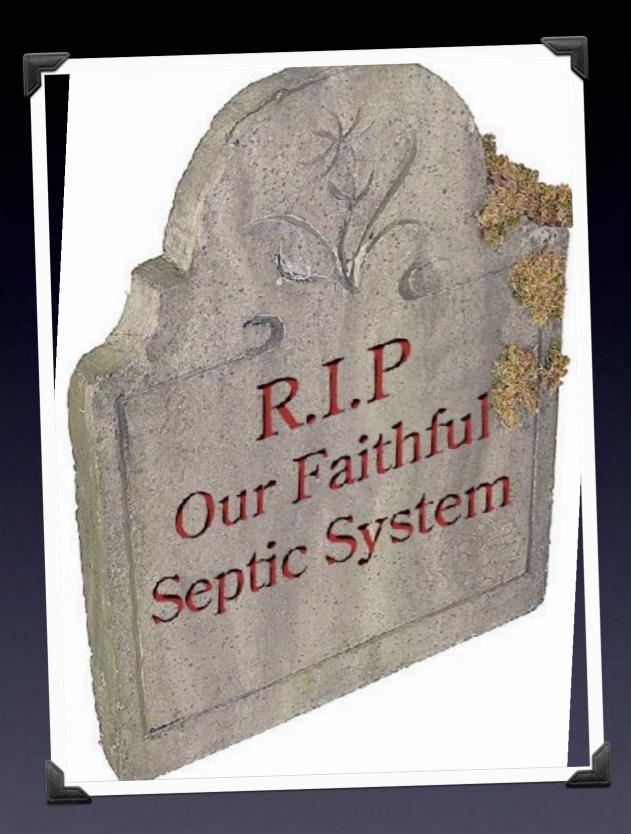
American public water supply and treatment facilities consume 56 billion kilowatt-hours (kWh) per year - enough electricity to power more than 5 million homes for an entire year.

Furthermore, up to 80% of that energy is used just to move water in both public and private systems



Wastewater treatment is part of The Water Cycle





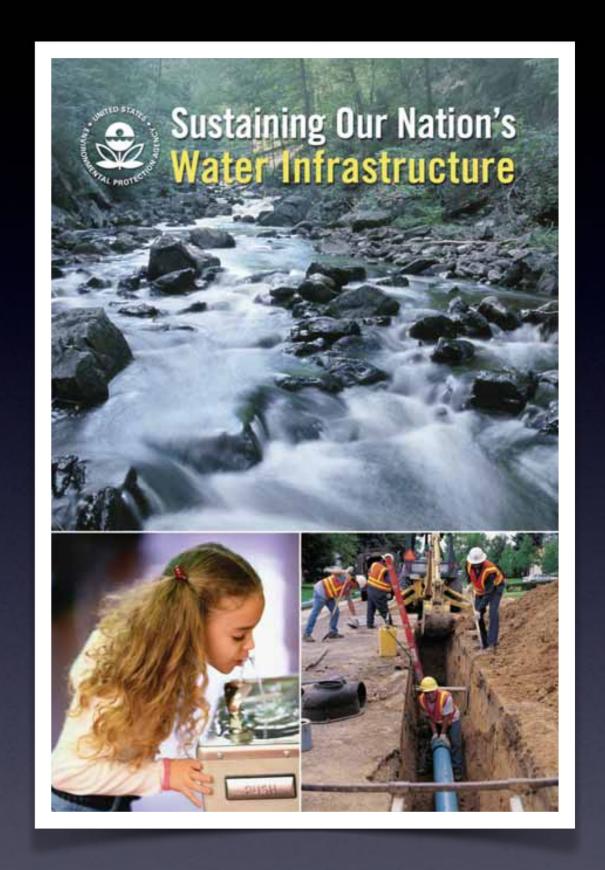


A properly operated and maintained system will last at least 20-30 years.

USEPA: communities of less than 10,000 are better served by, and are better able to afford to maintain, small community sanitary sewering systems which use onsite or cluster technology - especially with an aging demographic.

Surface water integrity is most affected in rural areas by:

- stormwater run off,
- fertilizers and
- Combined Sanitary Sewer Overflows.



Waste Water Education.org - free Podcasts

WELCOME TO





ON THE BLACKBOARD
COLLABORATE PLATFORM



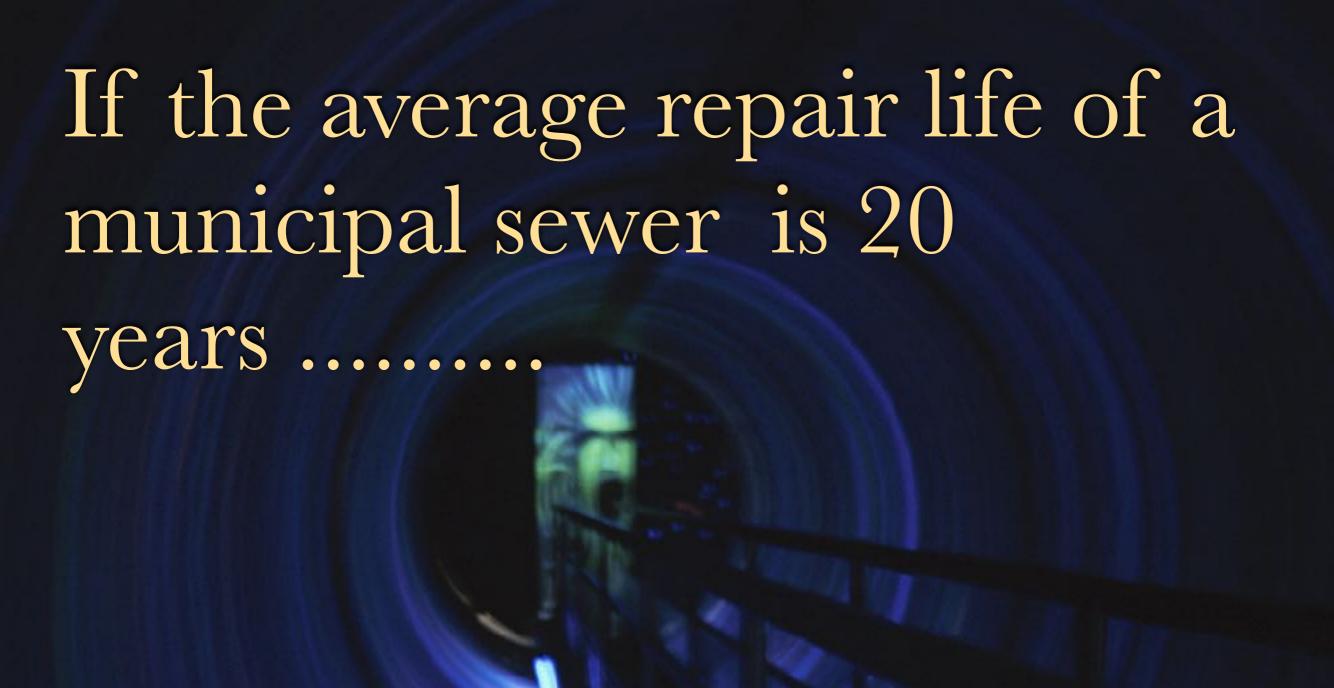


Pharmaceuticals in the Environment: Better *Defining the Questions we* need to Answer

Herb Buxton
USGS Toxic Substances Hydrology Program



U.S. Department of the Interior U.S. Geological Survey



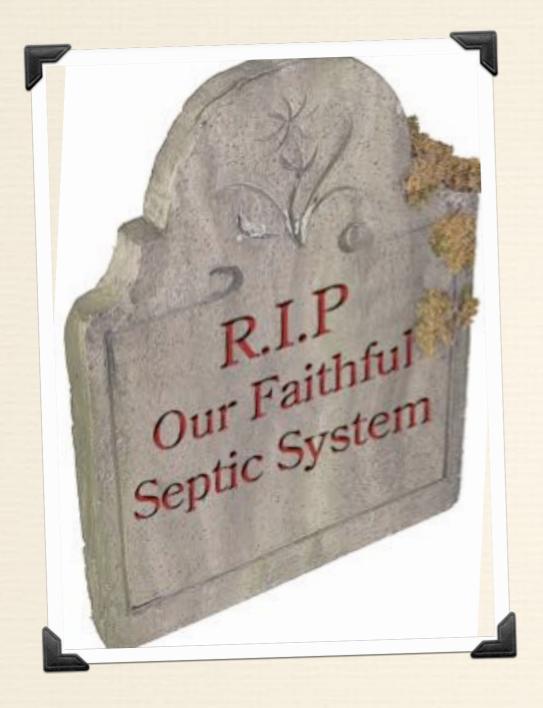
Water and wastewater utilities must plan to invest billions of dollars over the next 20 years, according to estimates from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Congressional Budget Office.

Nationally, the projected costs range from \$485 billion to nearly \$1.2 trillion. Each community will need to determine how to pay for this.....



www.liquidassets.psu.edu







Decentralized systems are not your grandpa's septics!

Economies of scale:

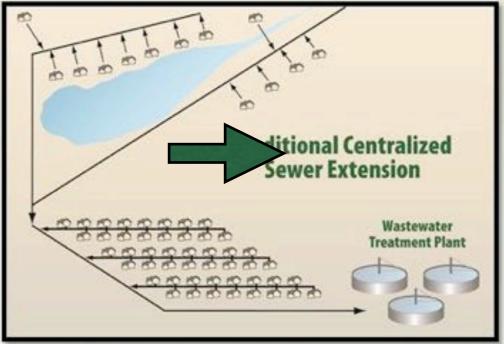
is

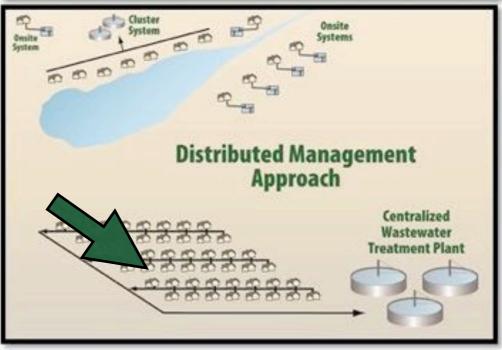
bigger
better?



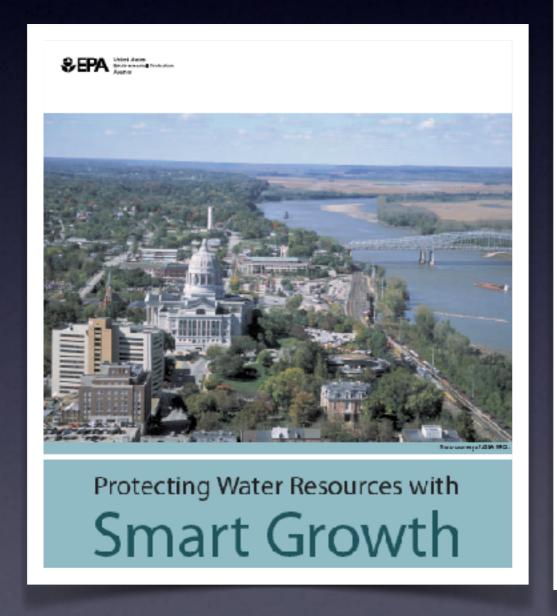
Efficiency

- Treatment close to the source and/or reuse requires less energy
- Urban reuse retrofits more feasible
- Source control is energy efficient
- Smart, clean and green technology
 - Smart
 - Remote monitoring of multiple systems
 - Responsive user feedback
 - Clean
 - Resource recovery within facilities
 - Match water quality to intended reuse
 - Green
 - Efficient eco-mimicking systems
 - Landscape/facility integration
 - Infiltration-resistant collection systems





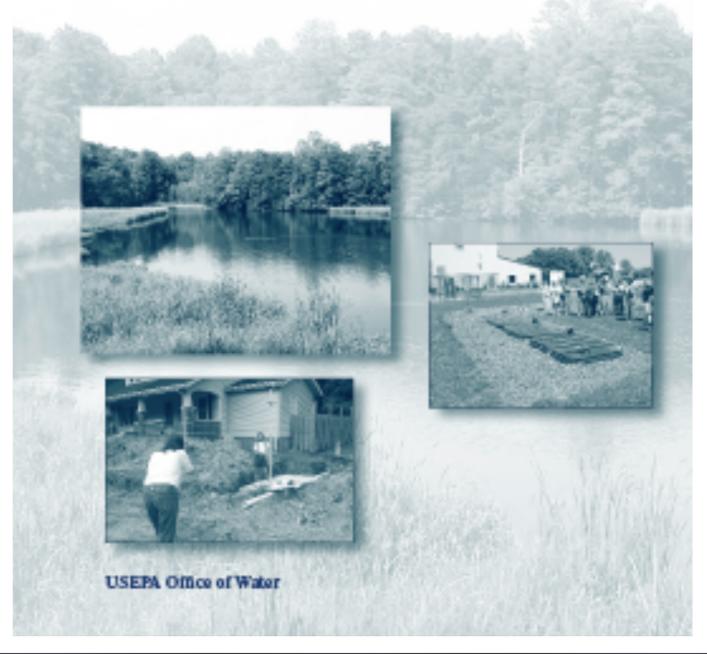
"Vision, without implementation, is hallucination"
- General Colin Powell





Decentralized Wastewater Treatment Systems

A Program Strategy



Decentralized infrastructure provides REAL community control:

- Lower initial capital costs
- Capacity designed for today's needsopportunity to expand as demand and income allows
- Lower debt repayment and maintenance costs
- Ability to maximize benefits through integration of water and energy
- Recharging source aquifers
- Reduced need for expensive future repairs and replacement due to over capacity transmission systems



We are borrowing our water from our past.....
Are we stealing it from our future???

Education is key to integrated water resource management and designing systems we can afford.

Water Environment Research Foundation 21st Century Tools for Communities



Jeff Moeller, P.E., WERF



Research Highlights



- Management, Economics, and Policy
 - Business Attributes of Successful
 Responsible Management Entities
 - International Issues and
 Innovations in Integrated and
 Decentralized Water Resource
 Infrastructure
 - Overcoming Barriers to Evaluation and Use of Decentralized Wastewater Technologies and Management



Across the U.S., there is a need for more businesses that successfully manage decentralized systems. Decentralized systems are increasing in prevalence as an option that delivers sound aconomic, social and environmental outcomes, if effectively managed.

The resources below provide guidance for subcessfully establishing and running organizations that manage decentralized wastewas systems — Responsible Management Entities, or "RMEs." (See Earl Sheet 1 for further explanation of RMEs)

Descriptived wastewater systems include the collection, treatment, and dispersal or reuse of wastewater from individual homes (such as septio systems), olusters of homes, isolated communities, industries, or institutional facilities at an near the point of waste generation.

(CIDWI Description Westewater Glassony 2007)

The fact sheers can be used by existing RMEs seeking to improve their operations, prospective RMEs considering setting up, and other individuals and organizations looking to enter the decentralized wastewater field. The fact sheets serve different surfaces by enabling nevigation from three angles:

"Which way is up?" These feaus on local context and how conditions in your area influence your determination of what organization works level

"What does it mean for me?" These are tailored for different kinds of organizations.

"How do I . . . ?" These step through the basics of some key business tools and how they apply

(Download Acrobat Reader III you can't read the linked fact sheets below.)

Getting started with this resource	Which way is up?	What does it mean for me?	Fact Sheet fir Viriting and updating your business plan			
Guide to the fact sheets	Fact Sheet 3: How regulations work in this sector	Fact Sheet 5: Operating successfully as a governmental organization				
l act Sheet 1: What is an RME and why do we need one?	Fact Sheet 4. Business structures and models	I act Sheet 6: Operating successfully as a private RRE or service provider	Fact Sheet 9. Projecting your financial requirements			
l act Sheet 2: Working within the local context		Fact Sheet 7. Developers, designers, homeowners' associations, and confuscions.	Fact Sheet 40: Marketing: Making your services known			

Download a full set of all fact sheets

RMEs

Guidance for Establishing Successful Responsible Management Entities

- Professional management ensures performance and reliability of decentralized systems
- Responsible management entities (RMEs) are a successful management model
- A website was created to provide all the resources needed to establish an RME



www.werf.org/RME

Performance & Cost

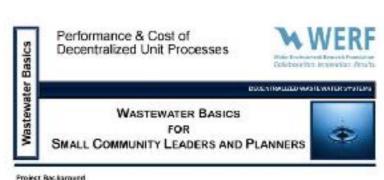


Performance and Costs of **Decentralized Systems**

- Provides basic wastewater management information to planners and decision-makers in very small communities
 - Mayor Smith

Products:

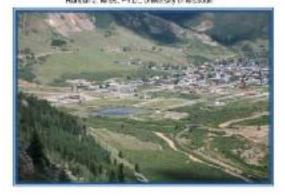
- Factbook
 - Wastewater Basics for Small Communities
- **Factsheets**
 - Collection systems (4)
 - Treatment systems (8)
 - Dispersal/disposal systems (7)
- Spreadsheet



ekines its tree: of December System Selection: Unit Processes: Costs, and Non-constant Pactors The REP was issued by the Wester Environment Research Foundation (AERF), a composition provides that operates with foreign from subscribers and the federal povernment. This project was supported by familing from the US Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) and administered by WERP as part of the National Decembrations Winer Resources Capacity Development Project (NAVECDP).

The 19 Fact Sheets are electronic cost estimation real included in this package were developed by increases of the Consentium of Institutes for Depending and Waskewater Treatment (CIDWI). The CIDWIT is a group of Educational institutions cooperating on decempaisand wastewarer training and research efforts CIDAVT members participating in the development process include:

John R. Gucharun, Pt. D., P. E., University of Termanage Nancy E. Gesi, N. S., R.S., North Carolina State University Dave L. Leuto Ph.D. North Geoma Bate University Adren T. Hanson Ph.D. New Meggs State University David Gustafaco P. C., University of Minnesota



www.werf.org/ decentralizedcost

Economic model of wastowater entions

Outreach



Q SEARCH

WERF

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ABOUT

STRATEGIC THINKING

RESEARCH PROJECT:

NEWS AND RESCURCES

www.decentralizedwater.org

Engineers are making advances in remote sensing and monitoring of unmanned facilities. New treatment technologies such as membrane bioreactors are becoming more economical. Neighborhood and cluster wastewater systems are taking advantage of this technological progress and becoming more attractive as long-term, viable alternatives to traditional centralized wastewater treatment Decentralized Collaborative is providing information on case studies, menitoring, performance, cost, and other aspects of these systems so we can learn from the past and improve the future.





Keeping it Local

Individual and neighborhood wastewater treatment systems. Rain gardens and green roofs. Water-efficient appliances and landscaping. These are examples of decentralized water technologies in action. These systems can beautify cities and towns, enhance water supply, recover energy and nutrients, provide local reuse opportunities, and improve health and the environment.

The Decentralized Water Resources Collaborative (DWRC)

Featured Projects:

- * Influent Constituent Characteristics of the Modern Waste Stream from Single Sources
- » New Approaches in Decentralized Water Infrastructure
- Guidance for Establishing Successful Responsible Management Entitles
- Hydrologic Bioretention Performance and Design Chteria for Cold Climates

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lirst Name:

Organization:

Fmail Address:

Submit

When to Consider Distributed Systems in Urban and Suburban Areas



- Water Environment Research Foundation (WERF) funded research project
- Identify examples of distributed infrastructure approaches in areas where traditional approach would be centralized
- Study critical path details and decision processes for how these projects were planned and implemented
- Set forth information using case studies, tools and other communications pieces that help communities make decisions
- Products
 - Case studies and white papers
 - Excel- based MCDA decision-support tool

http://www.werf.org/i/c/Decentralizedproject/ When_to_Consider_Dis.aspx

New Water Paradigm

Case Studies on New Water Paradigm

- Creates a platform for communities to overcome challenges through operating under key sustainability principles and practices.
- Uses examples from 2 case study communities (Tucson/ Pima County, Arizona and Northern Kentucky) to offer real world context.



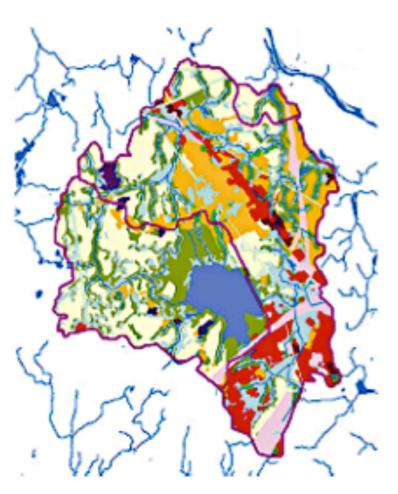


Sustainable Water Resources Management, Volume 3: Case Studies on New Water Paradigm





National Decentralized Water Resources Capacity Development Project



Wastewater Planning Handbook Mapping Onsite Treatment Needs, Pollution Risks, and Management Options Using GIS

University of Rhode Island Cooperative Extension Kingston, Rhode Island February 2004

Decentralized Water Resources Collaborative (DWRC)



- Cooperative effort funded by US EPA to support research and development on decentralized wastewater and stormwater systems
 - \$16 million for 70+ projects over 13 years
- DWRC partner organizations
 - Water Environment Research Foundation (WERF)
 - Coalition of Alternative Wastewater Treatment (CAWT)
 - Consortium of Institutes for Decentralized Wastewater Treatment (CIDWT)
 - Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI)
 - National Onsite Wastewater Recycling Association (NOWRA)
 - National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA)



Getting started: matrix

www.werf.org/decentralizedoutreach



- Over 70 projects & products
- Product title live linked
- Product description
- Year of publication
- DWRC project number
- Target audience
- Tags/keywords

Quick Guide to Research and Products from the **Decentralized Water Resources Collaborative (DWRC)**

Key to Product Audience:



Engineers/ Designers



Scientists/Researchers/ Academics



Regulators/Elected Officials/NGOs



Utility Managers/Service Providers/Responsible Management Entities (RMEs)

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Developers



potential impacts on soil and groundwater quality.

Planners/Resource Managers

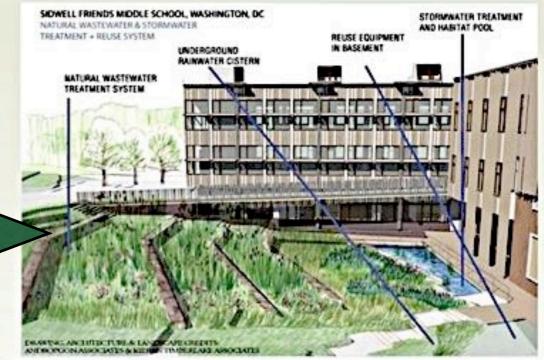


Vendors/Suppliers/

Product Title	Description	Year	Project #	Αι	ıdience	Tags
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE A	ND ENGINEERING					
Evaluation of GHG Emissions from Septic Systems	Evaluates data and info rmation on methane and other greenhouse gases from septic systems for more accurate GHG inventories.	2010	DEC1R09	(A) (4) (2) (4)		onsite systems, energy and climate change, sustainability, unit processes, planning
Non-Traditional Indicators of System Performance	Describes technologies that can be used in the decentralized field to get relevant real-time info mation about treatment system performance and water quality.	2010	DEC2R06	<u>()</u>		emerging applications, regulatory, monitoring, system management, operation and maintenance
Performance and Costs for Decentralized Unit Processes	Provides guidance on the performance of decentralized unit processes and templates for user-directed cost determination.	2010	DEC2R08			unit processes, system costs, performance, decision-making, operation and maintenance
Performance Effects of Water Softener Brine on Onsite Systems: Workshop	Defines research needs to evaluate if there are negative effects to onsite systems from water softener brine, and if so, what can be done to mitigate the problem.	2010	DEC2W09	(A)		onsite systems, design, soil treatment unit, unit processes, performance, operations and maintenance, wastewater characteristics
Long-Term Study on Landscape Irrigation Using Household Graywater: Experimental Study (Phase 2)	Provides quantitative data and information to better understand the fate and occurrence of graywater chemical constituents and pathogens and their	2010	06CTS1C0	(A)		water reuse, emerging contaminants, soil treatment unit, wastewater characteristics

Sidwell Friends School, Washington, D.C.

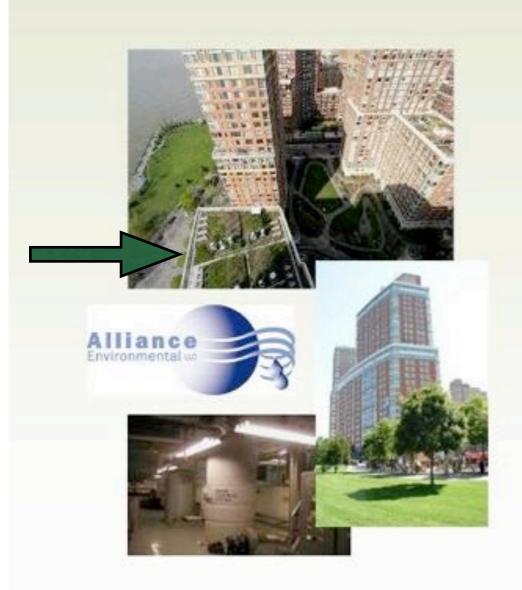
- Highly visible, LEED Platinum
- Integrated design team: Kieran Timberlake Associates LLP, Andropogon Associates LTD, JFW Project Management, CVM Engineers, Natural Systems International
- 3,000 gpd system for wastewater treatment and reuse are exposed and part of the 'working' landscape of the school's entrance courtyard
 - Series of terraced constructed wetland cells
 - Recirculating sand filter
 - Trickling filter
 - Reclaimed wastewater is recycled for toilet flushing and cooling towers
- Stormwater system
 - Rainwater collection
 - Rain gardens with biofiltration
 - Habitat pools for classroom study in the entranceway





Solaire, Battery Park, Manhattan, NYC





- Decentralized reuse in highly urbanized area
- LEED Platinum
- Green roof filters and captures stormwater
- Wastewater and stormwater treated for reuse
 - Toilet flushing
 - Cooling tower supply
 - Irrigation of park
- 48% reduction in potable water consumption
- 56% reduction in wastewater discharge

Reference – Battery Park City Authority Manhattan Borough, NYC, The Solaire – Alliance Environmental, LLC

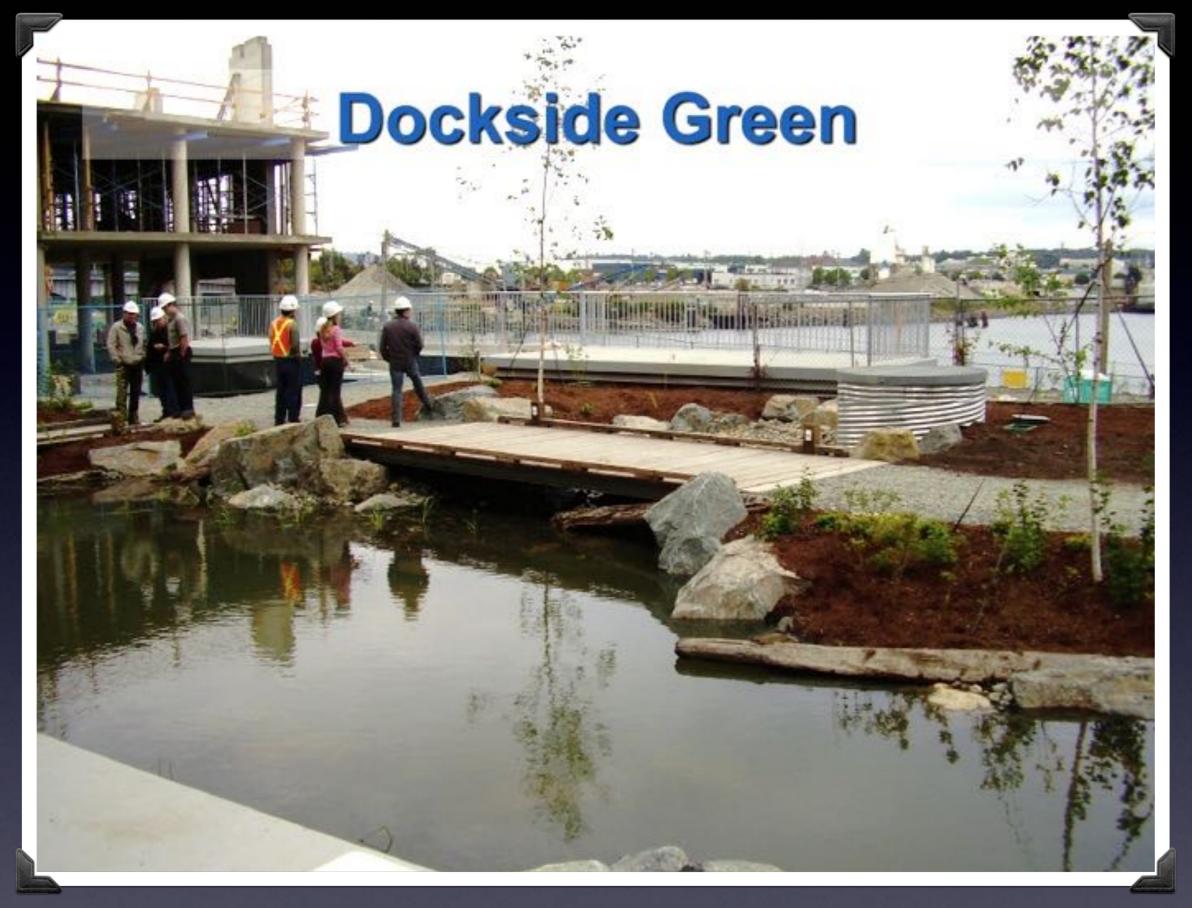
Dockside Green, Victoria, B.C.

- Water-centric brownfield redevelopment based on integrated resource management
- On-site, closed-loop treatment provides fit-for-purpose, reclaimed water supply (augmented by rainwater)
 - Toilet flushing, landscape irrigation, green roof watering, and natural stream/pond
- Stream/pond complex provides residential access, enhancing unit value, ecological function and biodiversity
- On site press for sludge dewatering to produce feedstock for co-located gasification plant
 - Single operations company = reduced staffing, maintenance and commissioning, and travel, reducing impact





Courtesy: Dockside Green and Aqua-Tex Scientific

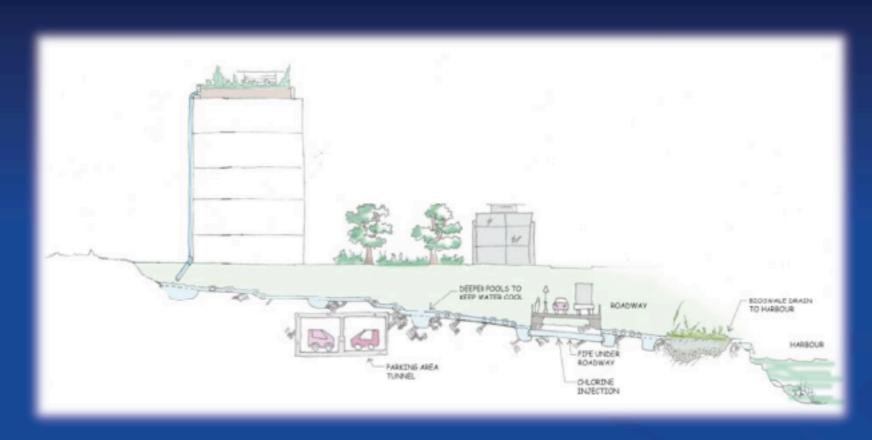


www.werf.org/distributedwater/

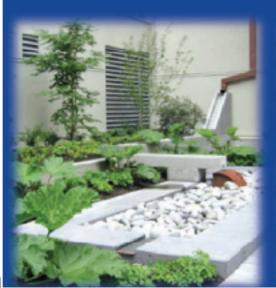


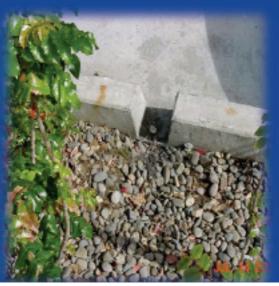
Celebrating Water







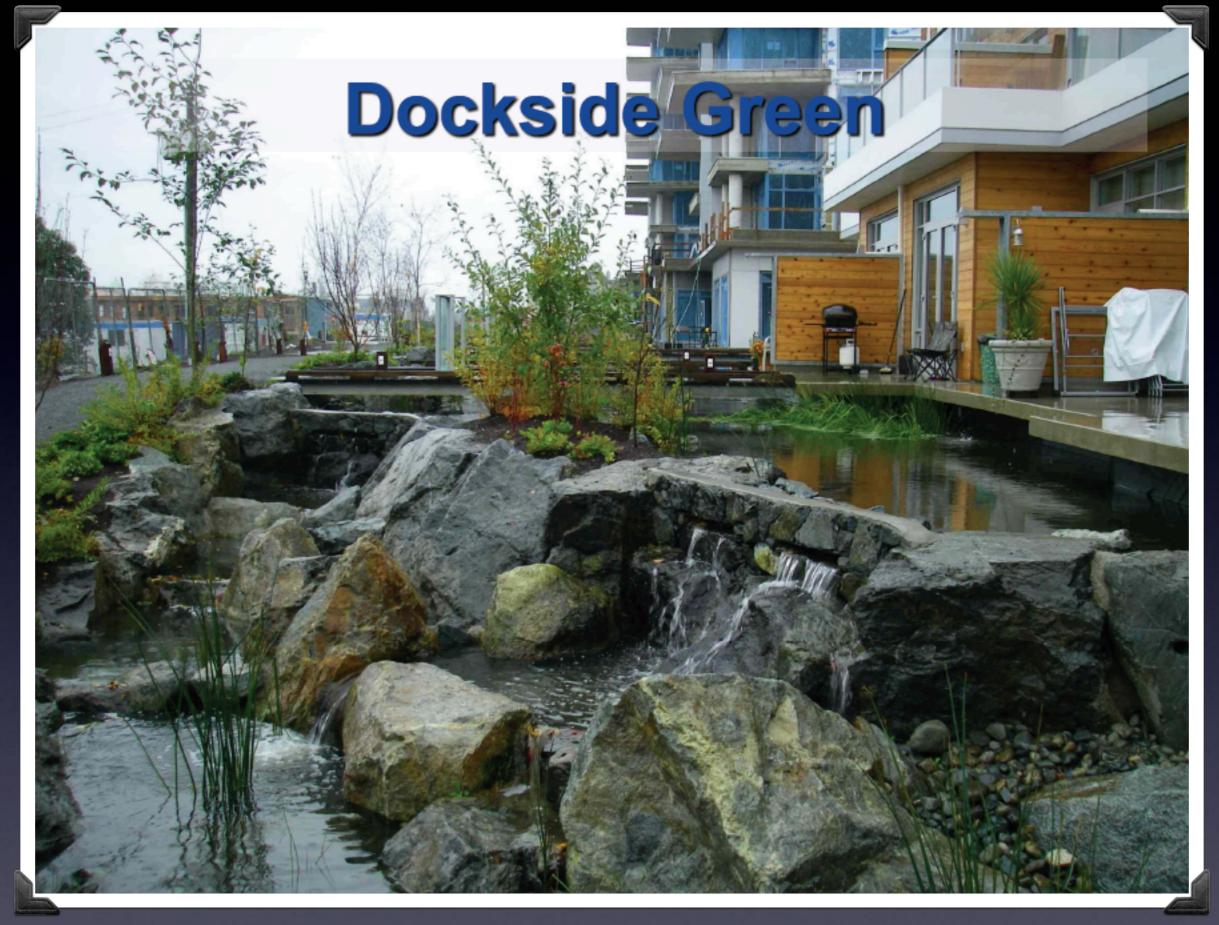








www.werf.org/distributedwater/



www.werf.org/distributedwater/

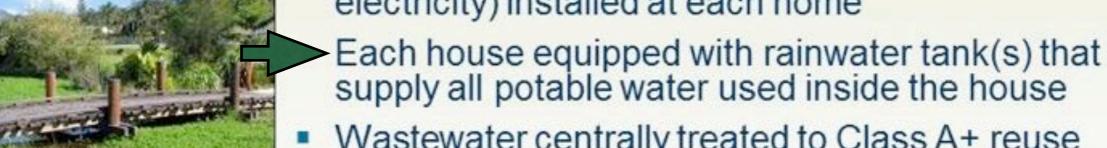


Currumbin Ecovillage, Queensland, Australia





- 144 home sites ~7 km from Currumbin Beach on Queensland's Gold Coast, Australia
- Closed-loop water supply system disconnected from public water system
- Food producing streetscaping and landscaping
- Intelligent monitoring system (water, gas, electricity) installed at each home



- Wastewater centrally treated to Class A+ reuse standards
 - Textile filters, membrane filtration, UV treatment and chlorine disinfection
- Reclaimed water pumped back to the houses for non-potable uses (> 80 percent recycled water use)
 - Toilet-flushing, Garden watering, Car washing, Laundering, Fire fighting



Loudoun Water, Loudoun County, VA





Loudoun Water Service Area

- Water and wastewater utility for Loudoun County, VA (DC suburb/exurb)
- Growth pays for growth: developers design and construct facilities to Loudoun Water standards and at no cost to Loudoun Water

Shared review and approval responsibilities

- Indiv. systems Local Health review
- Discharging systems Loudoun Water & DEQ
- Cluster systems Local Health, Loudoun Water, & State Health review

Management highlights

- RME Level IV (operation) when operating treatment plants for commercial facilities
- RME Level V (ownership and operation) operating treatment plants for communities
- Financially self-sustaining via rates and developer paid revenues

LOTT Alliance, Olympia, WA





- Lacey-Olympia-Tumwater urban area
- 20-year plan calls for construction of three satellite reclaimed water treatment plants
- Each satellite built in small increments to allow "just-in-time" construction for future needs

Budd Inlet Plant

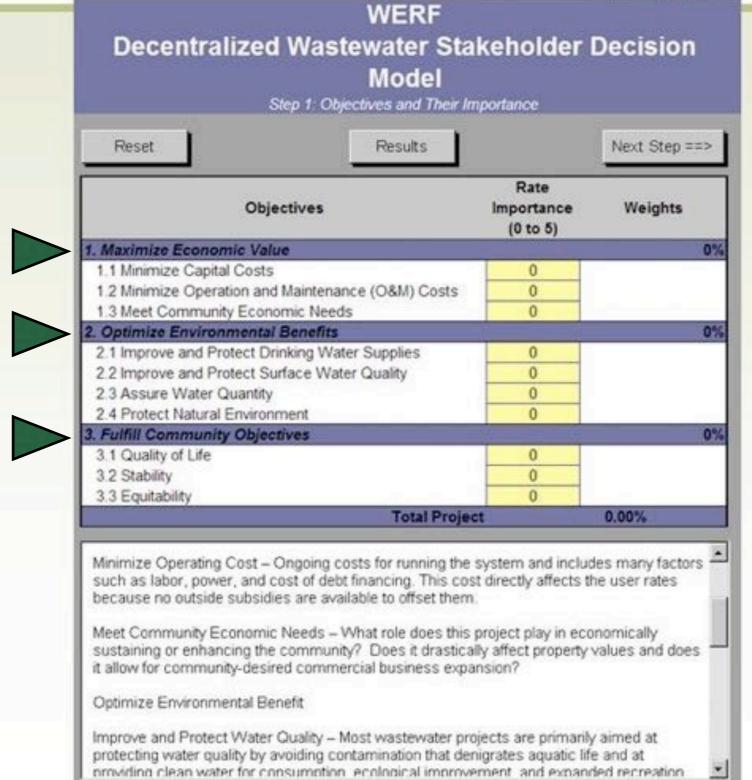
- 12 MGD advanced secondary treatment with nitrogen removal and UV with 1 MGD fed to reclamation plant
- Class A Reclaimed Water for irrigation, equipment washdown, dust suppression, cleaning, etc.

Hawks Prairie Reclaimed Water Satellite

- MBR producing 2 MGD class A reuse water, expandable to 5 mgd
- Reclaimed water feeds constructed wetland ponds/groundwater recharge basins
- Public education, recognition, and acceptance of reclaimed water and amenity for visitors

Decentralized Wastewater Stakeholders Decision Model





Decentralized Wastewater Stakeholders Decision Model



WERF Decentralized Wastewater Stakeholder Decision N Step 2: Value the Attributes of Each Objective (Page 1 of 10)								
1.1 Minimize Capital Costs Reducing capital costs may allow a community to make the initial investment to start a project sooner. Decentralized wastewater approaches may help reduce capital costs. Several components of capital costs must be analyzed.	7	Strongly Favors Decentralized	Slightly Favors Decentralized	Neutral	Slightly Favors Centralized	Strongly Favors Centralized	Not Applicable	
1.1.1. Financing Costs – Can vary significantly over time and between locations and projects; requires careful investigation.	More Info	c	0	c	c	c	æ	
1.1.2. Planning and Design - Planning and design costs constitute a larger percentage of the total budget for smaller decentralized wastewater systems. These costs typically are lower for large, centralized projects primarily because of engineers' prior experience with these technologies and some economies of scale, although this will vary significantly depending on the specifics of the project.	More Info	c	c	c	c	c	6	
1.1.3. Construction Inspection – Primarily related to the complexity of the wastewater treatment and collection system, inspection of both centralized sewers and decentralized systems requires fulltime inspectors. The duration of the construction process for decentralized systems, however, typically is much shorter and less disruptive to existing transportation system and community.	More Info	c	c	c	c	c	6	
1.1.4. Land – Composes a significant portion of capital costs unless the land is owned by the municipality or can serve multiple purposes.	More Info	c	c	o	c	o	e	
1.1.5. Phasing – Dividing a project into smaller phases can reduce capital costs.	More Info	c	c	c	c	c	6	
1.1.6. Optimizing Existing Treatment Plant Infrastructure - Small, decentralized approaches can extend the life expectancy of existing centralized treatment plants, thereby reducing capital costs.	More Info	c	c	c	c	c	e	
1.1.7. Optimizing Existing Collection System Infrastructure - Expansion or replacement of collection systems, pump stations, and transmission mains can be reduced by using smaller-scale decentralized approaches.	More Info	c	c	c	c	c	0	

The KML Green Machine: Using Natural Systems in Treating Wastewater

An Engineered Wetland Wastewater Treatment System Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School Jackson, Wisconsin

http://www.kmlhs.org/home/environmental-initiatives/waste-water-treatment



Powered by:
Wind
Solar
Photovoltaic





430 Students & Staff

Waste from the kitchen goes directly into a 3000-gallon grease tank, while the remainder of the building's wastewater goes into the 9100 gallon septic tank, specially designed for this project. Water from those two tanks pass into another underground tank (4800 gallon), which filters the wastewater before pumping it to the constructed wetlands.

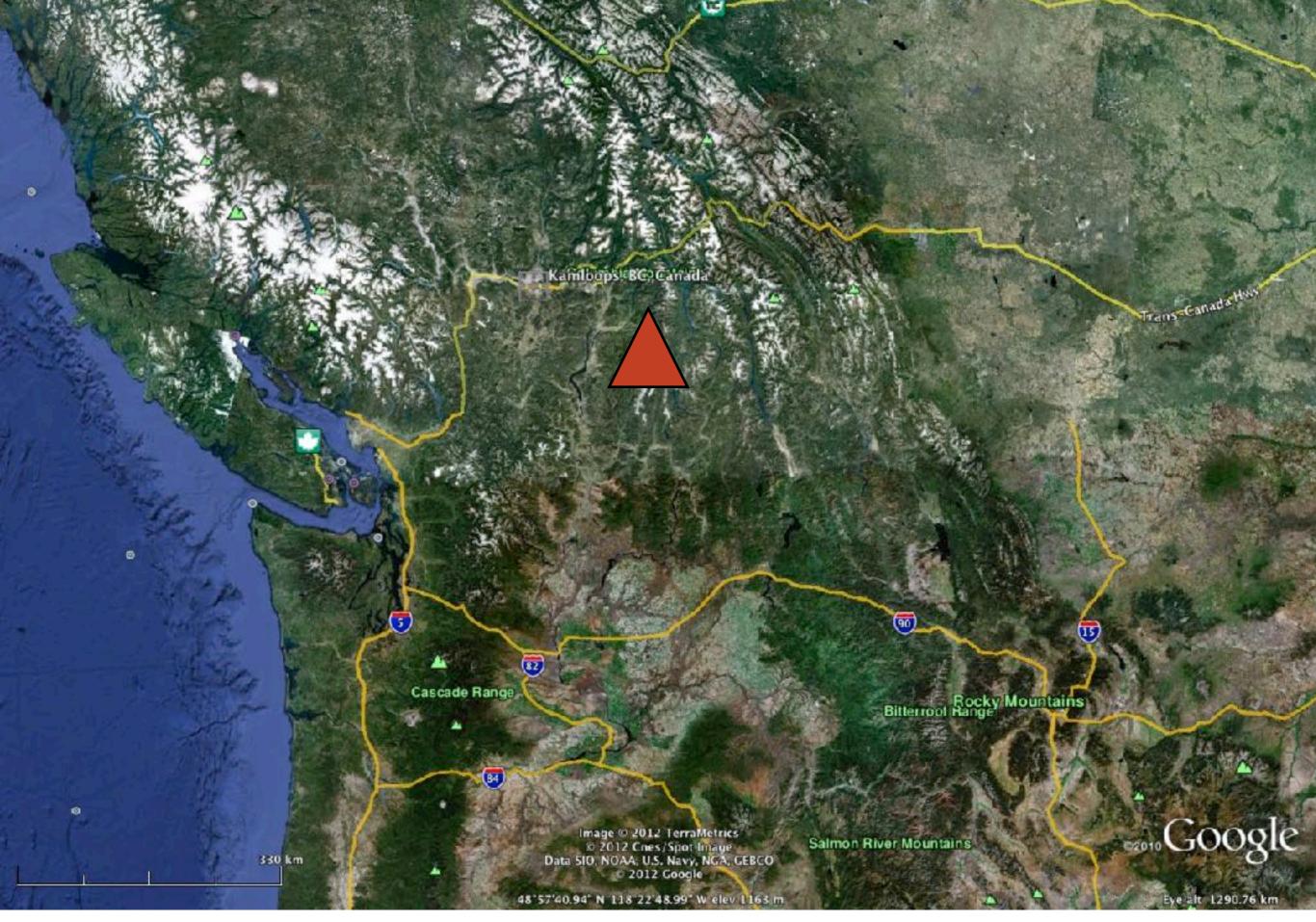


If money talks then the following entities are calling out loud and clear

An Introduction to Subsurface Drip Dispersal (SDD) Under Freezing Conditions

Rodney Ruskin Geoflow

Image ID:106550643
Photographer: Jelle v/d Wolf
Photos.com



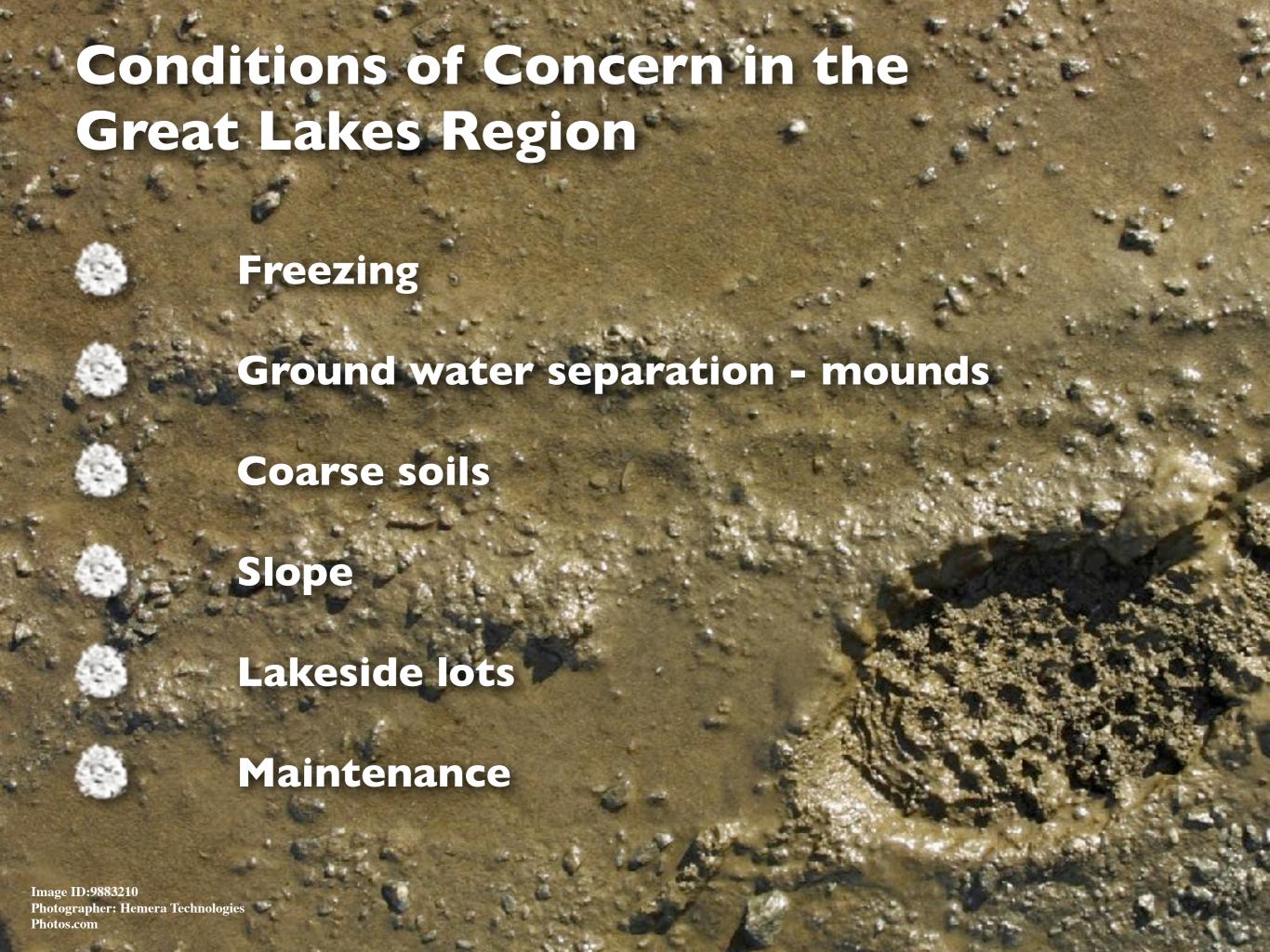
Kamloops, B.C. Single Family Home

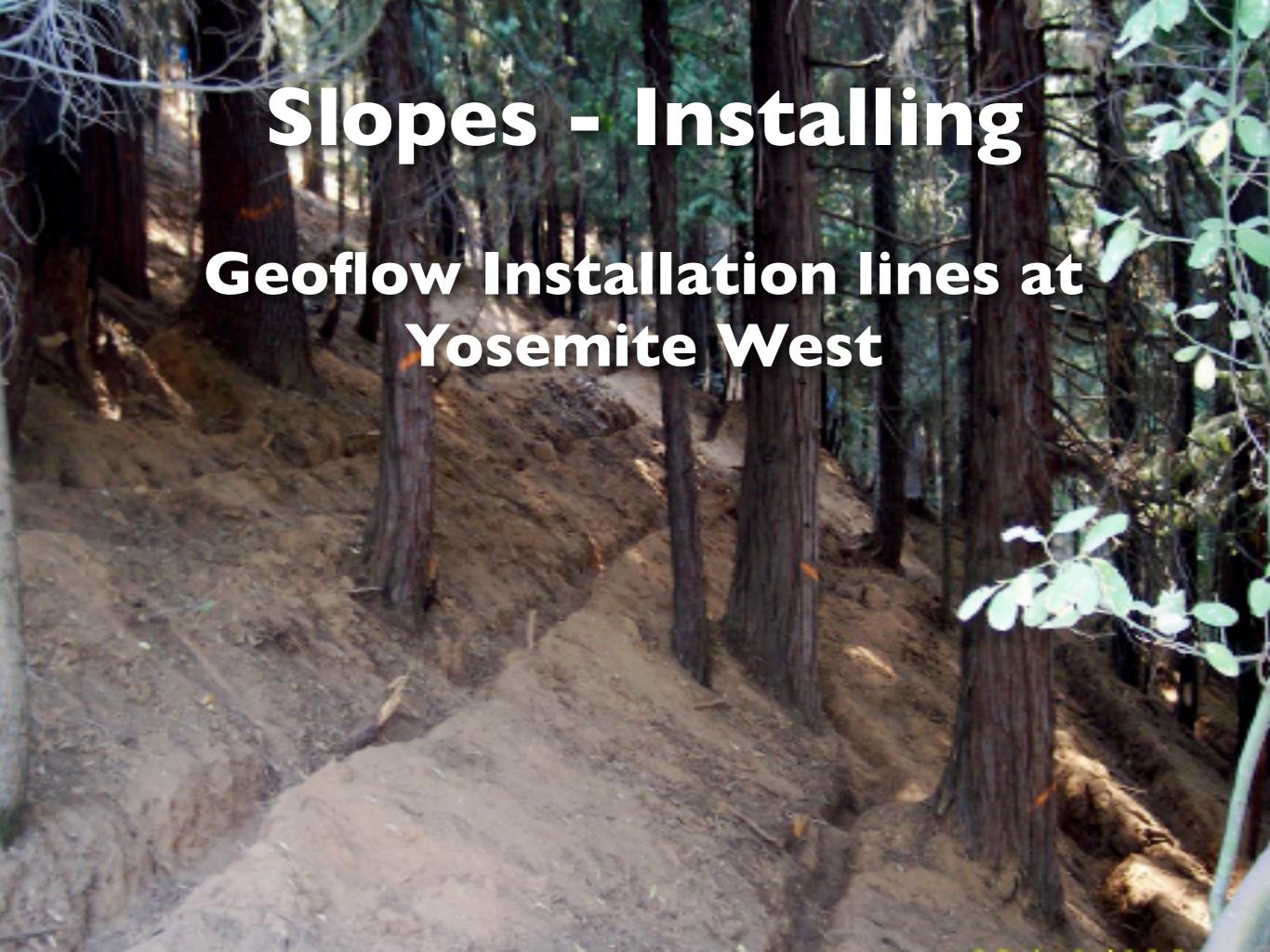


Drip Distribution Soil Performance and Operations in a Northern Climate Rachel M. Bohrer http://www.geoflow.com/wastewater/w_pdfs/bohrer_thesis_full.pdf

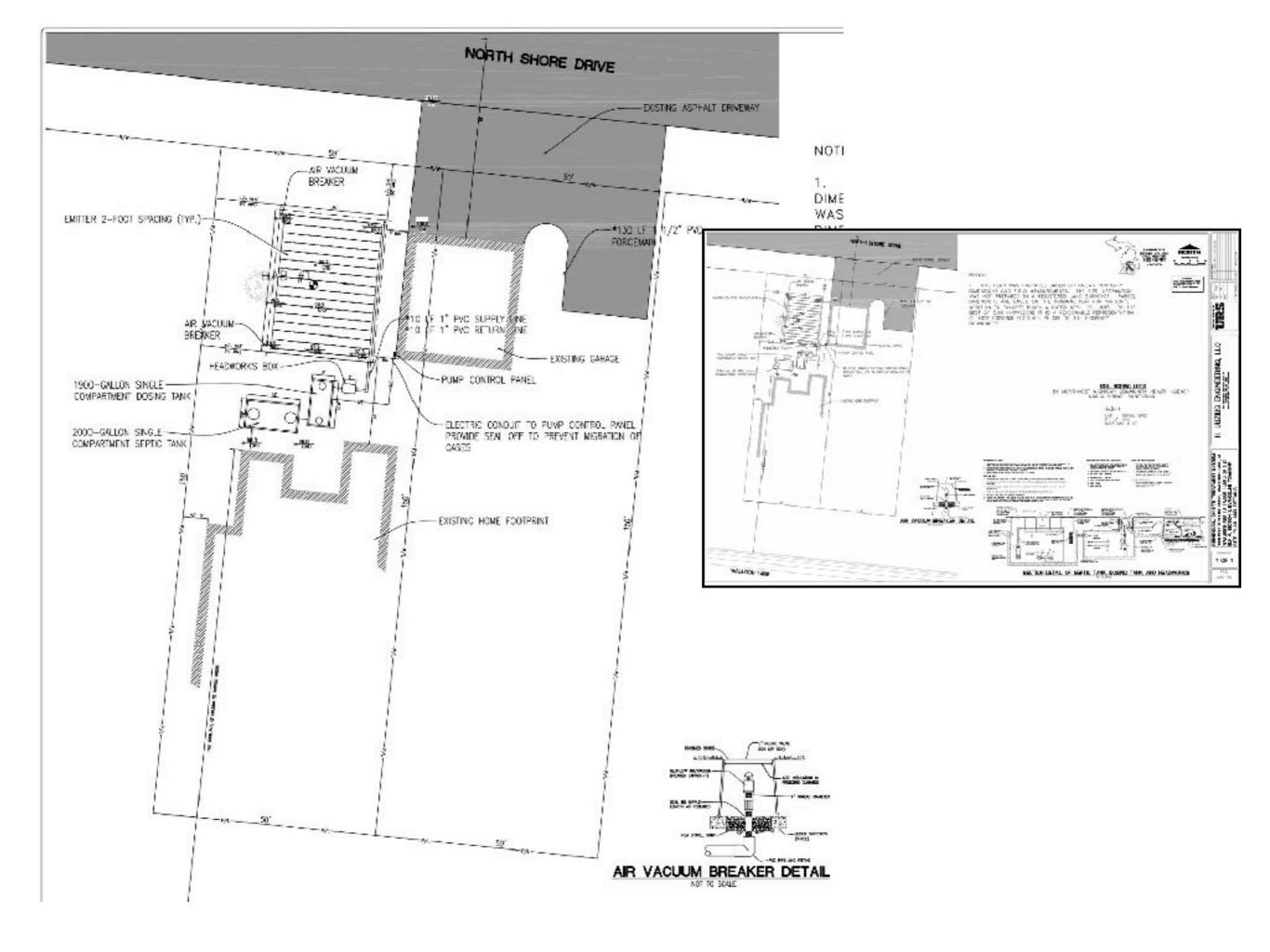
Design & Performance of Drip Dispersal Systems in Freezing Environments Scott D. Wallace, P.E.

http://www.geoflow.com/wastewater/w_pdfs/NAWE%20freezing%20paper.pdf

















Reuse

New Zealand Vacation Community at Paunui-Tairua Operates 5,000m3/day (1.3 million gpd) Subsurface Drip Reuse System

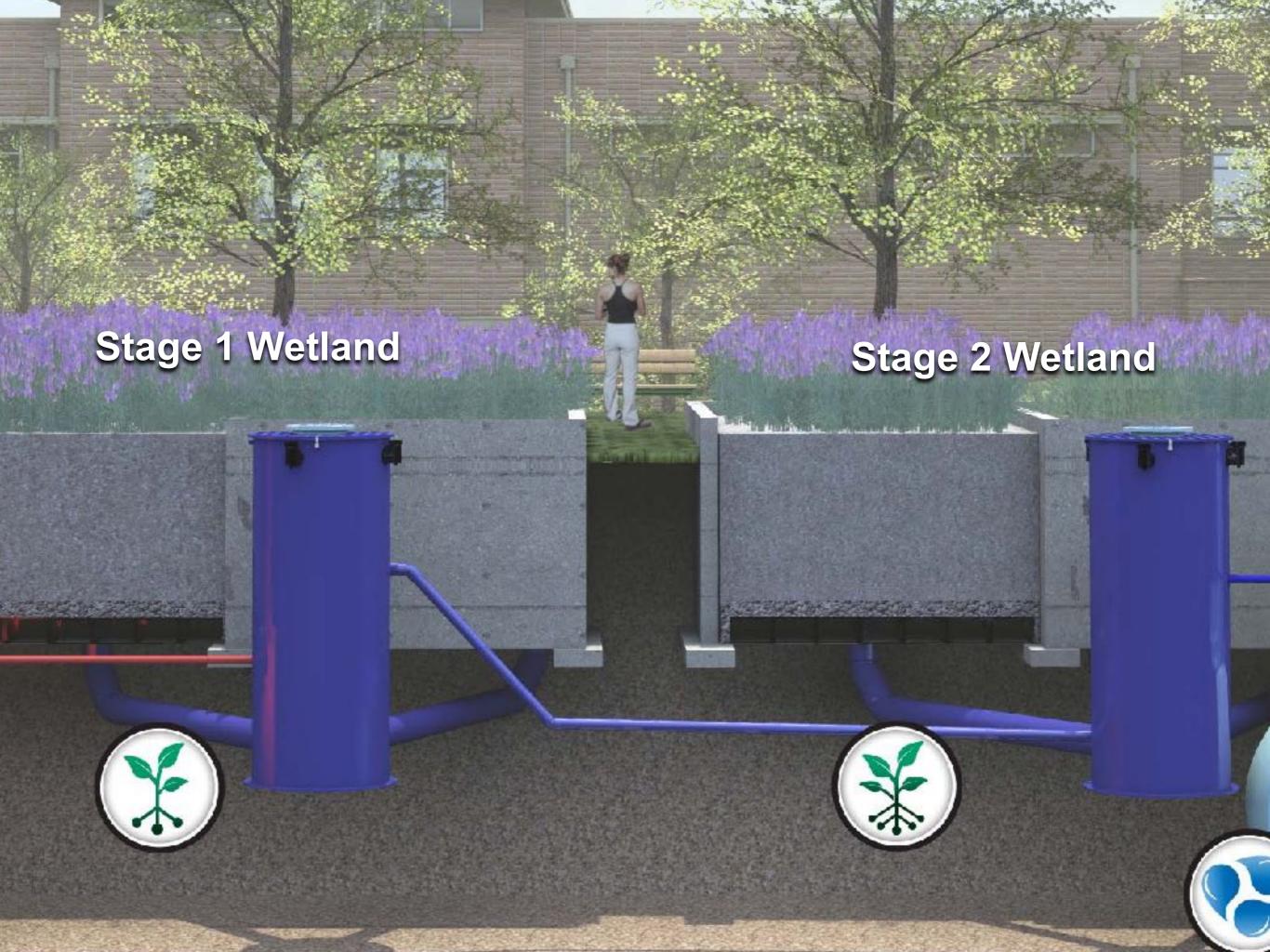






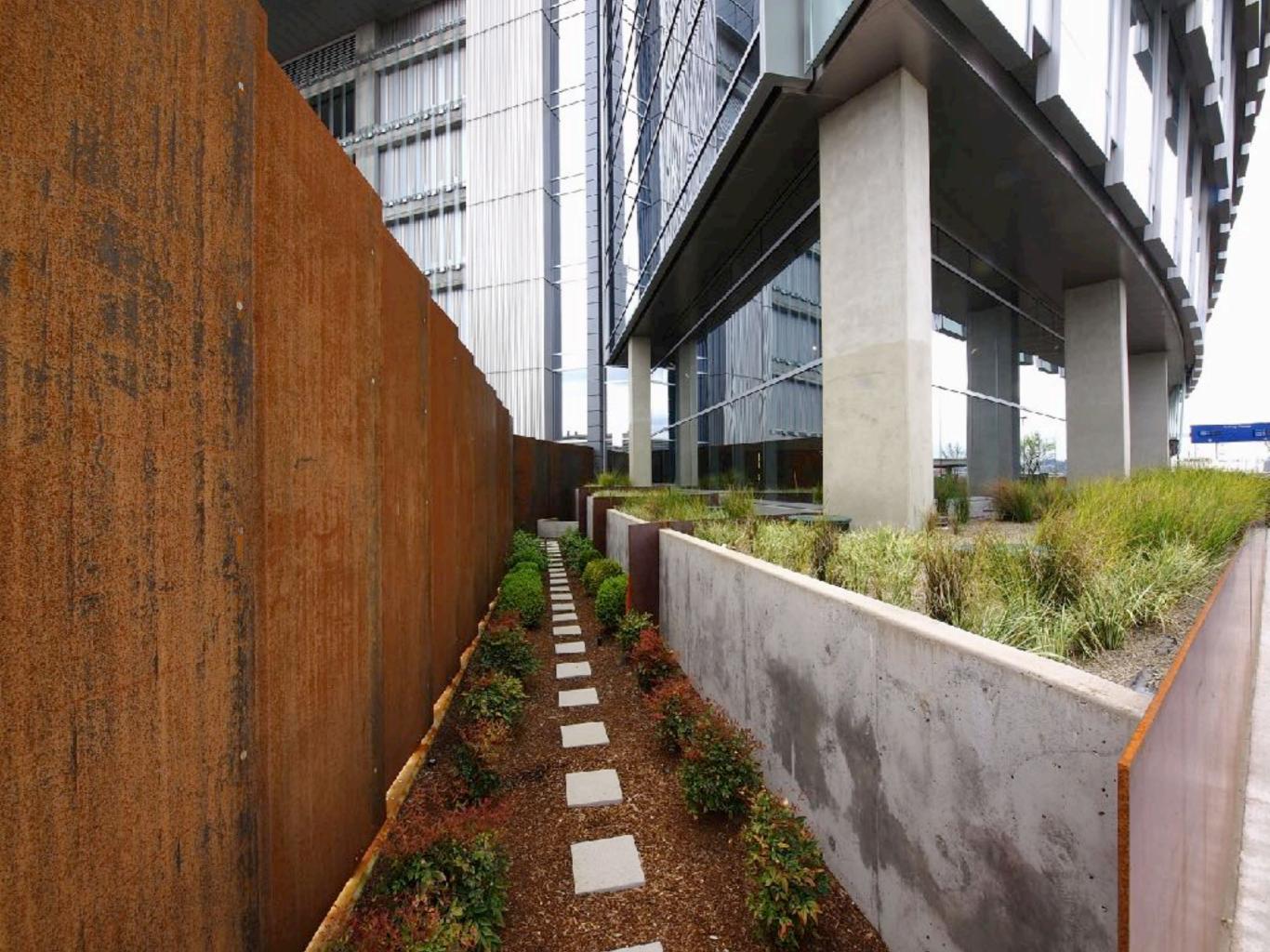


History of Tidal Wetlands





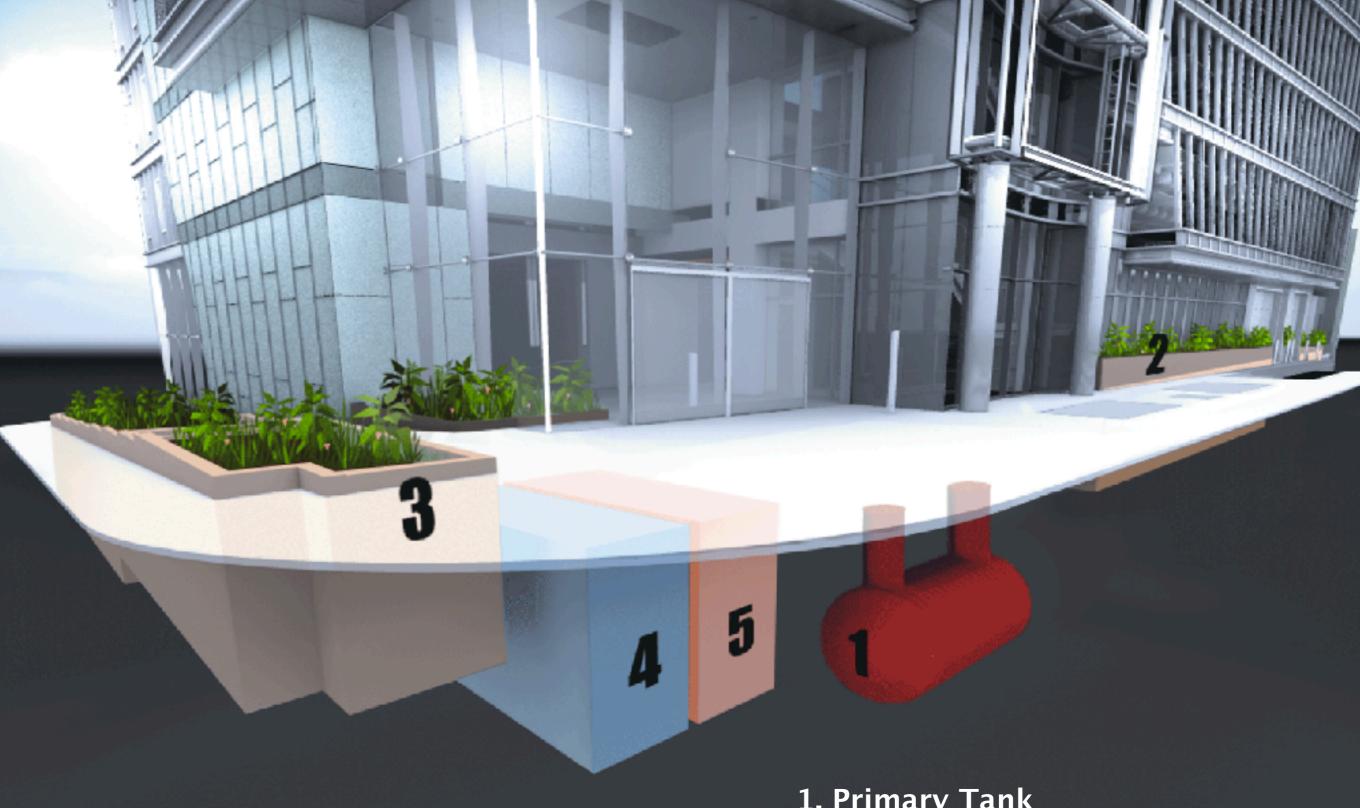




San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC):

San Francisco, California

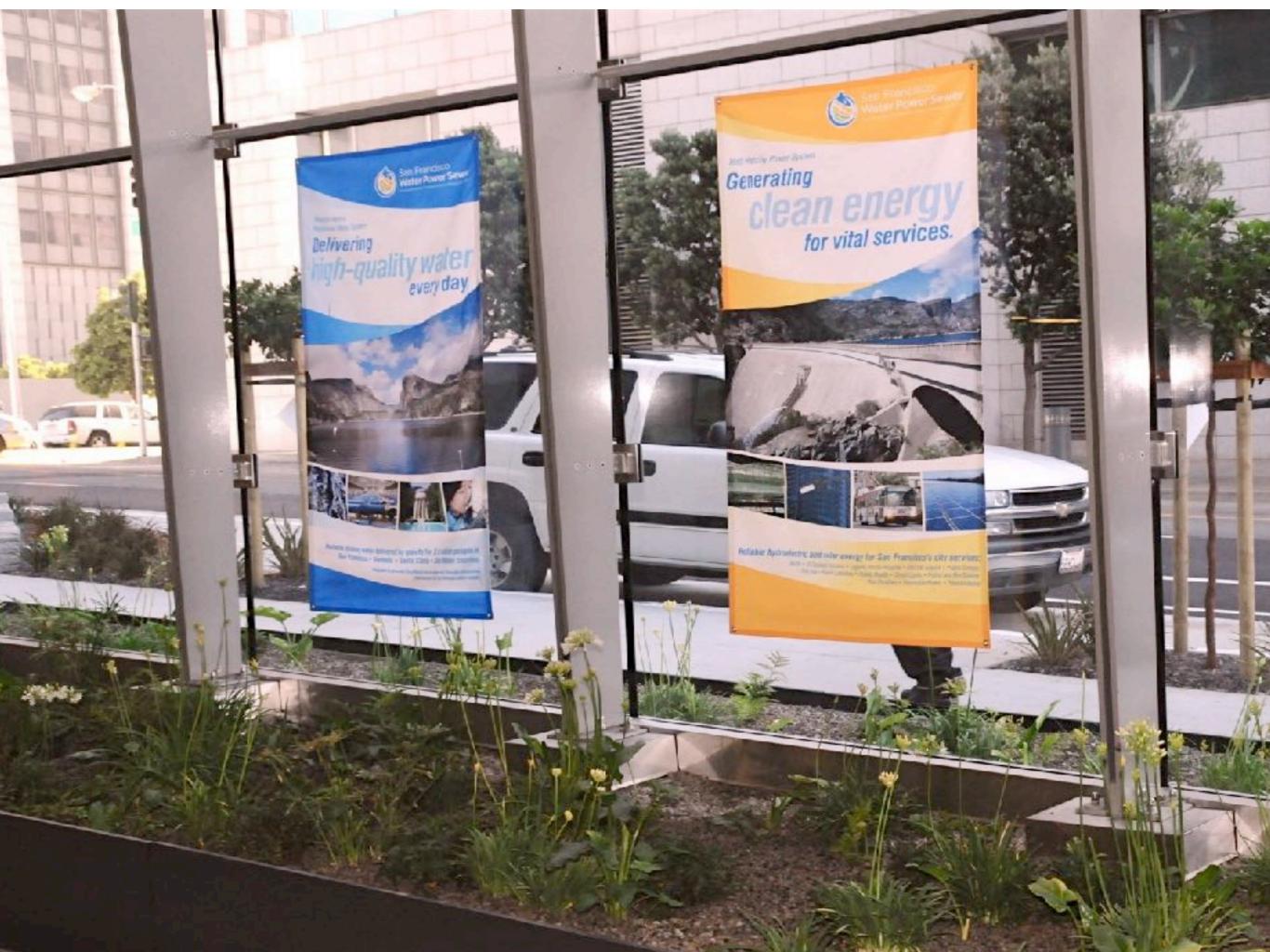




San Francisco, CA San Francisco Public Utilities Commission 5,000 gpd

- 1. Primary Tank
- 2. Stage 1 Wetland Cells
- 3. Stage 2 Wetland Cells
- 4. Reuse Tank
- 5. Rainwater Cistern



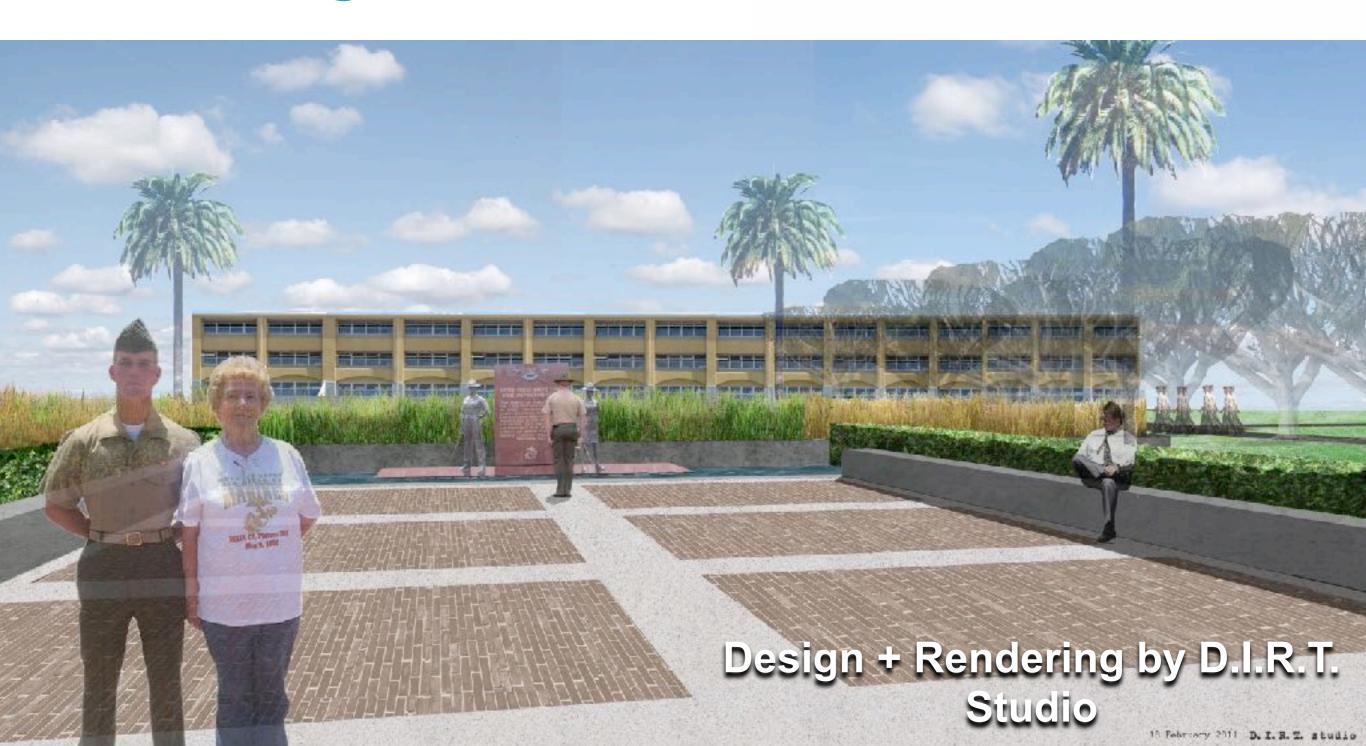




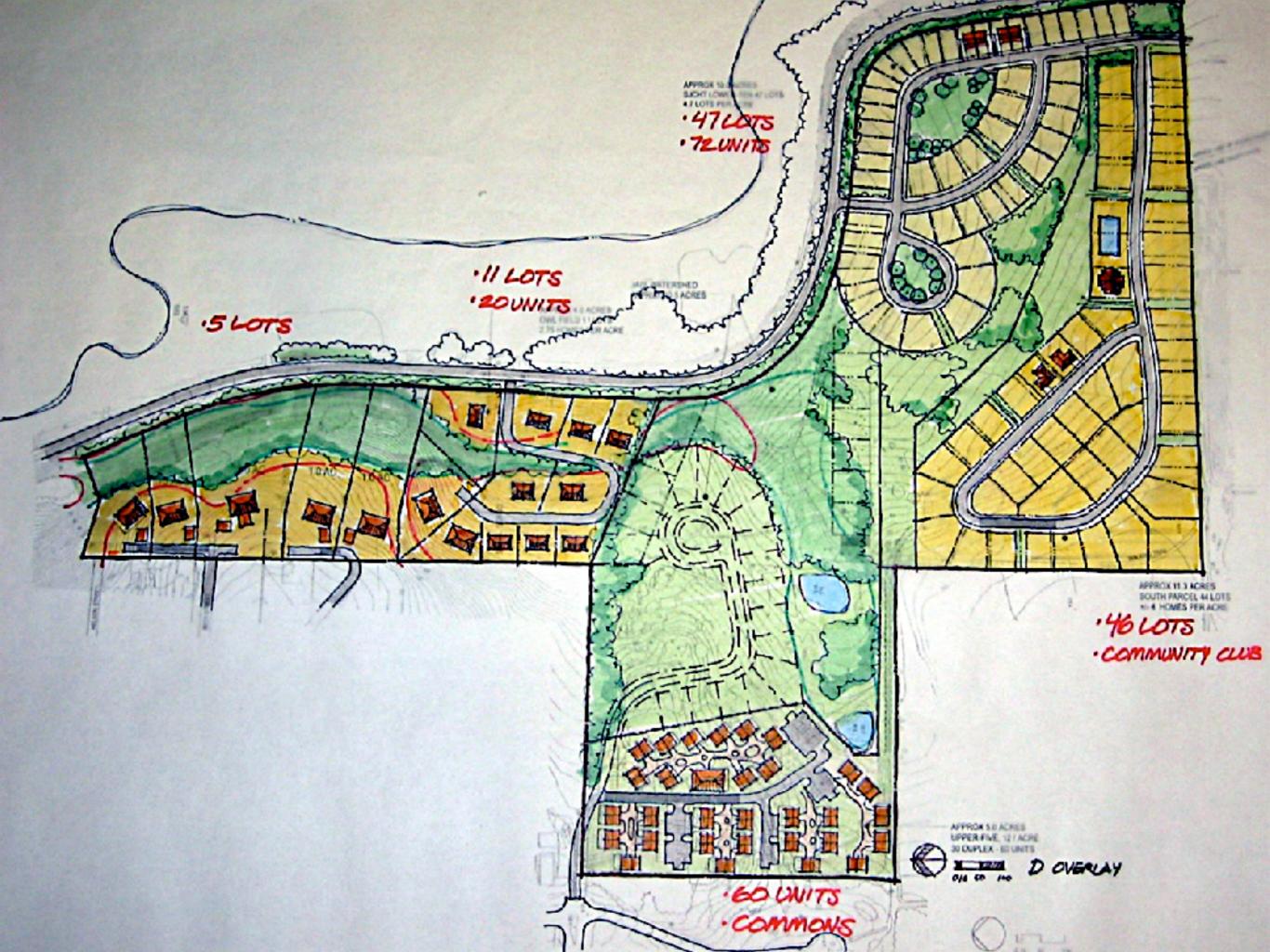


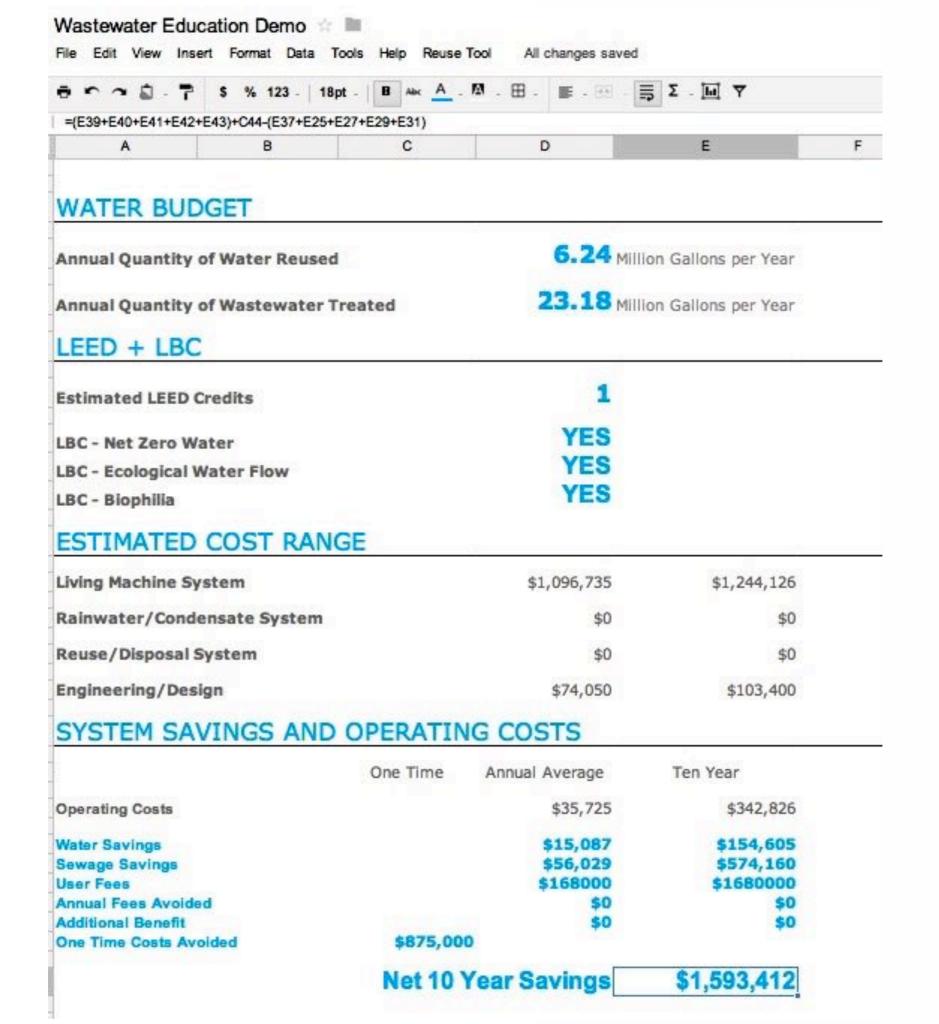


Marine Corps Recruit Depot: San Diego CA









A B	С	D	E
REUSE SUMMAR	RY		
WATER BUDGET			
Annual Quantity of Water Reu	read	20.84	lion Gallons per Year
Annual Quantity of Water Ret	iseu	ZOTO IMII	llion Gallons per Year
Annual Quantity of Wastewat	er Treated	23.18 Mil	lion Gallons per Year
ESTIMATED COST RAN	NGE		
Living Machine System		\$1,096,735	\$1,244,126
Rainwater/Condensate Syste	m	\$0	\$0
Reuse/Disposal System		\$0	\$0
Engineering/Design		\$74,050	\$103,400
SYSTEM SAVINGS AND	OPERATIN	G COSTS	
	One Time	Annual Average	Ten Year
Operating Costs		\$36,604	\$349,751
		\$83,968	\$860,467
Water Savings			\$574,160
A CONTRACTOR OF THE CONTRACTOR		\$56,029	
Sewage Savings		\$168000	\$1680000
Sewage Savings User Fees			
Sewage Savings User Fees Annual Fees Avoided		\$168000	\$1680000
Water Savings Sewage Savings User Fees Annual Fees Avoided Additional Benefit One Time Costs Avoided	\$875,00	\$168000 \$0 \$0	\$1680000 \$0



Waste Water Education.org

ClipArt ©2009JupiterImages and OWNWMI

Place you service provider's business card here!

our Septic Service Provider is a wastewater professional who cares about your community, your family, your health, your drinking water supply and the environment.

Do You Need More Information?

Your Septic Service Provider will be happy to provide you with additional education materials, or you can call us: 231 233 1806 or visit our web site

www.wastewatereducation.org



Tet To Know Your Septic Service Provider

Keep This Folder and Your Service Providers Business **Card In Your House File**

Your septic, or individual wastewater system is a vital part of your home or business. You wouldn't dream of never changing the oil or tires on your car, or checking to see if you need to repair your roof!

Just because your wastewater system is buried underground doesn't mean you should forget it needs regular care and maintenance too.

Set Up A Regular Check-Up!!

Take a look again at the chart inside and decide what is the best time to call for a pump out or inspection. Don't wait until your system lets you know!!



"Please, don't wait until there is a real problem before coming to talk to us. Environmental health regulations are there to protect all of us, not just to be a nuisance or a

William Crawford

hindrance."

Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department

AREA LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS

Benzie-Leelanau District HD

6051 Frankfort Hwy., Suite 100, Benzonia MI 49616 Tel: (231) 882-4409 Fax: 882-2204 www.bldhd.org

Leelanau Office

7401 E. Duck Lake Rd Ste. 100 Lake Leelanau, MI 49653 Tel: (231) 256-0200 Fax: 256-0225 Hours: 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM 1:00 PM - 4:30 PM

Grand Traverse County Health Dept.

2650 LaFranier Rd., Traverse City, Tel: (231) 533-8670 Fax: 533-8450 MI 49686 Tel: (231) 995-6051 Hours: 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM 1:00 PM - 4:30 PM www.co.grand-traverse.mi.us/ departments/health.htm

The Health Department of **Northwest Michigan Administrative Office**

www.nwhealth.org 220 West Garfield Ave. Charlevoix, MI 49720 Tel: (231) 547-6523 Fax: 547-6238

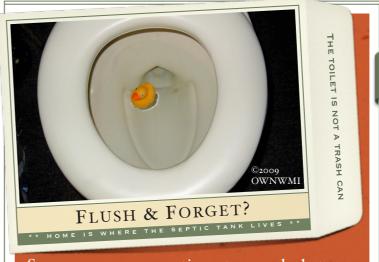
Emmet: John R. Watson Bld. 3434 Harbor-Petoskev Rd., Suite A, Harbor Springs, MI 49740 Tel: (231) 347-6014 Fax: 347-2861

Antrim: 209 Portage Dr., Bellaire, MI 49615

Otsego: 95 Livingston Boulevard, Gaylord, MI 49735 Tel: (989) 732-1794 Fax: 732-6899







So now you own a septic system, and what you don't know can end up costing you \$\$\$\$\$ & Here are some helpful do's & dont's.

ALL THE WATER THERE EVER WILL BE

rater is the most precious substance on Earth, the stuff of life, the reason we all love northern Michigan so much.

If this is the first time you have owned a property with a septic, or onsite wastewater treatment system, you will need to pay close attention to proper use and maintenance of it just as you do your vehicle.



Your backyard wastewater system is part of the water cycle, part of the ground and surface water resources we all depend on every day for our homes, schools, businesses and

agriculture. There is no such thing as 'waste' water. Every drop has been used and reused, over and over again since the beginning of time.



Every time you flush, every time you use the shower or washing machine, every time you run a faucet or let one drip... it is costing you money. Your \$'s pay to pump, treat and transport your drinking water. Your \$'s pay to service, or repair, your wastewater system. Your \$'s pay to repair polluted streams and lakes. Remember this:



NOT a Good Idea

Hair

Human or Pet Hair

is one of the strongest and durable items. It clogs pipes, pumps and moving parts in all wastewater systems.

Plastics

If you can't digest it, don't flush it! Systems are chemically designed to

break down organic wastes only.

Cigarettes

Nicotine, tar, benzene,

exist in cigarette butts. Filter trash takes up valuable space in the tank. The same chemical residues

that affect your health during smoking pass through to effluent.



Chemicals & Pesticides



Take it to Hazardous **Waste Events**

If it isn't safe to dump on the ground, it isn't safe to dump down the drain.

Pills & Potions

It's a NO DRAINER!

No one wants to share your medications - but traces are now found in fish and waters. Take your unwanted meds to a collection event

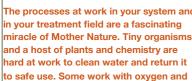
or put safely in the trash - see Page 2!!



Mother Nature Knows Best!!

hen we talk about wastewater septic systems, what are we REALLY talking about?

And is this really a conversation we like to have? Your service provider would much rather have this talk with you **BEFORE** you call him, or her, half an hour before you are at Thanksgiving Dinner, with 30 relatives!



some without.

Unfortunately, we humans are equally hard at work doing our best to make their life really difficult. We like our modern conveniences! The US uses 4 times as much water as countries like England or Sweden - and it's not that those folks don't wash as often as us. We also like our chemical cleaning products, personal and household we pour just about anything

So how does a septic system work?

down the drain and a LOT of fat!

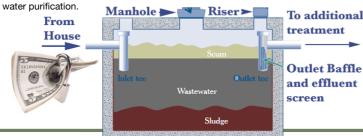
Think of the inside of the septic tank, or primary treatment, as performing the same function as your digestive system. There is no oxygen in there. Gasses are produced when food breaks down and settles to the bottom of the tank - methane, sulphur dioxide for example and nitrous oxide. Nasty stuff!



Water is a renewable, recyclable resource, but all the water there ever will be, goes through you and goes through me!

All the water there ever will be is already here! It's our job to take care of it!

Oils and fats float to the top as scum. When liquid reaches the outlet pipe it flows out to secondary treatment in the soil. This is where the real cleaning and filtering takes place and oxygen is vital to help 'good' bacteria do their job. Just like us, they don't do well if they can't breath. This one-two punch packs a pretty powerful piece of





www.epa.gov/watersense is a great resource for learning ways to cut your water consumption without really feeling any impact at all, and watch you electricity bill go down.

Wastewater Education is a WaterSense™ Partner.

The graph shows just how much water we use in a day. It should also set off alarm bells in your head and wallet! WHERE DOES WATER GO? All that water = \$\$\$\$\$\$ down 0% 10% 20% 30% the drain! If you have your own water well, you are SHOWERS & BATHS paying for electricity every time the well pump kicks on. TOILET FLUSH LEAKS Even on a municipal system, FAUCETS your water use costs \$\$'s - it DISHWASHERS takes power to clean, treat. LAUNDRY transport clean water in and OTHER USES taking wastewater back to the water cvcle. American

public water supply and treatment facilities consume about 56 billion kilowatt-hours — enough electricity to power more than <u>5 million homes</u> for an entire year. Up to 80% of that energy is used just to move water in both public and private systems.

FIVE GREAT WAYS TO KILL YOUR SYSTEM

If soils, just like us, need oxygen to breath, neither of us do well under pressure



Driving or parking heavy vehicles on top of the drainfield, plowing snow on it in winter, compresses the soil structure, making it impossible for good bugs to have the air spaces they need to work or for water to drain properly.



Magic potions and instant fixes a) don't work, b) can do more harm than good or c) just waste money. Chickens, yeast or a whole host of other old wives tales, can't possibly do any good inside the harsh, oxygen free atmosphere inside the tank. Strong chemicals can do great damage to the environment when they pass on out to the water table. Too much disinfectant can actually kill the bacteria you need for your onsite system to work properly.

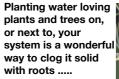
Your wastewater system is your responsibility! For a small community, onsite systems provide as good as , if not better, level of treatment than a central sewer at much less cost and much less risk **IF properly maintained.**

USEPA



Your wastewater system was designed to treat human, organic, biodegradable materials

If you use it as a substitute for going to your local Household Hazardous Waste Day you will find it quite unforgiving!!



Human waste is one of the oldest fertilizers in history! When the drainfield is working properly it can safely break down those compounds of nitrogen and phosphorus. But ... water loving plants look on this as a match made in heaven and will thrive on this delicious mix - so

on this delicious mix - so avoid willows, and deep rooting perennials and NEVER plant vegetables close by!



WHEN TO CALL FOR SERVICE

Your Choice, Your \$

You can wait until your system sends a message - a smelly, disgusting mess to have to deal with - or you can schedule a regular pump out based on the following:

I live alone

Generally we advise wastewater system servicing based on how many people live with you or how many bedrooms.

Other factors include how much water you use on a daily basis. On average we all use 125 gallons a day per person



Do you do a lot of laundry or take a lot of showers?

Think of how a full glass overflows if you pour in more fluid ... Then think of the difference between a trickling stream or a gushing water fall Your septic system can only hold so much liquid, usually between 1200-1500 gallons.

Do You Have a Garbage Disposal?

All solids either need time to settle and break down, or are made of 'stuff' that never breaks down. Either way, solids take up space in the septic tank. More people= more use = less space = get your tank pumper more often.

A steady trickle of incoming fluid is fine, but a gushing torrent of 4 baths, showers or 3 loads of laundry is bound to stir up those solids and can send them out to clog your treatment field.

How Often?

- 1 2 people 7-5 years
- 2 4 people 5-3 years
- 4 6 people 3 1 year depending on usage and volume of water used.





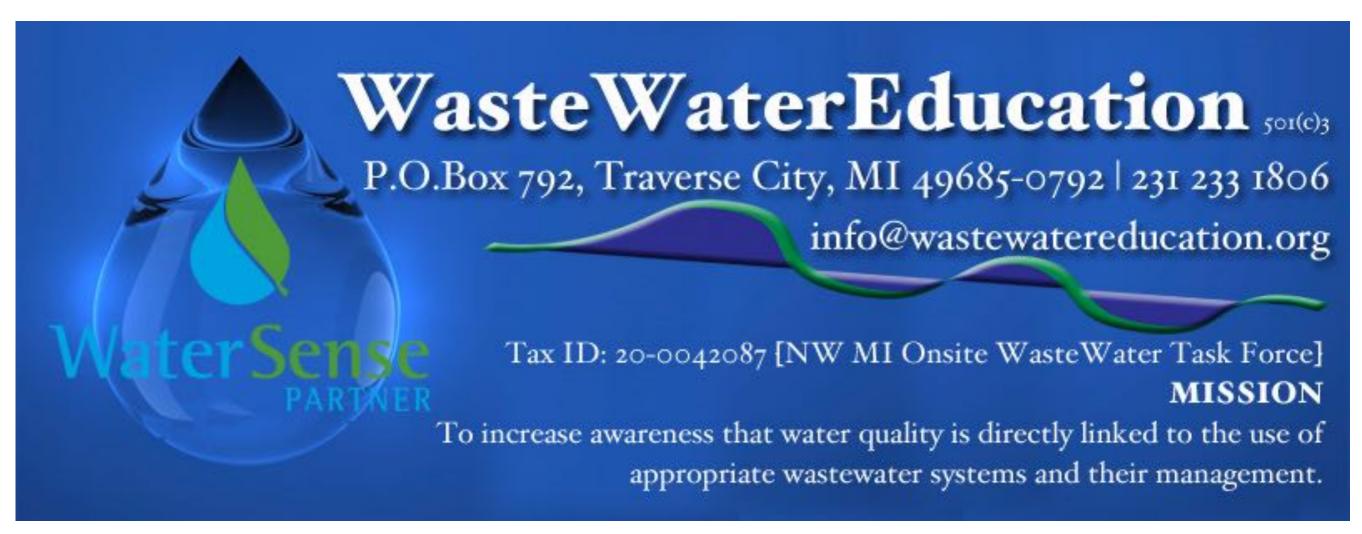
www.epa.gov/watersense/fixaleak



What is WaterSense?

WaterSense is a voluntary public-private partnership program sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Its mission is to protect the future of our nation's water supply by promoting and enhancing the market for water-efficient products and services.

www.epa.gov/watersense







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