



# Public Works

## 2009 Highlights

### Water

- **Naramata Water System:** reservoir cleaning was completed on the Juniper reservoir, seven new water connections were added, older section of lake intake pipe was cleaned by divers, ongoing valve maintenance, peat removed from Elinor Dam and an audit of dole valves for irrigation customers commenced
- Hydrant maintenance completed in Olalla and Naramata
- Mainline valve maintenance ongoing in Naramata, Faulder and Olalla water systems
- In accordance with IHA Permit to Operate, water sampling and monthly and annual reporting were completed for Apex Circle, Faulder, Naramata and Olalla Water Systems
- Cross Connection Control (CCC) Program.

### West Nile Virus and Mosquito Control

- Three Mosquito personnel carried out the nuisance mosquito abatement program and the West Nile Virus Protection Program from May to August throughout the RDOS
- Increased helicopter usage in the Similkameen resulted in a more successful program in that area
- Approximately 10,000 West Nile Virus pamphlets were mailed out to RDOS residents
- Brochure sent to 8,000 residents regarding mosquito larva and old tires resulted in a massive Tire Pick Up program and hundreds of tires were picked up by RDOS staff.

### Solid Waste

- Okanagan Falls Landfill 2009 Capital Project—developed Okanagan Falls site into a regional Demolition Landclearing Construction Landfill
- Campbell Mountain Landfill Recycling Depot Area Phase 2 was completed
- Keremeos Fence—partnership with adjoining property owner
- Upgraded monitoring wells and refined gas and water monitoring programs at landfills
- Working with Engineering Services on a new Solid Waste Management Plan.

## Sewer

- OK Falls Sewer Collection system was flushed and videoed and several maintenance projects were completed including clarifier work and improved odour reduction from the drying beds
- Four connections were added.

*Air Quality, Waste Reduction, Bear Aware, Invasive Plants—see “RDOS Committed to the Environment” next page*



Top to bottom:  
Naramata Water Pumphouse  
Clarifier OK Falls Sewage Plant  
Mosquito Control



# RDOS Public Works—Committed to the Environment

## **Air Quality**

- Agricultural Wood Waste Disposal/Chipping Program—69 growers participated in 2009
- RDOS Agriculture Plastics Recycling Program diverted 107,639 kgs from landfills in 2009
- Wood Stove Change Out Program—63 participants changed out their old wood stoves
- Climate Action Facilitator Program
- Destination Conservation Pilot Program
- Education Initiatives including Clean Air Day, Children’s Festival and Anti-Idling Initiative
- Okanagan Similkameen Airshed Coalition
- RDOS Smoke Control Bylaw-a draft bylaw is currently in review
- Air Coalition Memorandum of Understanding signed with the North and Central Regional Districts
- For more information on 2010 Air Quality Programs, see [www.rdos.bc.ca](http://www.rdos.bc.ca) click on Air Quality.

## **Bear Aware**

- Bear hazard assessment done by consultant
- Bear/human conflict management plan was prepared as a step in the ongoing process of becoming a “Bear Smart Community.”

## **Invasive Plants**

- Assessed 116 kilometers of KVR trail systems in the Summerland-Princeton and Naramata areas
- Provided advice to numerous stakeholders on invasive plant management
- Completed 59 releases of biological control agents
- Provided community education through “Weed of the Week” articles, radio interviews, school presentations and community event and festival attendance as well as provided direct advice to 130 landowners
- Annual Report submitted by consultant.

## Water

- Assisted Engineering Services with the development of a Water Conservation Program for agricultural users in Naramata
- Audited flow restrictor in Naramata to ensure fairness in water allotment and reduce over usage.

## Waste Reduction

- Upgraded monitoring wells and refined gas and water monitoring programs at landfills
- Monitored groundwater and landfill gas at all landfills
- Established household battery recycling depots at Penticton RONA, Oliver Home Hardware and PACE E-Waste in Penticton
- Developed an RDOS Master Composter Program
- Sold over 1300 composters in a composter sale event as well as providing seven public events for the Master Composter Program
- Environmental Mind Grind was another success with 21 teams competing from all over the Regional District.

Material	Amount diverted
Organics	75,000 cubic metres
Electronic Waste	110 metric tonnes
Gypsum (drywall)	1,000 metric tonnes
Metals	1,300 metric tonnes
Refrigeration units (Ozone Depleting Substance removed, units recycled)	2,000 units
Tires	9,500
Lead Acid Batteries	35 metric tonnes
Various Household	30,000 kilograms
Various Household Hazardous Waste (liquid)	25,700 litres
Asphalt shingles	967 metric tonnes



### At the RDOS office

- Installed low flush toilets
- Expanded office recycling and composting programs
- Helped coordinate Bike to Work week
- Living Green incentives for staff.



# Community Services

The Community Services Department provides leadership, expertise and support to a variety of functions within the Regional District. Community Services include the Regional Emergency Management Program, Fire and Rescue Services (seven RDOS Volunteer Fire Departments comprised of approximately 150 volunteer fire fighters) and contracting of the administration of the general operations of the 911 Dispatch service to the Central Okanagan Regional District in partnership with the RCMP and the Fire Dispatch service to the City of Penticton.

Additionally, RDOS funds ten Parks and Recreation Functions that include eight RDOS Board appointed Commissions and two Service Contracts with 60 active volunteers. The RDOS owns and maintains community assets that consist of ice rinks, community facilities / halls, swimming pools, playgrounds, tennis courts, riding stable, skateboard parks, ball fields, and libraries. Nine Regional Parks provide swimming, sandy beaches, hiking trails, historic sites, picnic areas and baseball diamonds as well as unique topography, flora and fauna. The RDOS Click, Hike & Bike™ web site contains a trail information database that provides you with a wealth of information and online maps on over 150 existing trails.

## **2009 Highlights**

### **Organizational**

- Worked to create and develop a new department

### **Protective Services**

- Conducted an Emergency Social Services Exercise
- Supported a major highway closure and wildfires through Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) activations
- Municipal Ticketing Bylaw adjudication process.

### **Parks and Recreation**

- South Okanagan Secondary School Auditorium Agreement
- Parkland donations (Area H/Cow Pad Park and Area F/West Bench)
- Amendment of the Oliver and District Parks and Recreation Society Structure
- Establishing Performance Measurements for our peripheral operations.

### **Economic Development**

- Assisted with the establishment of the Economic Development Office in Okanagan Falls

## Grants Flowing Through the Department in 2009

WED/CAF Interface Wildfire Protection Funding	\$1,730,000
NRCAN Interface Wildfire Planning	\$25,000
UBCM Interface Wildfire Plan Prescriptions	\$163,000
Trees for Tomorrow Grants, Area A, C, D, H	\$174,000
CAF Job Opportunities, Recreational Trails, Area E, F, H	\$485,000
Economic Development, Area D	\$38,000
Rural Summerland Trans Canada Trail	\$100,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,715,000</b>



Osoyoos Lake Park

KVR Trail

HWY 97 - Closure EOC

Manitou Park Naramata



# RDOS - Committed to Economic Development

In August of 2009, an Economic Development Function was introduced to Area D. Under the leadership of Area Director Bill Schwarz, who secured funding for this initiative, an Economic Development Office is now operational in Okanagan Falls. The Economic Development office is located in the Visitor's Centre as part of the historic museum complex.



Okanagan Falls Beautification and Re-Branding Concept Image

## 2009 Highlights

### Downtown Beautification and Re-Branding

- Phase One of the beautification/branding program for Okanagan Falls is currently underway. The program will include banners on lampposts, new lampposts, benches, flower pots, directional signage and signature elements.

### Website

- A new website for Electoral Area D will be launched in the first quarter of 2010. It will highlight information on the communities within Area D, businesses, tourism, special events, news items and much more.

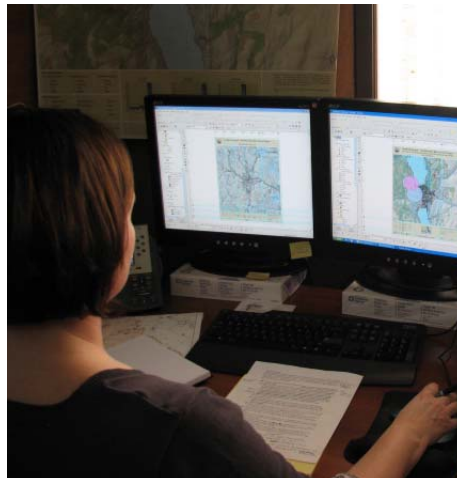
### Okanagan Falls Business Park

- Economic Development Office is working with owners of the former Weyerhaeuser Mill site to plan for a mixed-use commercial/industrial/housing development for the 155 acre parcel of land. This development will produce economic benefits for the community well into the future.

# Information Services

A huge amount of data and information is required to support the services provided by the RDOS. Information Services promotes and facilitates the use of this information, creating efficiencies within the RDOS and enabling staff, Board members and citizens to make better, more informed decisions.

- Continued GIS partnership support for Oliver, Osoyoos, Keremeos and Princeton
- Received \$20,000 in grants from ICIS and BC Assessment for joint ortho project between RDOS and the municipalities of Penticton, Oliver, Osoyoos, Keremeos and Princeton
- Upgrade of the phone system allowing for more functionality. Achieved through a partnership with School District 67
- Renegotiated Blackberry contracts for a savings of 30% over previous contacts
- Development of an in-house system to track Tangible Capital Assets
- Development of Time Tracker to accurately account for allocation of staff time
- Separated LAN (Local Area Network) to a number of separate vLANs (or virtual LANs) thereby making the RDOS system more secure
- Set up Virtual Server which means purchasing fewer servers with savings in hardware, electricity and enhanced redundancy and disaster recovery
- Expanded data server to accommodate increased demand and use of digital information
- Leveraged our partnership with School District 67 to provide better backup IT support for RDOS at a lower cost.





# Finance

The Finance Department of the Regional District is responsible for the preparation of the annual operating budget that establishes the tax rate for each service that the Regional District provides. In addition to taxation there are local services such as water, sewer and garbage that are funded through user fees. This department administers the billing and collection of these user fees and is also responsible for all internal management reporting.

The Regional District does not directly collect taxes. The Provincial Government Agents office is responsible for the collection of taxes in the rural areas of British Columbia. Municipalities collect the regional district taxes directly from citizens within their boundaries.

## **2009 Highlights**

- Tangible capital assets
- Launching of grant tracking system
- Budget process review and implementation
- Quarterly variance reporting



## Photo Credits

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Agricultural wood chipping

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