



REGIONAL DISTRICT of NORTH OKANAGAN

MEDIA RELEASE – April 12, 2012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Greater Vernon Water Celebrates Drinking Water Week May 13 – 19, 2012

COLDSTREAM, BC – The Greater Vernon Water Utility is celebrating B.C. Drinking Water Week by providing an opportunity for customers to get to know their water sources and learn about how their drinking water is treated.

Residents of Vernon, Coldstream and Electoral Areas B and C are encouraged to sign up for tours of the Duteau Creek Water Treatment Plant to be held May 15 - 17, 2012. Advance registration is required for these tours as participants will be transported by bus to the site. Those in attendance will learn where their water comes from, what forms of treatment and disinfection are required, which sources supply Greater Vernon Water Utility customers and what the Greater Vernon Water Utility is doing to supply its customers with clean, safe drinking water.

The Duteau Creek Water Treatment Plant was commissioned in 2010 and has the capacity to produce over 160 Mega Litres of drinking water per day. This is equivalent to 64 Olympic-size swimming pools. The Plant uses Dissolved Air Flotation (DAF) to remove dissolved organic particles, colour and turbidity from the raw water supply. Sodium hypochlorite is used for disinfection. A pilot project is currently underway to determine the best filtration system to install for further treatment.

To sign up for tours of the Duteau Creek Water Treatment Plant contact Jennifer Miles at 250-550-3684 or email jennifer.miles@rdno.ca to secure your seat. The tours will be limited to maximum of 30 participants per day. Participants must be over the age of 10 and it is recommended that they be able to walk up and down stairs. For safety reasons, as this is a fully operational industrial facility, participants must wear long pants and closed toe flat shoes.

Greater Vernon Water is proud to participate in Drinking Water Week 2012 and support the B.C. Water and Waste Water Association's initiative to raise awareness of the value of water. For more information about Drinking Water Week, including the Community Water Challenge contest where you can enter to win an exciting water-themed getaway, visit www.drinkingwaterweek.org.

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For more information:

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