



LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES

Unlike a municipality, infrastructure in the RDCK falls under the responsibility of many jurisdictions and includes both public and private community water systems, on-site septic disposal, fire protection, utilities, and solid waste management and recycling. These assets enable the basic functionality of the region and must be sustainably managed to meet quality of life standards and accommodate future growth.

CURRENT TRENDS

Water Providers. There are no RDCK water systems in Area I. Water supply is generally provided through groundwater wells or surface water licensing (both individual and small water users groups).

Water Quality. Boil water notices persist in parts of Area I.

Aquifer Vulnerability. RDCK initiated an Aquifer Vulnerability Assessment in response to concerns regarding water quality and quantity in the community of Shoreacres during the initial review of the OCP to develop aquifer vulnerability mapping to inform land use policy and decision making within the project area.

On Site Septic. Septic is regulated by Interior Health Authority. RDCK bylaws require new subdivisions to be assessed for capability of a Type 1 system. Septic is also reviewed at the building permit stage.

Fire Departments. Pass Creek Fire Hall and Tarrys Fire Hall are located in Area I.

Energy. Brilliant Dam and Generating Station owned by Columbia Power and Columbia Basin Trust is located in Area I. Power is provided by Fortis BC. Antidotal information states energy needs are growing and there may be limited access.

Waste Management. Ootischenia land fill is operated by RDCK and located in Area J. Approximately 21,000 tonnes of waste are landfilled here each year.

Recycling. Approximately 2900 tonnes of waste diverted each year. Diverted materials include: corrugated cardboard, glass containers, metal containers, mixed waste paper, plastic containers (#1 - #7), plastic bags. Area I and has private recycling pick up.



WHAT DOES THE CURRENT OCP SAY?

Encourage proper use of water so that such use does not pollute the resource.

Protect groundwater and surface water from degradation through improper disposal of water borne waste.

Promote adequate provision of water and sewer services to all users.

Provide for an adequate level of fire protection within the plan area.

Co-operate with appropriate utility companies to adequately provide services to the plan area.

Plan for sufficient capacity to accommodate the proper disposal of solid wastes.

Provide services to seniors near senior housing developments.

CHALLENGES

- Multiple jurisdictions managing on-site servicing
- Gaps in information and data on on-site servicing
- Small water systems and individual water sources are vulnerable to drinking water advisories or over subscription of water resources
- Development present outside of fire protection areas or in areas with a lack of water capacity for fire fighting
- Managing servicing and community assets, which are near capacity or end of life

OPPORTUNITIES

- Utilize land use planning to ensure that the density and intensity of land use is not increased beyond available servicing capacity
- Monitor land use activities and employ best management practices to protect surface and ground water supply zones
- Investigate alternative and innovative building design, construction, and servicing techniques for residential and commercial construction reflective of the needs of rural communities and supportive of green infrastructure
- Increase diversion of waste through increased recycling and new composting programs

RESOURCES

Drastic-Based Vulnerability Study - Shoreacres Aquifer (2019)

Regional Watershed Governance Initiative Project (2020)

RDCK Water Management Plan and Acquisition Strategy (2010)

RDCK Resource Recovery Plan (2021)

Interior Health Authority



Stay Involved:

<https://rdck.ca/PlanArea1>