



LIQUID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLANNING

Key dates for residents and landowners in Saratoga/Miracle Beach

| | |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| October, 2005 | Newsletter mailed to landowners |
| December 1, 2005 | Public information meeting Costs, financing and landowner responsibilities |
| January, 2006 | Voter registration |
| January, 2006 | Newsletter mailed to landowners |
| January, 2006 | Public information meeting Land use issues and social impact |
| February 4, 2006 | Referendum vote |

Every vote counts! Visit www.rdcs.bc.ca for more information.





Overview of the Proposed System

ADVANCED WASTEWATER TREATMENT WITH BENEFICIAL REUSE

- Membrane Filtration
- UV Disinfection
- Beneficial reuse
(discharge to ground/stream)

This system was chosen because of its high standard of final water quality and its low impact on the environment. It presents a higher initial cost and higher annual operating and maintenance costs than other options that involve marine discharge, but was selected because it meets the community's expressed desire for a system that does not discharge into the ocean.

This option provides treatment of waste water through the use of a membrane filtration activated sludge process, followed by disinfection with ultra-violet light. The final effluent will meet the provincial unrestricted reclaimed water standard, a standard that is set to guide how water can be re-used after it goes through the system. The final disinfected effluent would be of such high quality that it could be used for irrigation, stream flow augmentation or groundwater recharge. (Effluent will meet a standard of 5 mg/l TSS, 5 mg/l BOD and 2.2 CFU/100 ml.)

Collected wastewater will be brought to a treatment facility located south of Black Creek, Block 15, Land District 29. Effluent will be discharged to a constructed wetland/infiltration basin with ultimate release to Black Creek to improve the streamflow. Environmental impact studies will take place and confirmations from federal and provincial governments will be obtained prior to any effluent being discharged into Black Creek.

Helping You Make a Good Decision

The Regional District of Comox-Strathcona (RDSC) is recommending the following wastewater treatment system to residents of Saratoga Miracle Beach. On February 4, 2006, residents will be asked to vote on whether to adopt this system.

If adopted, and if infrastructure grants are obtained from the provincial and federal governments to complete the system, work will begin with a one-year design phase. After the design is complete, the system will be installed over two to three years.

More detailed information on voting, the referendum, and project financing will be sent to you before the referendum.

| OVERVIEW OF THE PROPOSED SYSTEM | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| SYSTEM COSTS | Average cost per lot (\$) | Average costs if 2/3 infrastructure funding is obtained (\$) |
| Collection system | 19,808 | 6,602 |
| Treatment and discharge | 12,746 | 4,248 |
| Capital cost per lot | 32,554 | 10,850 |
| 20 yr financing/year | 3,099 | 1,033 |
| Annual operations and maintenance | 300 | 300 |

Referendum Quick Facts

A referendum is the most common and straightforward voting process to determine community preference on an issue. Everyone who is eligible to vote is granted one vote. The Local Government Act determines the referendum process.

Who is eligible to vote?

1. Resident Electors *You can vote if you are:*

- Age 18 or older; and
- A Canadian citizen; and
- A resident of British Columbia for at least six months immediately before the day of the day of registration; and
- A resident of the proposed Saratoga /Miracle Beach Sewer Service Area for at least 30 days immediately before the day of registration; and
- Not disqualified by any enactment from voting in an election or otherwise disqualified by law.

2. Non-Resident Property Electors *You can vote if you are:*

- Age 18 or older; and
- A Canadian citizen; and
- A resident of British Columbia for at least six months immediately before the day of registration; and
- A registered owner of real property in the proposed Saratoga / Miracle Beach Sewer Service Area for at least 30 days immediately before the day of registration; and
- Not entitled to register as a resident elector; and
- The only persons who are registered owners of the property must be individuals who do not hold title to the property in trust for a corporation or another trust; and
- Not disqualified by any enactment from voting in an election or otherwise disqualified by law; and
- If there is more than one registered owner of the property, only one of those individuals may, with the written consent of the majority of the owners, register as a non-resident property elector.

A successful vote requires 50%, plus one vote, of the total votes cast in the referendum be in favour of adopting the new system.

See over for key dates leading up to the referendum.