### This presentation premiered at WaterSmart Innovations

watersmartinnovations.com





### H<sub>2</sub>Obligation Creating a Sustainable Water Future

Scott Wolf, FAIA The Miller Hull Partnership Seattle, WA

3 October 2012

Two-thirds of the human body and three-quarters of the human brain is water.



### Seventy-five percent of a living tree is water.

#### 2/3 of the surface of the earth is covered by water.



If all earth's water fit in a gallon jug, available fresh water would equal just over a tablespoon – less than half of one percent of the total. Approximately 1 million miles of pipelines and aqueducts carry water in the U.S. & Canada. That's enough pipe to circle the earth 40 times.





The 2009 ASCE Report Card on our nation's infrastructure gave water & wastewater systems a D- and estimated the five year funding requirements for necessary upgrades at \$255 billion. Leaking pipes in the U.S. waste 7 billion gallons of water every day. That would be enough to supply drinking water to every resident of California and still have some left over.



62,600 gallons of water are needed to produce one ton of steel.

# It takes about 39,000 gallons of water to produce the average domestic vehicle.



## A single car tire requires 518 gallons of water to manufacture.

and an area

It takes 197 gallons of water to produce a single gallon of gasoline.

### 300 million gallons of water are needed to produce a single day's supply of U.S. newsprint.

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2 billion gallons of water are used each day to water golf courses in the U.S.

## It takes about 3,000 gallons of water (the capacity of a tanker truck) to produce a single pair of denim jeans.



#### It takes almost 75 gallons of water to produce a single cup of coffee.



#### It takes 120 gallons of water to produce a single egg.



It takes 750 gallons of water to produce a single fast food meal. About 50 million fast food meals are eaten daily in the U.S.



Agriculture uses 70% of the world's freshwater.

It takes 240,000 gallons of water to produce one ton of grain.

It takes over one million gallons of water to grow enough food for an average family for a year.

Not everyone has connected the dots to see that a future of water shortages will be a future of food shortages.



At an average cost of 80 cents per pint, bottled water costs close to \$6.50/gallon.

That's almost twice as expensive as a gallon of gasoline...

and about 2,400 times more expensive than tap water - a bargain at an average cost of only 1/3 cent/gallon. Water is too cheap. The average American spends less than 1% of his or her total yearly expenses on water, wastewater, and water disposal services. "Free" or subsidized water is bound to be wasted.

Why bother fixing the leaky faucet if that would cost more than you'd save?





You can refill an 8-oz glass of water approximately 15,000 times for the same cost as a six-pack of soda pop.



#### Average times per day that water faucets are turned on in U.S. households: 70.

Two-thirds of the water used in an average home is used in the bathroom.



#### The average 10-minute shower uses 30 gallons of water.





#### Leaky toilets can waste up to 200 gallons of water each day.

# You waste about 5 gallons of water if you leave the water running while brushing your teeth.

### Water efficient fixtures can cut household water use by 30%.



Every person requires a minimum of 250,000 gallons of water annually (40% of an Olympic-size swimming pool) for drinking, hygiene and growing food.

The average American just doesn't see water conservation as an issue.

Today, one in six people on the earth - or more than one billion people - lack access to an improved water supply.

That number is predicted to rise to between one-half and two-thirds by 2025.
The World Bank estimates that 300 million people live in areas of severe water shortages.

People who lack access to clean water get water from unclean surface ponds or dirty rivers often resulting in illness or death.

At least 1 billion people must walk three hours or more to obtain drinking water.

The typical African family uses about 5 gallons of water at home each day.

The typical American uses more than 100 gallons of water at home each day.

More than one billion people still do not have consistent access to freshwater.

More than two billion lack access to sanitation.

### Ninety percent of all diseases are water-related.





Every 15 seconds, a child dies from a water-related disease. For children under age five, water-related diseases are the leading cause of death.

# The water and sanitation crisis claims more lives through disease than any war claims through guns.

The common denominator in the health and development challenges faced by the poorest of the world's population – diseases like malaria, rising food prices and environmental degradation – is water. No investment has greater overall impact upon national development and public health than the provision of safe drinking water and the proper disposal of human waste.





# Every \$1 spent on water and sanitation is estimated to result in \$8 in health care costs averted.





Our future is drying up: a100-foot-high bathtub ring left by the dwindling waters of Lake Mead, behind Hoover Dam.

Ten of the world's major rivers – including the Colorado, Ganges, Jordan, Nile, Rio Grande and Yellow – regularly run dry before reaching the sea.

### Pollution in the Mississippi River has resulted in a dead zone the size of New Jersey where it drains to the Gulf of Mexico.

### "We are beginning to understand the magnitude of our own ignorance." Sylvia Earle

"The new red, white and blue is green." Thomas Friedman

The new green is blue.

## **Blue Gold**

Water will be the 21<sup>st</sup> century's oil – a much sought-after but dwindling natural resource.

> The biggest difference: a world without oil is possible; a world without water is not.





While the world population increased threefold during the twentieth century, water withdrawals increased sixfold

9b

2012?

2020?

2030?

2040?

not to scale

2050

Margin for Action

7b

1976

2012

4b

time

Population

2b

1945

**Natural Resources** 

quantity

1b

1776

"When our earth's population, now exceeding 6.5 billion people and expected to reach 9.1 billion by the year 2050, is coupled with diminished freshwater supplies and land area, we are on a collision course with disaster."

Larry Frevert, APWA President, in 2008



### Percent Access to Improved Water Sources (2004)





The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

#### http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/

Released Thursday, August 23, 2012 Author: Michael Brewer/Liz Love-Brotak, NOAA/NESDIS/NCDC

Drought Miligation Cer

National



Since the end of WWII, water withdrawals from the Ogallala Aquifer have averaged 4-6 feet per year, while nature was putting back only 1/2 an inch. This overdraft equates to about 14 million acre-feet per year, or roughly the entire annual flow of the Colorado River.



## POSTER WORLD RIVERS • WATER FOOTPRINT NGM.COM | APRIL 2010 NGM.COM | APRIL 2010

OR THE EARTH

CHALLENGE

A SPECIAL ISSUE

OUR THIRSTY WORLD



THE POWER, PRON

FRESH WATER

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SPECIAL EDITIO

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# H<sub>2</sub>Obligation



## PERSONAL

Bureau of Environmental Services Administration & Water Quality Lab Portland, OR

Tillamook Forest Center Tillamook, OR

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LOTT Clean Water Alliance Regional Services Center Olympia, WA





### EAST BAY CIVIC PLAZA . OLYMPIA, WA



wood and concrete benches

ipe deck walkway

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beach flagstone path and water course

planting at water edge

decomposed granite

oyster shells in concrete bands

interpretive markers

planted mounds



### Thinking Beyond the Property Lines



## LOTT's Reclaimed Water Program



### **Benefits of Reclaimed Water**

Currently, the majority of all water used in the U.S. is potable water.

Reclaimed water can be used to meet a significant portion of the demand.

Potable water can be reserved for those uses that truly require it.


1 gallon of wastewater diverted saves between \$20 and \$22 of capital costs that would have been required to build additional treatment capacity.

#### VALUE PROPOSITION THE BUSINESS CASE FOR SUSTAINABLE DESIGN.

# CASE STUDY 0618-1 THE BUSINESS CASE FOR RFCI AIMFN WATFR

The LOTT Clean Water Alliance is a regional wastewater treatment agency in the Pacific Northwest serving 85,000 customers. In 2006, through the implementation of sand filter and advanced membrane bioreactor system technologies, LOTT began treating wastewater to Class A Reclaimed Water standards. This water is distributed to the local community for a variety of common non-potable uses including irrigation, industrial processes, manufacturing uses and toilet flushing. Using reclaimed water in lieu of potable water provides a number of benefits including:

- · wastewater management i.e. reducing effluent flows and water quality impacts,
- water supply management- i.e. reducing stresses on limited water supply sources, and
- · environmental enhancement -i.e. wetlands restoration, stream flow augmentation and groundwater recharge.

In 2010, LOTT constructed a new Regional Services Center, which has achieved LEED Platinum status from the USGBC. The project includes a WET (Water Education Technology) Center containing a classroom and a series of interactive interpretive exhibits. The goal of the WET Center is threefold: to educate customers about the wastewater treatment services that LOTT provides, to illustrate the cultural importance of water in the Pacific Northwest, and to inspire visitors to recognize importance of protecting our natural water resources.

The WET Center has been an overwhelming success in its first year of operation. Visitor counts have exceeded the original projections and the educational programs & exhibits are appealing to people of all ages. LOTT's commitment to reclaimed water and their \$2m investment in the WET Center have already paid handsome dividends and raised the bar for other wastewater treatment agencies.

BHAG: Class A Reclaimed Water is one treatment step from becoming potable water. As the global water crisis grows, closing the water loop by transforming wastewater to potable water on community and regional scales will be a key factor in water resource sustainability.

**OGI8-OOI: RECLAIMED WATER** 



Financial benefits accrue both to the customer and to LOTT. The customer saves an immediate 30% on the cost of reclaimed water relative to potable water. For LOTT, with every gallon of wastewater conserved, \$20-22 of capital costs are averted by not having to build additional treatment plant capacity.





THE LEAPFROG PROJECT MOVING BEYOND INCREMENTAL CHANGE THROUGH SUSTAINABLE DESIGN THE MILLER HULL PARTNERSHIP



#### LOTT CLEAN WATER ALLIANCE REGIONAL SERVICES CENTER OLYMPIA, WA YEAR COMPLETED: 2010

Much of our nation's water and wastewater infrastructure is invisible to those who depend upon it everyday We simply expect these essential services to be there when we need them, and as a result, tend to take them for granted This project is about making the invisible visible through design and education

It is about demonstrating a more sustainable future by promoting "the right water for the right use"

It is primarily about inspiring people to care for one of our most precious natural resources: water









### **Achieving Water Independence**

Navigating the challenges of water reuse in Oregon

Central City Concern March, 2009



### Achieving Water Independence In Buildings

www.cascadiagbc.org/lbc/resources/water/oregon

Sponsor Organization Central City Concern

#### Water Team (project team) Central City Concern www.centralcityconcern.org Ben Gates, Richard Harris

SERA Architects www.serapdx.com Clark Brockman, Lisa Petterson, Joe Pinzone

Interface Engineering www.leice.com Jon Gray

Gerding Edlen Development www.gerdingedlen.com Dennis Wilde

Project Sponsors The Bullitt Foundation www.bullitt.org Enterprise Community Partners www.enterprisecommunity.org Cascadia Region Green Building Council www.cascadiagbc.org Portland Development Commission www.pdc.us

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The Bullitt Foundation Enterprise CASCADIA

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# Water connects all life. Yet we dis-integrate water into silos.



credit: Steve Moddemeyer, Collins Woerman

# **PFD WATER USE & HARVESTING ANALYSIS**

credit: Interface Engineering & Central City Concern



### STRATEGIES:



GREY WATER = 4,028,016 GAL/YEAR



**PROVIDED BY SERA ARCHITECTS** 

## **OREGON ROADMAP**



# PATHWAYS TO REGULATORY CHANGE

impact: one building
1) Site-Specific Alternate Method (Building Appeal)
impact: city- or county-wide
2) Local Amendment
impact: statewide
3) Statewide Alternate Method

impact: statewide or national
4) Building Code Modification
5) Passage of Legislation

credit: Interface Engineering & Central City Concern



Phase II Summary Report

February 2011







TOWARD NET ZERO WATER: BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR DECENTRALIZED SOURCING AND TREATMENT Prepared by the Cascadia Green Building Council March 2011

for these reports and other related info, go to: www.cascadiagbc.org/resources/



## LIVING BUILDING CHALLENGE<sup>™</sup> 2.0

A Visionary Path to a Restorative Future



November 2009

## LIVING BUILDING CHALLENGE ADOPTED

credit: Interface Engineering & Central City Concern

LBC is the the most rigorous green-building benchmark available today

- » goal is to be water & energy independent
- » that means buckets of water & money saved



## LIVING BUILDING CHALLENGE

BEAUTY & INSPIRATION A Living Building tells a story.

INDOOR QUALITY Maximize health, minimize impact. MATERIALS Safe, healthy and responsible for all species.

WATER A Living Building is water independent.



### SITE

Humanity has co-opted enough land; it is time to draw boundaries and declare it enough.

ENERGY A living building relies solely on current solar income.

credit: Interface Engineering & Central City Concern



100% occupants' water use must come from captured precipitation or closed loop water systems that account for downstream ecosystem impacts and that are appropriately purified without the use of chemicals.



100% storm water and building water discharge must be managed onsite to feed the project's internal water demands or released onto adjacent sites for management through acceptable natural time-scale surface flow, groundwater recharge, agricultural use or adjacent building needs.



### The Bullitt Foundation Center Seattle, WA

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Courtesy: 2020 Engineering



# H<sub>2</sub>Obligation



# PERSONAL

contact Search



### News

Columbia Land Trust Seeking Stewardship Lead Jan 04, 2010 Forestry and Conservation for Mt. St. Helens Feb 27, 2009

### **Donate Now**



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### Welcome to Columbia Land Trust



Columbia Land Trust works to permanently conserve the natural resources of the Columbia River region. We conserve, restore, and manage signature landscapes, vital habitats, and working farms and forests in Oregon and Washington from east of the Cascade Mountains to the Pacific Ocean. These lands are at risk from overdevelopment, unsustainable practices, and other threats. By working positively with landowners and local communities we can sustain the unique qualities of the Pacific Northwest for our children and future generations.

### **Featured Projects**



#### Forestry and Conservation for Mt. St. Helens

Columbia Land Trust and Pope Resources find solutions to keep 20.000 acres of working forestland Glenn's Corner Blog posts from our Executive Director and Invited guests

# BA

### Rythms

In town, on weekend mornings I now hear the familiar accelerating pulse of









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# Access to safe water is a basic human right.

### About Water 1st INTERNATIONAL

### Water 1st International's Mission

Water 1st's mission is to serve families in the poorest communities in the world as they implement community-managed projects that integrate water supply, sanitation, and health education.

We envision a world free of extreme poverty. Providing people with safe water systems, latrines, and hygiene education is the 1st step to ending the cycle of poverty and death.



More than one billion people still do not have consistent access to freshwater.

More than two billion lack access to sanitation.

## THEY WOULD STAND UP PAST THE MOON.





PROFESSI ONAL

# H<sub>2</sub>Obligation

SOCIAL

PERSONAL

"A savagely witty history of America's reckless depletion of its water resources" —Newsday

# When the Rivers Run Dry

**DESERT** THE AMERICAN WEST AND ITS DISAPPEARING WATER

WATER—THE DEFINING CRISIS OF THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY

## MARC REISNER AUTHOR OF A DANGEROUS PLACE

"An enriching and farsighted work." Jai Singh, San Francisco Chronicle



Americans buy over 35 billion liters of bottled water annually. In the U.S.,1500 plastic water bottles get thrown away every second.



# where does it come from?



# where does it go?

HOW **MUCH** WATER DO **YOU USE EVERY** DAY?

Americans use more water than any other country on the planet. Because water is readily available and virtually free in our society, there appears to be little incentive to conserve. With a broader global perspective, however, the ease with which we could all use water more responsibly becomes painfully obvious.








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IF EVERY AMERICAN REDUCED THEIR WATER CONSUMPTION	
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## IF EVERY AMERICAN REDUCED THEIR WATER CONSUMPTION BY 10%, WE WOULD SAVE **4.71 BILLION** GALLONS. EVERY DAY.





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IMAGINE **HOW FAR** WE COULD MOVE THE NEEDDRENIF WE ALL SEATTLUSED 10% FSS

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Encourage New Perspectives

"The significant problems we face cannot be solved with the same level of thinking we used when we created them."

Albert Einstein

## **Changing Behaviors**

...the right water for the right use



## H<sub>2</sub>Obligation Creating a Sustainable Water Future

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