

# *Bamfield Water Newsletter*



## New Leak Policy Adopted

On November 26th, 2014 the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District adopted a new leak policy. Bamfield property owners can apply for a 50% leak adjustment for excess water volume charges resulting from a leak. To be eligible for an adjustment the leak must be repaired and proof of the repair (receipts for any materials or services related to that repair) must be provided within a reasonable time from the discovery of the leak.

The leak policy and adjustment form can be found on the Regional District website at [www.acrd.bc.ca](http://www.acrd.bc.ca) or requested from the office at 250-720-2700. The completed form must be returned to the office as soon as possible. If your leak adjustment request is approved, a credit of fifty percent (50%) of the dollar amount of the overage will be applied to your account, and you will receive an amended bill.

The policy does not authorize additional adjustments within three (3) years of another adjustment request without the request being approved by the Bamfield Water Committee.

### **Contact**

#### **information:**

- Regional District address:  
  
3008 5th Ave  
Port Alberni, BC  
V9Y 2E3
- For general inquiries  
contact @ (250)720-2700
- For billing inquiries  
contact (250)720-2702 or  
[accounting@acrd.bc.ca](mailto:accounting@acrd.bc.ca)
- For water system  
problems contact  
Les Butler (250)728-1260

## Water Treatment Pilot Project

The Regional District completed the testing of water treatment options during November. The results are being analyzed and a report with recommendations and costs is due from Koers & Associates Engineering early in the New Year. The results of the report will be shared with the community.

### 2015-2019 Financial Plan Presentation

Please be advised that a Regional District representative will be at the February Community Affairs meeting to present the draft Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District 2015-2019 Financial Plan

**When: Monday, February 16th, 2015  
at 7:30pm**

**Where: Bamfield Community School**

### Transfer to Taxes

Any outstanding tolls as of February 13th, 2015 will be transferred to your rural property tax account and can be paid through the local property tax office:

Service BC  
4070 8th Avenue  
Port Alberni, BC  
V9Y 4S4  
Tel: 250-720-2040

# DO YOU HAVE A WATER LEAK?

## Identifying and fixing leaks is easy and will save you money

### Check your meter

The easiest way to identify leaks is to read your water meter. A black triangle located on the face of your water meter will rotate with even a modest flow. Observe the triangle when you know you are not consuming water. Any rotation means consumption. In order to determine the magnitude of a leak check at night. Before you go to bed, write down the number on your meter. When you wake up, before you use any water, read the number again. Subtract the night reading from the morning and you will know how much water you have used. If the number has changed – you have a leak.

### Finding Leaks—Common Causes

#### Toilet

The most common cause of unidentified leaks in the home is the toilet. Silent, leaking toilets can waste a large amount of water every month. For example, a leaking toilet can waste .006 m<sup>3</sup> per hour or 13 m<sup>3</sup> or \$26 per quarter. To check if your toilet is leaking, add some food colouring to the tank and wait ten minutes. If the water in the bowl changes colour, you have a leak

#### Faucet

Worn O-rings and washers often cause faucets to leak or drip. While it seems insignificant, one drip per second amounts to .001 m<sup>3</sup> per hour or over 2 m<sup>3</sup> or \$4 per quarter. You will be able to see or hear most dripping faucets. Replacement parts are available at hardware stores.

#### Irrigation System

Whether you use an in-ground sprinkler system or a single oscillating head, check it carefully for leaks. The average garden hose delivers .027 m<sup>3</sup> of water a minute, so a split in the hose or a poor coupling will waste large amounts of water. Make sure the outdoor faucet is turned off after each use, even small drips add up to big waste. If you have an underground irrigation system, check if it is leaking. Walk around irrigated areas; if a patch is constantly wet, you may have a leaking pipe.

#### Showerheads

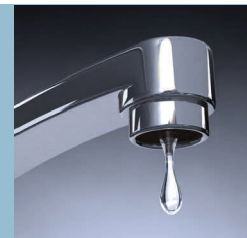
Leaky shower heads are also easy to spot visually. In some cases the leak will only be noticeable during the shower when some sprays are misdirected. This is wasting water and can easily be fixed by cleaning out the showerhead.

#### Leaking Pipes

A 1 mm hole in a 1.5 cm diameter pipe will waste some 100 m<sup>3</sup> of water or \$200 per quarter. Depending on the size of the hole and the pipe, a continuous leak will cost you hundreds of dollars per quarter. That's why it's important for you to locate and immediately repair such leaks.

### What to do if you find a Leak

Once you find a leak, repair it as soon as possible. Hire a plumber to help if you are the least bit nervous or inexperienced. Most parts and equipment are available locally.



**Contact Information:** To help locate your water meter or if you have any other questions please contact your water system operator, Les Butler @ 250-728-1260.