



**the partnership
for water sustainability in bc**

Convening for Action in British Columbia



WHO WE ARE:

- The *Partnership for Water Sustainability in BC* is a not-for-profit society.
- We are integrators. We play a bridging role between the Province, local government and community.
- The Partnership is not government, but government is very much part of the Partnership.
- We are volunteers.

WHAT WE DO AND WHERE:

- The Partnership embraces “shared responsibility”.
- We are the hub for a “convening for action” network in the local government setting.
- We develop tools. We develop talent. We focus on outcomes.
- For the past decade, the Partnership has been delivering the *Water Sustainability Action Plan*.
- We are the stewards for *Stormwater Planning: A Guidebook for British Columbia*; and are building on the Guidebook foundation via the “Beyond the Guidebook Primer Series”.

Water sustainability in the local government setting will be achieved by implementing green infrastructure policies and practices. How we get there relies on a change in mind-set and “land ethic”. Our role is to facilitate that change.

HOW WE CAN HELP LOCAL GOVERNMENT BE SUCCESSFUL:

- A sound policy framework is in place for achieving water sustainability through green infrastructure.
- Successful program delivery depends on collaboration, alignment and partnerships.
- We understand government at all levels; and from high-level policy to action on the ground.
- The Partnership has a track record of successful collaboration with three Ministries.
- The Partnership has a track record of facilitating inter-regional collaboration among local governments.
- We are plugged in at the staff level with those whose focus is on outcomes.
- While WATER is our passion and brought us together, we are much more than WATER.
- We bring a holistic approach to LAND and WATER. We connect dots. We make things happen.
- We raise community awareness and engagement.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

- Contact Kim Stephens, Executive Director: kstephens@watersustainabilitybc.ca or 604-817-4657
- Subscribe to our weekly e-blasts! Send your request to Kim Stephens.
- Visit our website: www.waterbucket.ca

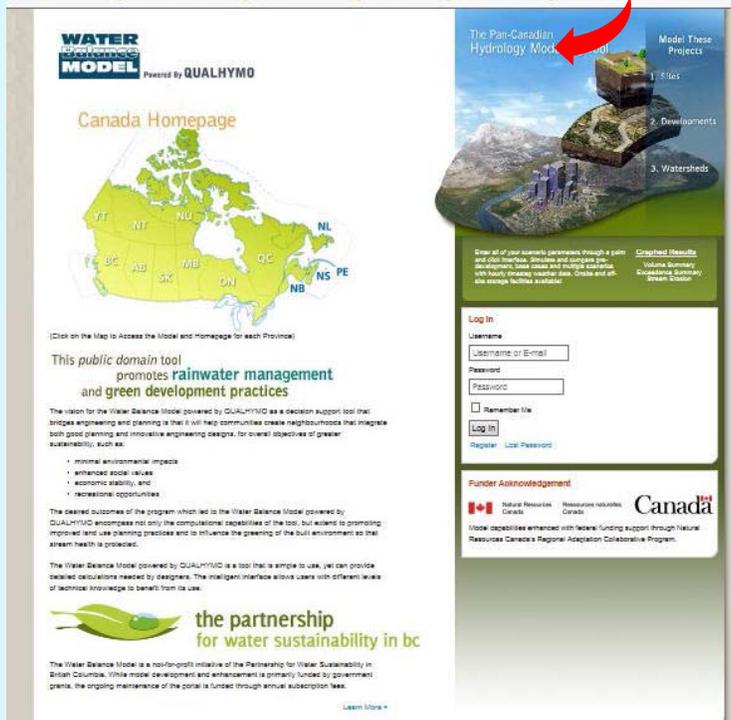
Partnership for Water Sustainability in BC

A Selection of Initiatives and Tools

<p>Convening for Action in BC</p>	<p>This is the ‘convening for action’ mantra: <i>When we gather; it is for a purpose. There must be an action item or an outcome.</i> Committed to achieving settlement in balance with ecology and economy, the grass-roots collective partnership approach is founded upon collaboration. It reaches across boundaries. It brings together those who plan and regulate land use (local government) those who build (developers) and those who provide the legislative framework (the Province).</p> <p>This collaborative model results in the provision of expertise and support to local governments and organizations with a focus on achieving water sustainability through the sharing of ideas and success stories based upon a common vision.</p>
<p>Georgia Basin Inter-Regional Education Initiative</p>	<p>Launched in 2012, the <i>Inter-Regional Educational Initiative for ‘Rainwater Management in a Watershed Sustainability Context’</i> provides the framework for consistent messaging and consistent application of tools and understanding on both sides of the Georgia Basin. The ‘proof of approach’ was successfully implemented in 2012 on Vancouver Island.</p> <p>Now, the Metro Vancouver region and the four largest Vancouver Island regional districts are formally collaborating to develop a performance monitoring framework that can be used to adjust actions and inform land use planning that maintains healthy streams.</p>
<p>Beyond the Guidebook Primer Series</p>	<p>With release of <i>Stormwater Planning: A Guidebook for British Columbia</i> in 2002, BC was the first provincial or state government in North America to adopt the Water Balance Methodology. The methodology enables local governments to establish performance targets for land use. The goal is to protect watershed and stream health.</p> <p>The “Beyond the Guidebook Primer Series” is adding depth to specific aspects of the Guidebook. The goal is to inform and educate infrastructure, land use and environmental professionals about core concepts related to implementing actions at the site scale that will achieve desired outcomes at the watershed scale.</p>
<p>Water Balance Model for BC</p>	<p>Developed in 2003 as an extension of <i>Stormwater Planning: A Guidebook for BC</i>, the <i>Water Balance Model</i> is a web-based tool for doing scenario comparisons. It links the site to the watershed and stream. It helps communities establish performance targets and ‘design with nature’ so that land development mimics the water balance. The model is tailored to multiple levels of users who have a wide range of technical backgrounds, from hydrology experts to planners to stewardship groups.</p>
<p>Waterbucket Website</p>	<p>Recognizing a need for a single point of access to news, information and tools for sustainable water management in BC, the waterbucket.ca website was launched in 2005. The site supports an array of virtual “communities of interest” with features that resemble those of a real community as well as a growing library of information resources on the BC experience and it houses “Made in BC” tools and experience.</p>
<p>Water Conservation Calculator</p>	<p>Designed for use by small to mid-size communities, the <i>Water Conservation Calculator</i> is a free, web-based decision-support tool. It is used to illustrate how specific water conservation measures can yield both fiscal and physical water savings for communities. It can be used to assist communities in meeting the conditional requirements of provincial capital grant programs while meeting both local and provincial commitments to water sustainability.</p>

www.waterbalance.ca

The Canada homepage



Founding Members of the Water Balance Model Partnership (formed in 2002)

1. Ministry of Environment
2. Ministry of Community Development
3. Ministry of Agriculture
4. Environment Canada
5. Canada Mortgage & Housing
6. Fisheries & Oceans Canada
7. Metro Vancouver
8. District of West Vancouver
9. District of North Vancouver
10. City of North Vancouver
11. City of Vancouver
12. City of Coquitlam
13. District of Maple Ridge
14. District of Mission
15. City of Surrey
16. City of New Westminster
17. Municipality of Delta
18. Township of Langley
19. City of Abbotsford
20. City of Chilliwack
21. City of Courtenay
22. Town of Comox
23. District of Central Saanich
24. Cowichan Valley Regional District
25. District of Highlands
26. District of Metchosin
27. City of Kelowna

bc.waterbalance.ca

The BC homepage



www.waterbucket.ca

The homepage

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The Home of the Waterbucket & the Water Balance Model
Communities of Interest & Water Sustainability Tools and Resources

The Partnership helps the Province of British Columbia to implement the [Living Water Smart](#) and [Green Communities](#) initiatives. This is done through a shared responsibility in delivering the [Water Sustainability Action Plan](#). We have been a catalyst for a 'design with nature' approach to land development; and are the steward for [Stormwater Planning: A Guidebook for British Columbia](#). We also lead the "[Beyond the Guidebook](#)" initiative and provide local governments with tools and experience to be more effective and efficient.

Water, Water Everywhere....

The common perception is that British Columbia has an abundance of water... But does it?

We are often water-short when demand is greatest. And now our climate is changing. We can expect wetter winters, and longer and drier summers.

This perspective provides context for action to achieve water sustainability: climate change mitigation is about CARBON, and adaptation is about WATER.

Featured

About the Partnership for Water Sustainability in British Columbia

The vision of the Partnership is that water sustainability will be achieved through implementation of green infrastructure policies and practices. The Partnership mission is to facilitate change. Because the Partnership is the hub for a 'convening for action' network in the local government setting, we are positioned to facilitate alignment of regional and local actions with provincial goals. By providing education, research, technical training and tools, we can help communities move from awareness to action to both reduce the increased demand for water and protect stream health from the adverse consequences of land development practices. [Read More](#)

Become a Member

Sign up to receive Waterbucket eNews

First Name:

Email:

[Register Here for Free](#)

Your info will never be sold, rented or given away.

Visit your Community of Interest:

- [Convening for Action](#)
- [Green Infrastructure](#)
- [Water-Centric Planning](#)
- [Rainwater Management](#)
- [Vancouver Island Water](#)
- [Agriculture & Water](#)
- [More Communities](#)

Convening for Action:

REGISTER NOW for seminar on Sustainable Rainwater Management: Mimic the Water Balance to Protect Watershed & Stream Health

September 19, 2013

Founding Members of the Waterbucket.ca Website Partnership (formed in 2004)

1. Ministry of Environment
2. Ministry of Community Development
3. Ministry of Agriculture
4. Ministry of Health
5. Land & Water BC
6. BC Hydro PowerSmart
7. BC Gas
8. Metro Vancouver
9. Capital Regional District
10. Stewardship Centre of BC

Links to 8 Communities-of-Interest

Beyond the Guidebook¹ Primer Series

Integrating the Site with the Watershed, Stream and Aquifer

Primer on Rainwater Management in an Urban Watershed Context (2011)

<http://www.waterbucket.ca/rm/sites/wbcrm/documents/media/239.pdf>

Provides engineers and non-engineers with a common understanding of how a science-based approach to rainwater management has evolved since the mid-1990s.

Primer on Urban Watershed Modelling to Inform Local Government Decision Processes (2011) <http://www.waterbucket.ca/rm/sites/wbcrm/documents/media/243.pdf>

Provides engineers and non-engineers with guidance in three areas: setting performance targets, defining levels-of-service, application of screening / scenario tools.

Primer on Integrated Rainwater and Groundwater Management for Lands on Vancouver Island and Beyond (2012), http://waterbucket.ca/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/3_Primer-on-Integrated-Rainwater-Groundwater-Management-for-Lands-on-Vancouver-Island_April-2012.pdf

Provides engineers and non-engineers with a common understanding of the links between rainfall, groundwater movement and surface flows in sustaining aquatic life.

Primer on Land Development Process in BC: Industry Standards of Practice in Implementing Rainwater Management (2013) http://waterbucket.ca/cfa/files/2013/09/4_Primer-on-Land-Development-Process-in-BC_September-2013.pdf

Provides context and general guidance for implementing rainwater management systems at the site, subdivision, neighbourhood or community scales.

Primer on Underground Rainwater Discharge – Facility Siting and Design Practices for Protection of Groundwater Resources (to be released in October 2013)

Provides context and specific guidance for design of engineered systems for collection and underground discharge of rainwater runoff far below the ground surface.



*Mimic the Natural Water Balance to Reduce Risk,
Protect Watershed and Stream Health, and
Comply with Regulatory Requirements!*

¹Stormwater Planning: A Guidebook for British Columbia
<http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/mun-waste/waste-liquid/stormwater/index.htm>