



Excerpt from Eco-Sense April 2007 Update

Part of the reading program this month was a brilliant book. Full of pictures and words, and good information, with a real important message. The message was “This is how you plumb your house in BC”. The new BC Building code 2006, Section 7, Plumbing Services should be the next book sponsored on Canada Reads. I wanted to learn how to side step code, and hard wire the house to conserve water, while at the same time control gray water flows. Sunday morning over my fourth coffee it finally hit me. Hydraulic volume! I had to go! The problem is there is only a limited amount of flow through the supply line, and I quickly realized the similarity of my fixture to those in the house.

Just as you would expect, the BC Building code had a table all about hydraulic volumes, and fixture units. I had to play around a bit, (with the tables), but I was able to devise a plan to reduce the standard code-dictated fixture units, and drop them down, so that our 2 inch grey water pipe would be an adequate size to handle our volumes. We wrote an “alternative solution to meet the intent of the code”, for our inspector, which he then researched and came back with some more offerings. Voila, simple as communicating a need, and we had the plan.

The plan in a nutshell is to drop supply lines from the code’s ½ inch, down to 3/8 inch, and at each fixture use a flow reducer. House and Greywater systems now are sized properly to work together and achieve our goals of reducing water flow at the fixtures.