

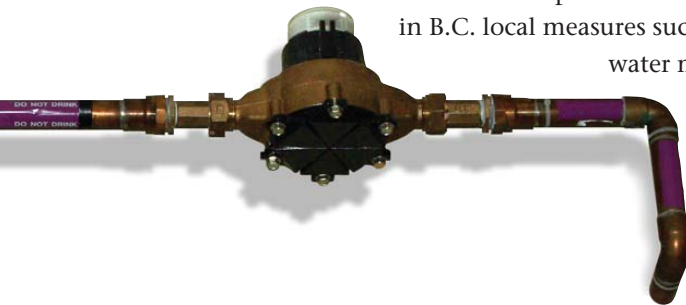
Living Water Smart

CHOOSING TO BE WATER SMART

reduce your use!

Did you know we drink less than three percent of the municipally-treated water we use? The rest goes down the drain, down the toilet, or is used to wash our cars and water our gardens. This is both expensive and wasteful. We can do better, saving water and money!

Countries in Europe have reduced their water consumption to a third of what we use by adopting water-efficient practices and technologies. Already in B.C. local measures such as conservation planning, water metering, green buildings, and water efficiency requirements in plumbing codes show



how successfully we can cut our water use, energy bills, and help the environment. If conservation measures are not sufficient, we may have to start pricing water use.

Household purple pipes are a second set of plumbing that captures rainwater and recycles leftover water from the dishes, washing and showers. This 'extra' water can be used for flushing toilets and watering gardens, this means we can save the best water for drinking and take less from the environment.



WATER WISE FACT

A water saving toilet (6 litres per flush) can save you up to 14 litres each time you flush! For the average family that's 25,000 litres per year, with that water you could fill 25 hot tubs!

GOVERNMENT POSITION

Government will fund household evaluations of water, energy, and transportation use.

The Green Building Code will require water-conserving plumbing fixtures such as low flush toilets.

By 2010, government will mandate purple pipes in new construction for water collection and reuse.

Tucson Approves Greywater Regulations

Posted: October 13, 2008

According to the *Arizona Daily Star*, all new homes built in Tucson, Ariz., after mid-2010 will need to include plumbing for a greywater system. The new rules require stub-outs for greywater systems for all new homes that are issued permits after June 1, 2010.

The regulations affect only new construction, not existing houses, unless the homeowner builds an addition with a new bedroom, bathroom and kitchen. A newly constructed guesthouse on an existing property would need the greywater plumbing.

Installation of a greywater pumping system is not required, only the plumbing so the bigger system could be installed later.

Builders would be required to install pipes and other plumbing hardware to collect the greywater. A separate set of pipes would be required to take water directly from washing machines to yards.

The greywater plumbing would cost \$500 to install — although home builders can knock off \$200 of that through a state income-tax credit — and the cost would likely be passed on to home buyers. Homeowners then could choose to install additional pipes, underground tanks to store the water and a pump to move the water outdoors.
