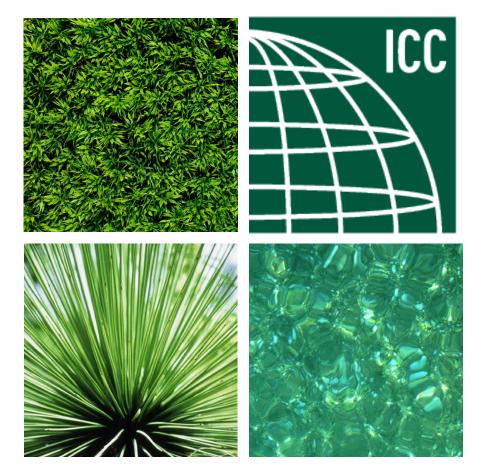
# This presentation premiered at WaterSmart Innovations

watersmartinnovations.com



Residential Graywater Reuse – *A Technology Whose Time Has Come?* 



Date: Thursday, October 7, 2010 Time: 10:40 - 11:10 AM Location: Napa B



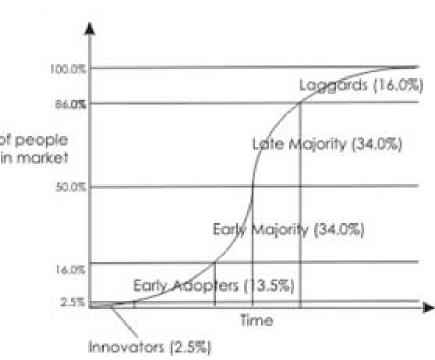
### Topics

Introduction Indicators of Greater Acceptance Continuing Impediments Conclusion and Summary

## **Graywater Adoption**



- Where is graywater on the Rogers Innovation Diffusion Curve?
- What's driving the technology % of people in market forward?
- What's holding it back?



### Introduction

# **Onsite Graywater Water Systems**

- Lightly contaminated wastewater collected from fixtures for reuse.
  - Excludes wastewater containing fecal matter, food waste (blackwater).
- Graywater may be used for many applications (depending on local regulations)
  - Subsurface irrigation (usually untreated)
  - Flushing
  - Irrigation
  - Water features
  - Fire suppression



# Grey or Gray?

- IPC: Graywater
- IGCC: Graywater
- ASHRAE 189.1: Gray water
- UPC: Gray water
- NSPC: Graywater
- Canada: Greywater
- Australia: Greywater



NOT Potable

But...

NOT Blackwater



# **Graywater Sources**



#### Specifically Permitted

Bathtubs

- Showers
- Lavatories
- Clothes Washers
- Laundry Trays

#### **Specifically Prohibited**

- Toilets
- Urinals
- Kitchen Sinks
- Dishwashers

#### Ambiguous

- Drinking fountains
- Floor drains

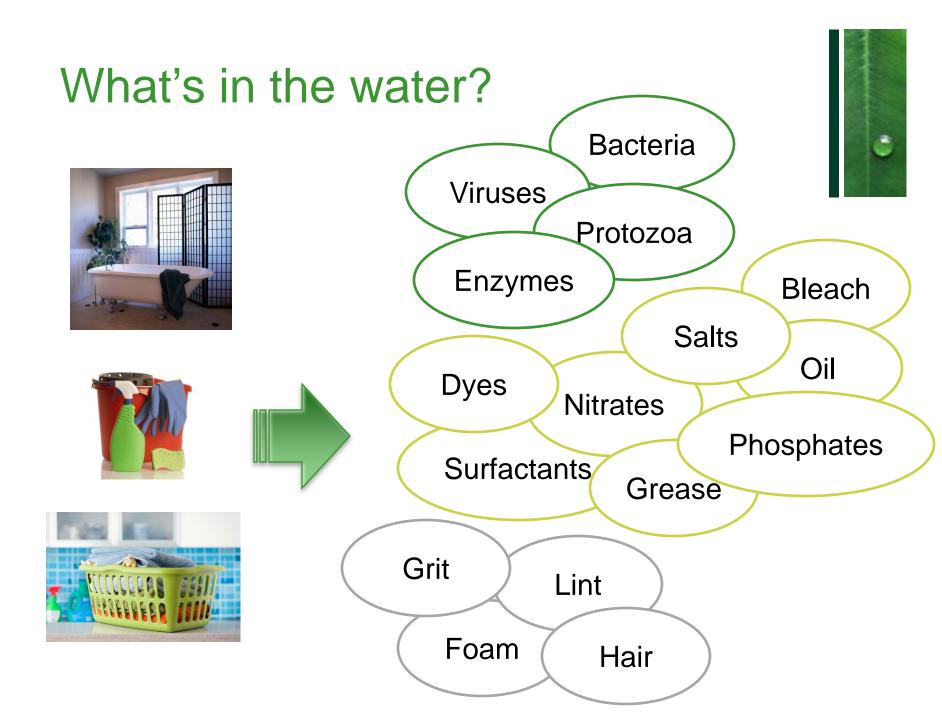


# Intermingling – To Mix or Not to Mix?



- Rainwater
- Swimming pool and other filter backwash
- AC Condensate
- Steam/Boiler condensate
- Foundation drainwater
- Municipal reclaimed water





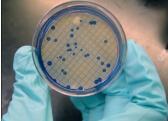
# How does it compare to wastewater?



| Parameter                   | Graywater                         | Wastewater                        |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Suspended Solids (mg/L)     | 45-330                            | 100-500                           |
| BOD <sub>5</sub> (mg/L)     | 90 - 290                          | 100-500                           |
| рН                          | 6.6-8.7                           | 6.5-8.5                           |
| Nitrite (mg/L)              | < 0.1 - 0.8                       | 1-10                              |
| Ammonia (mg/L)              | <1.0 - 25.4                       | 10-30                             |
| Total Coliform (CFU/100 mL) | 10 <sup>2</sup> - 10 <sup>6</sup> | 10 <sup>6</sup> - 10 <sup>8</sup> |
| E. Coli (CFU/100 mL)        | 10 -10 <sup>5</sup>               | 10 <sup>6</sup> - 10 <sup>8</sup> |

Canadian Guidelines for Domestic Reclaimed Water, Jan. 2010.







### Indicators of Greater Acceptance

# Integrated Systems -Packaged Onsite Graywater Systems

- Integrated "appliances" eliminate the need for engineered systems
  - Reduced need for specialized installer skills
  - Control units integrate disinfection, monitoring, alarms/notifications
- Standards under development to address water quality, system features, and maintenance
  - NSF 350 Residential Wastewater Treatment Systems
  - CSA B128.3 Performance of Non-Potable Treatment Systems



**BRAC Systems** 

# NSF 350 – Onsite Residential and Commercial Water Reuse Treatment Systems

- Scope: Onsite residential and light commercial approx up to1500 gal/d treatment capacity
  - Specifies different artificial influent challenge water criteria depending on whether single or multiple source is intended.
  - Applications include nonpotable restricted and unrestricted indoors and outdoors (single criteria).
- 26 week testing using standardized artificial challenge water under several loading scenarios.
- Status
  - Ballot released September 21, public comment in Fall 2010
  - Release in early/mid 2011

# CSA B128.3 Performance of Non-Potable Water Treatment Systems

- •
- Scope: Onsite residential and light commercial non-potable water treatment systems approx 2650 gal/d treatment capacity or less.
  - Recommends, but does not specify influent criteria. Allows artificial or actual graywater influent. Permits single or multiple source testing.
  - Applications include nonpotable restricted and unrestricted indoors and outdoors (separate criteria)
- 46 week testing using standardized artificial challenge or actual graywater under several loading scenarios.
- Status
  - Ballot with TC in October, no additional public comments
  - Release spring or late summer 2011



## **Comparison of Effluent Criteria**

|                                   | NSF 350 Class R    |                             | CSA B128.3 Unrestricted |                          | CSA B128.3 Restricted |                             |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Parameter                         | Test<br>Average    | Single<br>Sample<br>Maximum | Test<br>Average         | Single Sample<br>Maximum | Test Average          | Single<br>Sample<br>Maximum |
| CBOD <sub>5</sub> (mg/L)          | 10                 | 25                          | 10                      | 20                       | 10                    | 25                          |
| TSS (mg/L)                        | 10                 | 30                          | 10                      | 20                       | 10                    | 25                          |
| Turbidity (NTU)                   | 5                  | 10                          | 2                       | 5                        | 2                     | 5                           |
| E. Coli (MPN/100 mL)              | 14                 | 240                         | Non-<br>detect          | 200                      | 100                   | 400                         |
| Fecal coliforms*                  |                    |                             | Non-<br>detect          | 200                      | 100                   | 400                         |
| pH (SU)                           | 6.0-9.0            | NA                          |                         |                          |                       |                             |
| Total chlorine residual<br>(mg/L) | 0.5 – 2.5          |                             |                         | 0.5 - 2                  | 0.5 -                 | 2                           |
| Color                             | MR**               | NA                          |                         |                          |                       |                             |
| Odor                              | Non-<br>offensive  | NA                          |                         |                          |                       |                             |
| Oily film and foam                | Non-<br>detectable | Non-<br>detectable          |                         | MR**                     | MR'                   | **                          |

\*CSA B128.3 Allows E.Coli or Fecal Coliforms to be measured. NSF 350 requires only E. Coli \*\*MR: Measured and Reported

# Model Codes and Green Specifications



#### Green Codes/Standards/Specs

- IGCC Sections 706, 708, 406
- ICC-700
- ASHRAE 189.1, 191
- IAPMO Green Supplement
- USGBC LEED

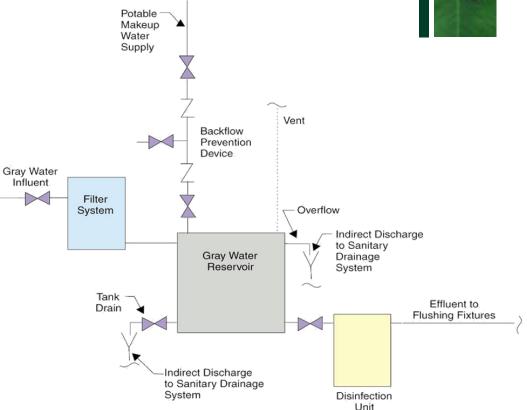
#### Model Plumbing Codes

IPC: Appendix C UPC: Chapter 16 NSPC: Appendix G



# Example: IGCC Graywater Reuse Section

- Removes dye requirement
- Leaves water quality req. to AHJ
- Detailed requirements for tank access and construction, controls, alarms, overflows, makeup water
- Allows wide range of source flows
- Requires labeling and use of purple pipe for distribution
- Provisions for wide range of uses including fountains, trap priming, construction, dust suppression, surface irrigation



# States Modernizing and Updating Graywater Regulations

- Adding permitted uses
- Migration toward wider residential use
- Reducing permit requirements
- Simplification of regulatory structures
- Creation of multiple effluent standard tiers



# NC Example: Proposed Reclaimed Utilizations



| Туре                              | Details   | 2T Utilization  | 2U Utilization   |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|--|
| Land<br>Applications<br>(Outdoor) | Residential lawns,<br>Golf courses,<br>Cemeteries, Parks,<br>Landscape areas,<br>etc. | <b>Permitted</b> with signage, regular inspection, record keeping.                            | <b>Permitted</b> for<br>Class B with<br>signage, regular<br>inspection, record<br>keeping. |
| Indoor<br>Applications            | Toilet/Urinal Flushing<br>& Fire Protection   | Permitted on<br>case-by-case<br>basis for<br>commercial or<br>industrial (not<br>residential) | <b>Permitted</b> for<br>commercial or<br>industrial (not<br>residential)                   |

# NC Example: Proposed Effluent Criteria



| Parameter               | 2T   | 2U Class A                               | 2U Class B                               |
|-------------------------|--|--|--|
| BOD <sub>5</sub>        | < 10 mg/L monthly, < 15<br>mg/L daily max                          | < 5 mg/L monthly, <<br>10 mg/L daily max | < 10 mg/L monthly, < 15 mg/L daily max   |
| TSS                     | < 5 mg/L monthly, < 10<br>mg/L daily max                           | < 5 mg/L monthly, <<br>10 mg/L daily max | < 5 mg/L monthly, <<br>10 mg/L daily max |
| NH <sub>3</sub>         | < 4 mg/L monthly, < 6<br>mg/L daily max                            | < 1 mg/L monthly, < 2<br>mg/L daily max  | < 4 mg/L monthly, < 6<br>mg/L daily max  |
| E. coli                 | < 14 CFU/100 mL<br>(monthly geo. mean), <<br>25 CFU/100 mL (daily) | < 3 CFU/100 mL<br>(monthly geo. mean)    | < 25 CF U/100 mL<br>(monthly geo. mean)  |
| Coliphage               | NR   | < 5 CFU/100 mL<br>(monthly geo. mean)    | < 25 CF U/100 mL<br>(monthly geo. mean)  |
| Clostridium perfringens | < 10 CFU/100 mL<br>(monthly geo. mean)                             | < 5 CFU/100 mL<br>(monthly geo. mean)    | < 25 CF U/100 mL<br>(monthly geo. mean)  |
| Turbidity               | < 10 NTU   | < 5 NTU                                  | < 10 NTU                                 |

# **Upcoming Research Studies**

•

- WERF– "Treatment Public Health and Regulatory Issues Associated with Graywater Reuse"
  - Current treatment technologies water quality, reliability, lifetimes
  - Survey of existing water quality codes and standards
- PERC Study "Test Plan Proposal to Investigate Drainline Transport in Buildings"
- Alliance for Water Efficiency Research Committee

### **Continuing Impediments**

Regulations in North America Model Codes and Standards

# **Residential Graywater Issues**

- Differing code requirements
  - Acceptance
  - Water quality, residence time
  - Cross connection control and dyeing
  - Pipe labeling and color
- Personal care products and cleaners constantly changing
- Long-term effects on end use devices, plants and soils unknown
- Homeowner maintenance (filters, decontamination)
- Water quality verification programs difficult to implement
- Effects of reduced volume on drainline function unknown
- Initial cost high and system payback often very long





Brac 450 L Graywater System

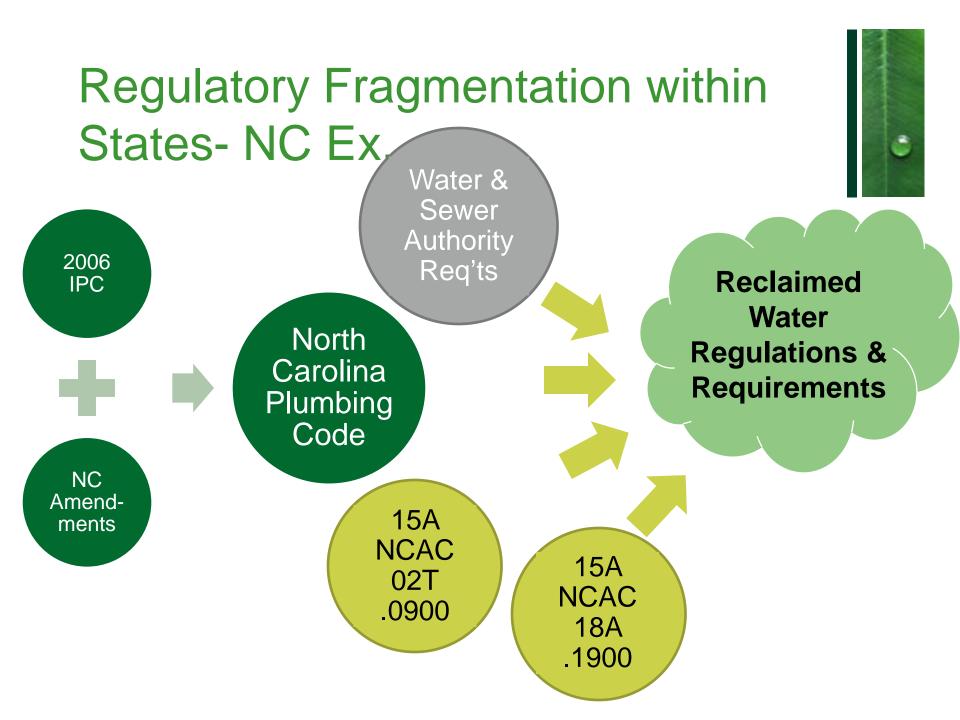
# Regulations in North America – Highly Fragmented Among States

- Utilizations permitted
- Effluent quality standards
- Cross connection control and dyeing
- Pipe labeling and color
- Residence time limits



Charlotte Pipe ReUze™ CPVC





# Effluent Quality Management Schemes – No Clear Winner



| Maintenance<br>Contract Model                             | Operating<br>Permit Model                             | Responsible<br>Management<br>Entity<br>Operation<br>Model      | Responsible<br>Management<br>Entity<br>Ownership<br>Model           |
|---|---|--|---|
| Lower risk of<br>malfunction<br>Lower resource<br>program | Regular<br>reporting                                  | O&M<br>transferred to<br>professional<br>OME who has<br>permit | High level of<br>oversight<br>Reduces<br>owner/RME<br>conflict      |
| Difficult to<br>track/enforce<br>compliance               | More regulatory<br>resources &<br>expertise<br>needed | RME right of<br>entry<br>Oversight of<br>RME                   | Requires RME<br>financial<br>investment<br>May limit<br>competition |

Canadian Guidelines for Domestic Reclaimed Water, Jan. 2010.

# Significant Knowledge Gaps

- 2006 WERF/SDA Study "Long-term Effects of Landscape Irrigation Using Household Graywater"
  - Accumulation of graywater constituents in soil and transport to groundwater
  - Soil chemistry changes
  - Effects on landscape plants
  - Effects on indigenous soil microorganisms
  - Survivability and growth of different indicator organisms and pathogen correlations
- Effect of graywater on flushing system components
- Correlation of indicator organism concentrations to health hazard



# Compatibility of Disinfection with End Use Devices



Graywater: It's Not Black and White, TOTO USA May, 2010. EPA Regional Science Workshop on Using Treated Graywater



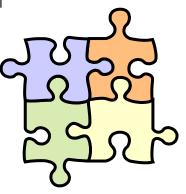
### Pipe Labeling and Coloring – The **Conflict Continues** POTABLE POTABLE POTABLE NONPOTABLE **RAIN WATER NONPOTABLE GRAY WATER GRAY WATER** RECLAIMED RECLAIMED

### Conclusion & Summary

# Some pieces are coming together



- States slowly expanding and modernizing graywater regulations and permit processes
- Research and pilot studies will better document health effects, technology implementation issues, system robustness and build our understanding of the risk.
- Standards are nearly complete that will allow for robust product certification.
- Product availability will improve with the completion of standards and updates to regulations



# What's Needed for Further Adoption of Graywater?

- Better delineate and coordinate roles of various regulatory agencies.
- Further development of maintenance and inspection programs and infrastructure.
- More education needed to dispel misconceptions and old biases
- Anticipate the addition of graywater (future-proofing) in more new construction
- Research to plug knowledge gaps.
- Change to the basic economics.

# The Final Word

- Technological hurdles can be overcome.
- Real problems:
  - Economic
  - Regulatory
  - Perception
- Remaining question:
  - Can graywater be deployed safely on a large scale in residential applications?



Water Legacy WL-55

#### Acknowledgements

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# Thanks for your kind attention!

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