

waterlution

evolving our relationship with water

Water and Agriculture

The Future of Water Workshop Series 2011: Exploring the Future of the Okanagan Valley



Are you interested in exploring challenges and opportunities for sustainable water management?

Do you want to meet and discuss water issues with innovators within government, private and community sectors?

**Residential Workshop June 10-12 2011
Okanagan Valley, British Columbia**

Hosted by Waterlution:

Hosts

Ineke Kalwij, -- Waterlution Associate & water management professional
Duncan Martin – Waterlution Associate & urban permaculture designer/builder

Resident Mentor

Nelson Jatel – Water Stewardship Director at the Okanagan Basin Water Board

Special guests

Bob Hrasco – Administrator, Black Mountain Irrigation District.
Denise Nielsen - Research Scientist, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
Marlowe Sam – Colville Confederated Tribe and UBCO Doctoral Student
John Wagner – Assistant Professor of Anthropology at UBCO
Anna Warwick Sears – Executive Director at Okanagan Basin Water Board

Purpose of the program:

The brush strokes on almost any BC wine label portray a thriving oasis of life and opportunity in British Columbia's Okanagan Valley, but how long can this image continue? The Okanagan Valley makes up a quarter of BC's agricultural economy and is a growing destination for tourists and residents alike. As the region struggles to meet its water needs, it faces numerous challenges. Summer droughts worsen as upland water retention falls victim to clear cuts, mountain pine beetle and earlier snow melts. Meanwhile, vital groundwater aquifers are tapped with virtually no regulation.

We can shorten our showers and let the grass turn gold, but the elephant in the room remains; with farming accounting for more than half of the region's freshwater consumption, how will the Okanagan's agriculture industry evolve to ensure its continued role as a major BC food producer?

With speakers, farm visits, and discussion groups, the workshop will examine the scope of pressures facing the Okanagan Watershed. More importantly, participants will explore *solutions* from both supply and demand perspectives, encouraging a holistic approach to a complex and ongoing challenge.

Workshop Agenda*:

Friday, June 10 – Orientation

6 PM arrive at Silver Lake Education Centre.

Welcome and Introduction, Duncan Martin and Ineke Kalwij. Refreshments will be served.

Nelson Jatel: Overview of water use issues and key players in Okanagan Valley

Saturday, June 11 – Guest Speakers and Field Visits

8:00 Breakfast

Morning Session

8:30 Anna Warwick Sears, Executive Director, Okanagan Basin Water Board

9:15 Denise Nielsen - Research Scientist, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

10:00 John Wagner – Assistant Professor of Anthropology UBC-Okanagan

10:45 Marlowe Sam -- Colville Confederated Tribe, UBC-Okanagan Doctoral Student

11:30 Bob Hrasko – Administrator, Black Mountain Irrigation District.

Afternoon Session with Bagged Lunch

Field visits demonstrating water use and conservation practices:

1:00 Claremont Ranch Organics

2:30 “No H₂O” Xeriscape garden

3:00 Summerhill Pyramid Winery

4:00 Carmelis Organic Goat Cheese Farm

6:30 Dinner served back at the camp, with down-time, canoeing, swimming, and entertainment

Sunday, June 12th -- Workshop Discussions

8:00 Facilitated group discussions

12:00 Lunch at Silver Lake Forestry Centre

2:00 Wrap up and Closing Circle

* Details subject to change

Participants should plan to attend the full length of the workshop in order to facilitate, discuss and encourage growth throughout the experience.



Who Should Apply?

There is space for 24 individuals/young professionals between the ages of 18-35 to participate in the workshop. In an effort to foster broad dialogue, we are looking for applicants that represent the public, private, academic and NGO sectors. Participants do not have to be working in the water or agricultural sector; all participants that demonstrate an interest in water and/or agriculture will be considered.

How to Apply

If you are interested in participating in the workshop, please go to www.waterlution.org/workshops and click on this workshop. Hit the "Apply Now" button below the workshop description, and get started! You will be required to include information on personal/professional experience relevant to water resource management, multi-stakeholder dialogue, and general involvement in your community. If you have any questions, please contact Tori Goodday, Waterlution Program Manager at tori@waterlution.org or 514 291 0291.

APPLICATION DEADLINE IS FRIDAY, MAY 24.

Cost of Participation

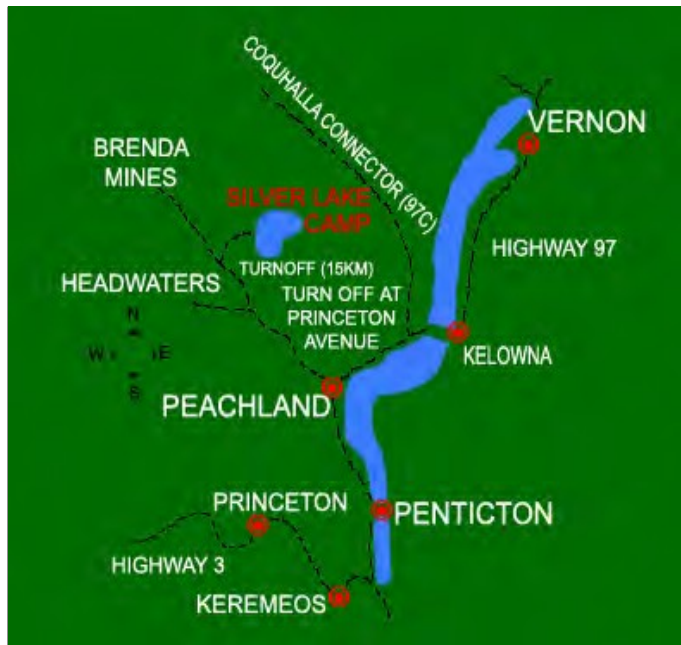
Participants accepted into the workshop are required to pay a \$40 participation fee. Aside from this fee, there are no additional costs to participants during the residential workshop period related to accommodation, meals, or otherwise. Successful applicants may pay by cash or cheque. **All cheques should be made payable to Waterlution – A Water Learning Experience. Please mail to: Waterlution, 50 Old Mill Rd, Suite 401. L6J 7W1. Oakville, Ontario.** Only with receipt of your registration fee is your space confirmed. Applicants who cannot afford this fee should make note of this in their applications. Waterlution supports outstanding individuals and cost will not be a barrier to participation.

What is a “Residential Workshop”?

A unique learning opportunity where participants stay at an on-site location and undertake in-depth discussion on key issues through both facilitated and informal sessions. Note that car-pooling options from Kelowna and Penticton will be available. Participants will stay as Waterlution's guests at the Silver Lake Forestry Centre outside of Peachland.

Take advantage of extended learning and networking opportunities! The Waterlution experience reaches beyond the scope of the workshop. After the weekend, participants will join the over 800 members nationwide using the online Waterlution Community Network to share resources and news.

Befriend us! www.facebook.com/waterlution.canada. **Follow us!** www.twitter.com/waterlution



Getting to Silver Lake Forestry Centre

From Highway 97 turn onto Princeton Ave. Follow Princeton Ave up hill for 5 kms. The road will turn to a gravel road. Continue up Princeton Ave on Gravel Road. At 11 kms you will come to the headwaters junction. Take the right fork in road back onto pavement. Travel another 4 km and you will find the "Welcome to Camp Sign" on the right side of the road. Turn right (east) on the camp access road and follow to main gates. (900 meters).

For more information on previous workshops and outcome documents visit www.waterlution.org

Apply now at www.waterlution.org/workshops

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION IS FRIDAY, May 24, 2011

This workshop will fill up quickly so get your application in as soon as possible!

Contact Duncan Martin with questions at: Duncan@waterlution.org

Project Partners

