Westside plant reuses more water

Reclaiming and reusing water at the Westside Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant is saving water and money.

Since a water reclamation project was completed in the summer, there has been a dramatic reduction in the amount of potable drinking water needed for everyday use around the Gellatly Road plant, which treats a daily average of nine million litres of waste-

Last spring, the Central Okanagan regional district, which maintains and operates the plant, received a \$25,000 water conservation and quality improvement program grant from the Okanagan Basin Water Board. The grant along with just over \$10,000 from the regional district was used for a major upgrade to a small-water reclamation system at the plant.

"We've always used a small amount of treated plant effluent water around the facility, but were using a vast amount of treated, potable drinking water," said regional district spokesman Bruce Smith. "With the grant, we were able to substantially upgrade our system ... to use the newly filtered treated plant water in appropriate areas of the plant.

"As a result, we've significantly decreased our use of regular quality drinking water and we've seen our water bill plummet."

For example, last summer the plant used 3,212 cubic metres of potable drinking water, a drop of 67 per cent from the same period in 2012. Now that the expanded water reclamation system is in place, over a year, the plant's total water consumption is expected to drop by





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Fab wine tasting

Above: Gill Rau, left, and Marlene Boehm of Kelowna taste wine and chocolate during the second annual Fab Winter Wineland Holiday Open House at The View Winery on Saturday. Four other wineries took part in the event - House of Rose, Camelot Vineyard Estate, Vibrant Vine and Spierhead. Together, they market themselves as the Fab Five. People could make a donation to the food bank and receive a complementary wine tasting along with special sale prices of wine.

Right: Jennifer Molgat of The View stands beside her daughter, Madeleine, 11, as she holds donated food that will be given to the Kelowna Community Food Bank thanks to donations made at the event.



Students collect 5,000 pounds for food banks

Enactus Okanagan College students weren't scared to face hunger head on this Halloween. The students collected more than 5,000 pounds of non-perishables for local food banks by hosting collection events on Oct. 31 at Save-on-Foods in Vernon, Kelowna and Penticton.

The Trick or Eat campaign, which also saw students going door-to-door for donations, is part of the Help Hunger Disappear Challenge — a cross-Canada initiative sponsored by the Campbell

This initiative is important because it brings short-term hunger relief to those that need it most, and raises awareness on the issue of hunger in our community," says Brittney Weatherill, a fourthyear Okanagan College business student and Enactus Okanagan College's vicepresident of sponsorship.

"I got involved because Enactus enables me to give back to my community and help individuals with a hand up, not just

Since the program's inception, Enactu Okanagan College has collected more tha 270,000 pounds of food, which helped the win the Help Hunger Disappear Nation Championship for four years running.

"Once again, the Campbell Company Canada is excited to work with the team Enactus Okanagan College," said Ro Jean, Campbell manager of B.C. Interio "The energy and commitment they brin to such an important cause is inspiring

Forum to consider future of health care

By J.P. SQUIRE The Daily Courier

Kelowna-Lake Country MLA Norm Letnick is hosting his ninth free public health forum Saturday on The Future of Health Care.

Letnick has lined up - industry experts Eric Gombrich, Dr. Kim McGrail and Dr. John Millar for a panel discussion followed by a question-and-answer session

The forum is 1-3 p.m. at Creekside Theatre. 10241 Bottom Wood, Lake Rd. in Lake Country — the George Elliot Secondary School community complex.

Gombrich has almost 30 years of experience in health-care information techUBC's School of Population and Public Health, and an associate with the Centre for Clinical Epidemiology and Evaluation.

Her research focus is variations in healthcare services use, aging and health-care services use, understanding health care as a determinant of health, comparative health policy, and the development of health information and technology.

Millar is a consultant and a UBC professor in the School of Population and Public Health after a 15-year career in clinical medicine, surgery, health policy and administration in the developing world.

After serving as a medical health officer in several B.C. jurisdictions Millar was

MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

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