

ENVIRONMENTAL EFFORT

Carbon Emission Planning

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The District of Peachland is dedicated to enhancing and embracing a community that is environmentally sustainable now and into the future. Therefore, the District has embarked on numerous environmental efforts that span a number of working programs, policies, documents, bylaws and departments. Perhaps, most importantly the District has been diligent in developing a Sustainability Action Plan that will address among other things the reduction of green house gases (GHG's).

WASTE

Waste Reduction/Recycling
Sanitary Landfill
Hazardous Waste Collection (oil, paint, chemicals)
Sewage Disposal
Composting

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Sustainability Action Plan
Sustainable Hillside Development
Water Source and Conservation
Official Community Plan
Integrated Pest Management Plan
Riparian Area Regulations (RAR)
Anti-Engine Idling Policy
Boulevard Tree Planting – Subdivision Development Policy

Waste Reduction/Recycling

Peachland in conjunction with the Regional District of the Central Okanagan Waste Reduction office have implemented an automated waste collection program. This program makes recycling, disposal of garbage and yard waste much easier for the residents. The most notable aspects of this program are that residents now have biweekly yard collection as opposed to a monthly collection system and that there is no charge for a larger recycle bin if needed. This is in contrast to having to pay for larger garbage containers; thereby the program should have the effect of promoting recycling over throwing things in the garbage. Additionally, there is no need for the added plastic of recycling, yard and garbage bags.

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Hazardous Waste Collection

Residents are encouraged to return hazardous wastes (oil, paint, chemicals) to the point of purchase. The Westside Landfill accepts dry, hard or empty products throughout the year.

Sewage Disposal

The lower portion of the District of Peachland, including the downtown area, is connected to the Westside Sewer System by a sewer line which, in part, lies under the water of Okanagan Lake. Phase II of sewer is now completed. Phase III is to commence in 2013. Installation of sewer has had a positive impact on Okanagan Lake. This it was found that leaking of septic tanks was increasing both nitrogen and phosphorous levels within the lake impacting complex biological ecosystems.

Sanitary Landfill

The Peachland Landfill was closed a number of years ago and now is home to the Community Compost Site.

Composting

The former Peachland Landfill site is now home to the Community Compost. Yard waste, grass clippings, leaves and small branches can be deposited at the community Compost site, which is open daily and is located at the top of Princeton Avenue.



Sustainability Action Plan

The district is currently embarking on developing a Sustainability Action Plan. This plan will set both corporate and community GHG reduction targets while providing the necessary direction to achieve those targets. Aspects being developed for the plan although not yet completed or implemented are:

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Sustainability Statement on Development Permit Applications

The District of Peachland will require that on all Development Permit applications the applicant gives a statement regarding how their development will address sustainable aspects. The idea in implementing this measure is that an applicant will have to give some thought on how their proposed development will be more sustainable and environmentally friendly at the early stages of application.

Sustainable Development Checklist

The District of Peachland is in the process of developing a Sustainability Checklist, that will be completed by the applicant. The intent at the initial stages of deployment of the checklist is that it will act as an educational tool for developers. We will score the applications based on the checklist and relate the score back to the developer. At later stages of checklist development (possibly years) it is possible that a developer will have to obtain a certain score based on the sustainability checklist before an application is approved.

Setting Corporate and Community Wide GHG Emission Targets

The District of Peachland has just finished developing a corporate GHG baseline for 2008. It was found that District's corporate operations emitted 316.7 tCO₂e in 2008. Although targets for reduction have not yet been set the establishment of a baseline is a significant hurdle that most communities within the province have not yet completed. In addition work is currently being conducted to develop an Energy Management System (EMS) for the District. This system will delineate actions that can be taken at all levels of the District's corporate operations to facilitate GHG reduction through teamwork.

Green Bylaws

The District of Peachland is investigating a number of green bylaws for development and implementation. Perhaps, the most applicable within the Peachland context will be the development of a Solar Ready Bylaw. This is because of Peachland's orientation to the sun and because there are more sunlight hours per annum in the Okanagan than anywhere else in Canada.

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Sustainable Hillside Development - Checklist, Policies and Guidelines

In 2009 the District of Peachland received a study conducted by Golder and Associates. This study titled ``Sustainable Hillside Development Study Peachland, BC``.

This study provides a scientific framework to assess steep slopes in relation to groundwater and terrain type. As such a new checklist, policies and regulations will be implemented by the District in the near future.

Sustainable Hillside Development Checklist

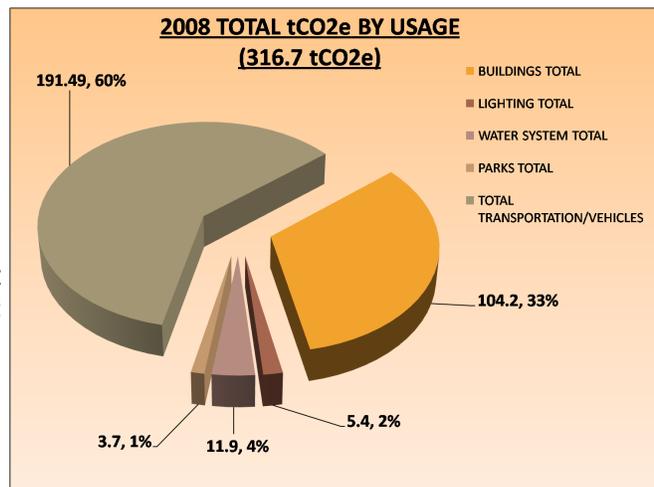
The District of Peachland will be working in close conjunction with neighbouring municipalities to develop a Sustainable Hillside Development Checklist. This checklist will address such things as visual aesthetic considerations and hazard rating classification.

Sustainable Hillside Development Policies and Guidelines

Guidelines regarding Sustainable Hillside Development Guidelines will be used in conjunction with the above noted Sustainable Hillside Development Checklist and will include requirements for slope investigation, monitoring of slope stability, subdivision guidelines, municipal servicing and building design as examples.

Water Source and Conservation

Peachland is serviced by three separate water systems, known as Water System #1 (Trepanier Creek), Water System #2 (Ponderosa), Water System #3 (Peachland Creek).



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Water System #1 (Trepanier Creek)

WS #1 services the Downtown Core between Highway 97 and Okanagan Lake, Clements Crescent, the Elementary School and Shopping Mall, north to Trepanier Heights.

W S #1 has two water sources: Trepanier Creek, which is the main water source and Lake Okanagan. In 1992 the Ministry of Highways built an emergency water supply pump and building to draw water from Okanagan Lake in the event that Trepanier Creek was ever contaminated by a spill on the Coquihalla Connector Highway. The emergency system has been used by the District to supply water when there is a concern about the water quality or quantity in Trepanier Creek.

Water System #2 (Ponderosa)

WS #2 services the small area of Ponderosa Drive and the Ponderosa Golf course; WS #2 has two wells and pumps which operate 24 hours per day, providing approximately 2,101,000 l/day.

Water System #3 (Peachland Creek)

WS #3 services everything from Somerset Place south to Hardy Street and all the streets that run off of Princeton Avenue. WS #3's main source of water is Peachland Creek, which flows into Peachland Lake. The water is stored in Peachland Lake via a dam constructed by Brenda Mines. At the time of the mine closure in 1990, the District of Peachland assumed control of the dam and the mine's water storage allotment. This allows the District to store enough water for domestic usage, while still allowing enough water to flow through and provide an abundant amount of water in the lower reaches for fish and wild-life.

Conservation

The District of Peachland is a member of the Okanagan Basin Water Board and supports all water conservation educational initiatives within the valley. Perhaps, more importantly the District of Peachland in 2007/2008 had residential water meters installed. Currently, residents are receiving mock water bills so that they can understand their water usage, it's cost and from that information make the necessary adjustments before real water bills go out in 2010.

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The District of Peachland has also implemented Bylaw #1688 A Bylaw to Prescribe Water Use Restrictions. There are stages of watering restrictions as found within the Bylaw a brief description of each stage are as follows:

Stage 1 – Alternate Days Watering

Even numbered addresses: Watering is only permitted on even calendar days
Odd numbered addresses: Watering is only permitted on odd calendar days

Stage 2 – Twice a Week Watering

Even numbered addresses: Watering is only permitted on Saturdays and Tuesdays
Odd numbered addresses: Watering is only permitted on Sundays and Wednesdays

Stage 3 – Once a Week Watering

Even numbered addresses: Watering is only permitted on Saturdays
Odd numbered addresses: Watering is only permitted on Sundays

Stage 4 – No Outdoor Watering

No person shall use water outdoors for any purpose

Official Community Plan (OCP)

The Official Community Plan has just undergone an update. The OCP is a complex document that deals with sustainable land use practices and outlines a 20 year plan for the District in terms of future land use.

There are many environmentally sustainable statements within the OCP. Most notably the District of Peachland has Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESA`s) mapped and when there is a development within these areas a Development Permit must be obtained.

It was found during the OCP update process that the mapping of ESA`s within Peachland could be better.

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As such two key initiatives have been undertaken by the District, these include:

Terrestrial Ecosystem Mapping

A more comprehensive Terrestrial Ecosystem Map has just been developed for Peachland by Makonis Consulting. The next step will be to incorporate it into the OCP and make all necessary amendments in ESA's as found to be appropriate. This new mapping is a significant improvement over the mapping of the past.

Foreshore Inventory Mapping

The District of Peachland in conjunction with the Okanagan Basin Water Board and the South Okanagan Regional District is currently undertaking foreshore inventory mapping. This when completed will be used to update the OCP Foreshore Development Permit Area Guidelines.

Integrated Pest Management

The District of Peachland has a 25% tolerance of infestation before any herbicides or pesticides are even considered for use. Consideration is always given to the least invasive method of control. That is where natural substances can be used effectively they are. As an example the District has used vinegar and lime juice as way to control weeds. Most importantly, a 15m buffer is always used from Okanagan Lake. In most cases within Peachland this means that no herbicides or pesticides are used east of Beach Avenue.

New Pesticide and Herbicide Bylaw

The District of Peachland is currently working on a bylaw to restrict the use of harmful herbicides and pesticides within the community.

Biological Controls

The District of Peachland is fortunate to have enough success with natural predators, such as ladybugs, syrphid flies and wasps.

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Riparian Area Regulations (RAR)

Riparian Area Regulations apply to all communities within the province. These regulations stipulate that a report must be submitted to the province from a Qualified Environmental Professional (QEP) if there is any disturbance of natural vegetation within 30m of a stream, river or lake.

As an example, the District is currently installing a wheelchair ramp at Swim Bay and as part of the project a section of Heritage Park was given riparian enhancements. Moreover, the District has taken the initiative to go beyond RAR requirements. For example, the Parks department has plans to enhance stream-side riparian areas on Trepanier Creek.



Anti-Engine Idling Policy

The District of Peachland has an anti idling policy for all District vehicles. It stipulates that no vehicle can idle for more than 3 minutes at one time.

Boulevard Tree Planting – Subdivision Development Policy

The District of Peachland requires a developer that is creating six or more parcels to pay a levy of \$125.00 per lot created for the planting of boulevard trees.