

An Integrated Stormwater Management Plan for White Rock

The City of White Rock 877 Keil Street White Rock, B.C. V4B 4V6

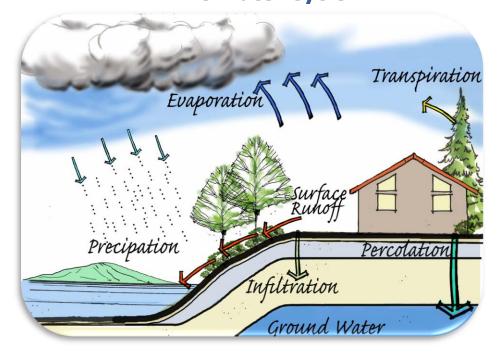
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The City of White Rock has recently initiated the development of an Integrated Stormwater Management Plan (ISMP). An ISMP is a plan that brings together **engineering**, **planning** and **environmental** perspectives to create a long-term strategy for effectively managing stormwater. The ISMP will identify specific strategies to protect and restore the natural watershed; to reduce the threat of flooding and erosion; and to guide sustainable community development. This ISMP is one of several important initiatives the City is undertaking to improve the community's sustainability.

What Happens to Rainwater?

Water moves through a continuous, closed cycle, above and below the surface of the Earth. We must responsibly manage the water we use today, as it will be the same resource we draw from in the future. Under natural conditions (i.e., no development), soil and plants absorb rainwater, filter out impurities and replenish groundwater or feed streams. During development, buildings, roads and other "impervious surfaces" replace soils and vegetation. This causes the volume and rate of runoff, as well as the level of contaminants in the runoff to increase. When it rains, runoff quickly flows over impervious surfaces and enters the City's storm drains, most of which empty into Semiahmoo Bay.

The Water Cycle



How Will the City Use the ISMP?

- To implement land use regulations and policies
- To encourage sustainable development practices
- To improve water quality and environmental conditions
- To invest in drainage infrastructure
- To reduce the risks of flooding and erosion
- To establish funding strategies



The ISMP Process

Stage 1: What Do We Have?

Stage 1 is now underway. Urban Systems is busy gathering data on rainfall, water quality, infrastructure, etc. to complete the analysis.



Stage 2 is about identifying a vision for the watershed and assessing strategies to realize that vision. As part of the consultation process, the City is calling on White Rock residents to help identify stormwater related objectives for their community.



Once clear direction has been set, the next stage will be to develop an implementation plan. The implementation plan will include action items related to: drainage infrastructure, environmental enhancement, policy and regulations, education, land use, and monitoring.

Stage 4: How Do We Stay On Target?

Implementing an ISMP is an ongoing process. To make sure the City stays on track, key performance targets, a monitoring program, an assessment plan, and an adaptive management process will be developed in Stage 4.







If you have any questions regarding this process please contact:

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