

SCRD Adopts Comprehensive Regional Water Plan

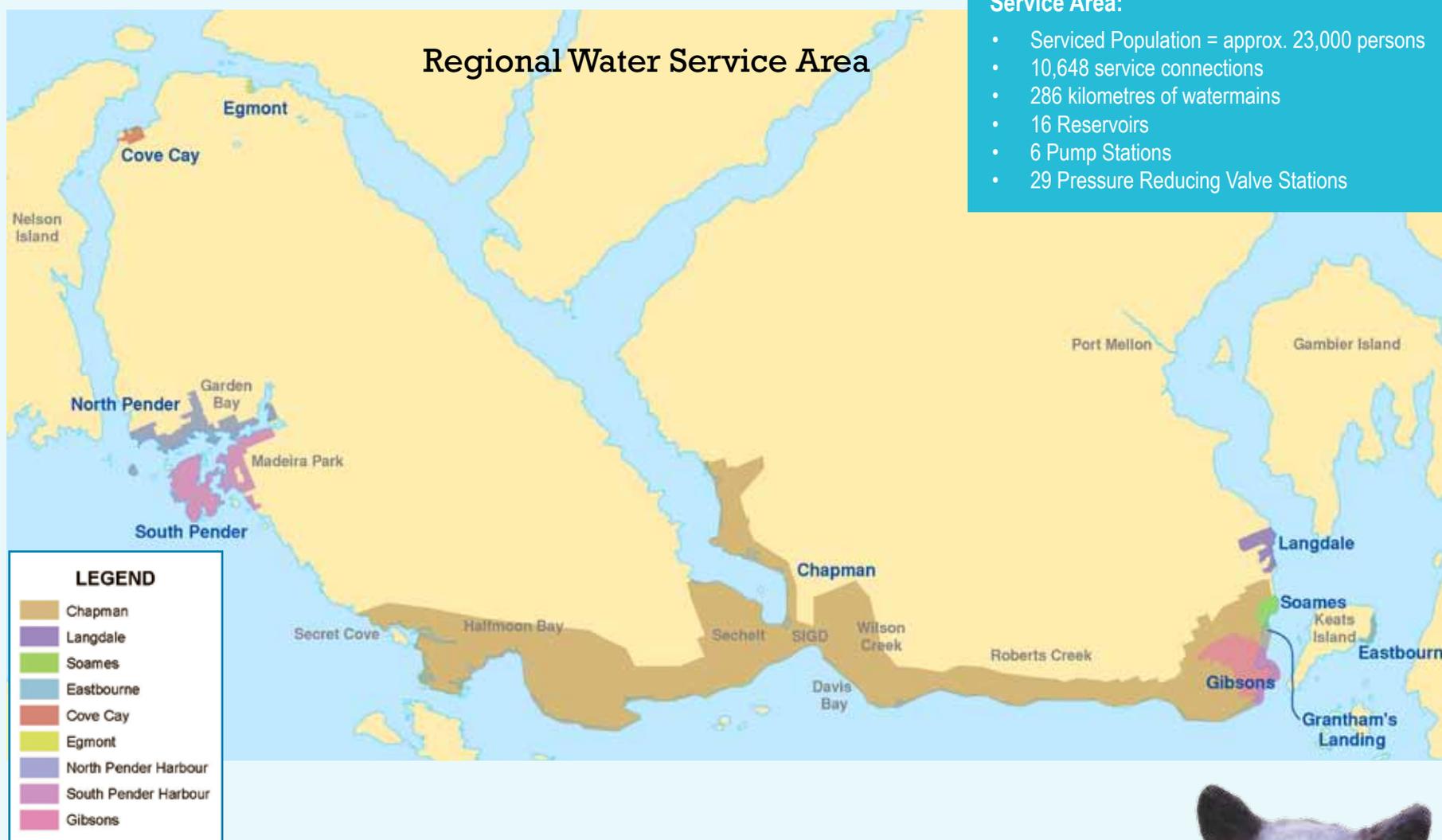
On June 13, the SCRD adopted the Comprehensive Regional Water Plan for the Regional Water Service Area, which encompasses all the municipal drinking water systems from Langdale to Earls Cove, with the exception of the North and South Pender Harbour systems, Hopkins Landing, and two-thirds of

the Town of Gibsons. The Chapman system is the largest, servicing over 90% of regional water customers. The Plan projects long term water needs of the area and identifies the most cost-effective infrastructure and management measures required to meet those needs sustainably over the next 25 years.

Key recommendations are a combination of: water conservation education; universal metering; increased water storage; access to Chapman Lake storage during summer peak periods; and expansion of facilities as needed.

Quick Facts about the Regional Water Service Area:

- Served Population = approx. 23,000 persons
- 10,648 service connections
- 286 kilometres of water mains
- 16 Reservoirs
- 6 Pump Stations
- 29 Pressure Reducing Valve Stations



Composting with care in bear country

On-site backyard composting is the most effective and environmentally-friendly way to manage the organic "waste" your home produces. Your compost should not attract bears if it is maintained correctly and other attractants are managed responsibly.

In the Sunshine Coast Regional District, we send about 12,000 tonnes of waste to landfills every year, 450 kg per person. About 30% of this is food waste, the largest component that can be diverted from landfills.

Five Simple Steps to making compost in bear country:

1. Be Unattractive

Ensure that your yard does not provide easy food sources for bears, such as poorly maintained compost or unpicked ripe fruit.

2. Work Together

Collaborate with your neighbours so that your immediate neighbourhood follows all the preventative measures to reduce human-bear conflicts, such as putting garbage out the morning of collection day.

3. Go Big on Brown

Maintain a healthy compost bin to prevent odours that can attract bears. The key to a healthy compost bin is equal proportions of brown materials and green materials.

4. Add Oxygen

Mix and aerate every time you add food scraps to encourage the oxygen-loving aerobic bacteria in your bin, especially at the compressed bottom of your heap.

5. Bury Fruit

Large volumes of fruits or other particularly odorous greens should be buried under at least 12" of soil in a hole or trench to make their odours less detectable to bears, or taken to a large-scale compost facility.

For more information, go to www.scrd.ca.

