



Air & Waste Management
A S S O C I A T I O N

**Vancouver
Island
Chapter**

Tuesday, February 28, 2006

***** Ambrosia Catering *****

638 Fisgard Street, Victoria, BC

11:30am - 1:30pm

" Thinking Outside The Pipe: A New Paradigm?"

Jody Watson

Harbours and Watersheds Coordinator, Capital Regional District

Until recently, the traditional approach to drainage has been to remove runoff as quickly as possible from developed areas. As a result, traditional urban design is very efficient in collecting, concentrating, conveying and discharging stormwater to receiving environments. However, this approach is limited because it focuses only on the fast conveyance of the extreme storms and often creates substantial erosion and downstream flooding in receiving environments. New research and technologies, public concern related to flooding, habitat loss and public interest in raising local environmental and habitat protection standards are driving a change in thinking. Projects which try to mimic the natural environment (i.e. water cycle) and improve the ecological

functioning of environments within urban areas are achieving significant results and support from the local community. Meeting various, and often competing community, ecological and engineering objectives requires us to rethink the way we do business and challenges us to "think outside the pipe".

Restoration of urban environments to their natural states is often not practical; however, urban development, redevelopment and infrastructure upgrades offer opportunities to improve watershed, stream and shoreline health at minimal capital costs and at huge benefit to the community. This presentation will discuss three examples of "thinking outside the pipe" where an integrated design team worked together on projects that met several engineering, community and ecological objectives. The following case studies will be discussed:

1. a Capital Regional District project to restore a 45-metre section of Bowker Creek (increased floodplain, created planting terraces and stabilized steep slopes using bioengineering techniques) during a sewer pipeline upgrade project
2. a partnership project between The Land Conservancy, the City of Victoria and the Capital Regional District to restore a 60-metre section of shoreline along the Gorge Waterway during a major upgrade of the trunk sewer
3. A Seattle Public Utilities project to mimic the natural water cycle in an entire neighbourhood using innovative Street Edge Alternatives

Luncheon Details

\$10 - paid up AWMA members (Intl)
\$20 - non-members
\$10 - students

****Cash or cheque only****

Lunch and coffee will be served at noon. Vegetarian lunches are available when arranged at time of RSVP

Parking: Pay parking is available at the City Parkade right across the street or at numerous lots along Fisgard and in the area.

RSVP: Donna Grant @ 360-3256 or E-mail: dgrant@crd.bc.ca before **3:00pm on Friday, February 24, 2006.**

Cancellation Policy

Cancellations will be accepted at no charge up until 3:00pm on the Friday prior to the luncheon by contacting Donna Grant.

Regrettably, cancellations made after this time will be subject to a \$25 service charge, as the Chapter is billed regardless of late cancellations. This will be invoiced and is requested to be paid prior to attending future luncheons.