

Blue-Green Algae Bloom

As of August 15, the advisories for Beaver Lake and Prior Lake remain in place. We continue to monitor water quality in both lakes. [Details >>](#)



[Agendas & Minutes](#) | [Electoral Areas](#) | [Maps](#) | [Careers](#) | [News & Events](#) | [Alerts & Notices](#) | [Data](#) | [Contact Us](#)

Search Site



Capital Regional District

[ABOUT THE CRD](#)

[SERVICES](#)

[PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURE](#)

[PROJECTS & INITIATIVES](#)

[EDUCATION & ENVIRONMENT](#)

[I WANT TO](#)

Grey Water Recycling

[CRD Home](#) > [Education & Environment](#) > [Water Conservation](#) > [At Home](#) > [Outdoor Water Use](#) > [Grey Water Recycling](#)

Water Conservation

At Home

[Indoor Water Use](#)

[Outdoor Water Use](#)

[Watering Schedules](#)

[Water Conservation Resources](#)

[Water Conservation Frequently Asked Questions](#)

At Work

What is Grey Water?

Grey water refers to untreated, gently used water waste from bathroom faucets, bathtubs, showers and clothes washers that is otherwise directed to the sewer. The water has not come into contact with contaminated sources such as toilet waste, kitchen sink or dishwasher waste. Grey water is captured, treated and reused for non-potable uses such as landscape irrigation, car washing and toilet flushing. At the CRD's Fisgard location, rainwater collected from roof drains is used to flush half the building's toilets.

Grey water must be treated and disinfected before storage and reuse to reduce the number of pathogens that spread disease and begin to turn septic and smell. Watering restrictions typically do not apply for grey water irrigation.

Before a shower, save the water that would otherwise go down the drain with a bucket. Collected water can then be used to water indoor and outdoor plants.

Benefits of Grey Water Recycling

- Save money on water bill
- Use less treated drinking water
- Reduce pressure on waste water treatment
- Reduce pollution going into waterways
- Delay expansion of drinking water and waste water treatment infrastructure

Considerations

- Depending on the greywater recycling system, the payback period may extend past the lifespan of the system
- Grey water systems must meet municipal and [provincial regulations](#) and building code
- Systems must be align with Health Canada [Guidelines for Domestic Reclaimed Water for Use in Toilet and Urinal Flushing](#)
- Potential cross connections with potable water lines must be properly controlled so that the potable water supply is not contaminated
- Landscape irrigation systems using grey water must be designed by a professional or a Registered Onsite Wastewater Practitioner, and filing documents must be submitted to the Health Authority
- Grey water should only be used for non-food crops
- Grey water is considered sewage – when it leaves a building, it must be disposed of in accordance with the sewerage system regulation

Resources

- [Health Information: Grey Water Re-use](#)
- [Canadian Guidelines for Water Reuse](#)
- [Water Savings and Financial Benefits Associated with Single Family Package Greywater Systems](#)
- [A Homeowners Guide to Outdoor Water Use](#)

Provision of this information does not represent an endorsement by the CRD of the conclusions reached by studies or a recommendation of any of products or techniques.

More Information

- [Outdoor Water Saving Tips](#)
- [Irrigation Systems](#)
- [Natural Gardening](#)



What is the CRD?

The Capital Regional District (CRD) is the regional government for 13 municipalities and three electoral areas on southern Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands, serving about 440,000 people. [Read more >>](#)

[» Get Involved](#)

Contact Us

Main office address:
625 Fisgard Street
Victoria, British Columbia
Canada V8W 1R7

Tel. 250.360.3000

[» Contacts, Locations & Hours](#)

Territorial Acknowledgement

The CRD conducts its business within the Territories of many First Nations, including but not limited to BOKEĆEN (Pauquachin), MÁLEXEL (Malahat), P'a:chi:da?ah (Pacheedaht), Spune'luxutth' (Penelekut), Sc'ianew (Beecher Bay), Songhees, SÁÁUTW (Tsawout), T'Sou-ke, WJOLEEP (Tsartlip), WSIKEM (Tseycum), and x^wsepsəm (Esquimalt), all of whom have a long-standing relationship with the land and waters from time immemorial that continues to this day.

[» Statement of Reconciliation](#)