

Climate Action Inventory

Comox Community Centre

- Planned electric vehicle charging station at CCC
- Geo-thermal exchange for heating and cooling the building
- LED upgrades as old CC lights need replacement
- Online program registration options reduce the requirement for customers to register in person at CCC
- Mixed recycling
- Reducing printed copies of the recreation guide

Fire Department

- Recycle some of the water used for training saving over two million litres per year
- Switched out some of lights in training area to solar/ LED lights
- Upgraded most lights in fire station to LED
- Reduce the use of paper by using electronic documents
- Assisted in installing an electric vehicle charging station at fire station.
- Town of Comox does not allow the outdoor burning of wood
- Purchased (45K) digital fire screens to similar live fire training, reducing the need for real fires for training
- Replaced gas power tools with cordless electric
- Using smaller fire engine for quicker response to extinguish fires
- Occupant/motion lighting in some areas. Lights go out when un-occupied
- Installed mini-splits for heat and air-conditioning
- Future: Solar panels for fire station when funding available.

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Comox, B.C. V9M 1R9

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Public Works

Water

- Ongoing water meter installation to reduce water use (3050 meters being read)

Transportation

- LED lights being installed in new subdivisions
- LED light bulbs being installed in many existing street lights
- Comox was one of the first communities that BC Hydro switched HPS to LED
- Increased bike lane construction to encourage alternative transportation
- Installation of bus shelters at high use bus stops

Sanitary

- Ongoing inflow and infiltration inspection on sanitary sewer system

Other

- Digital timesheets
- Digital expenses
- Moving to electronic filing to minimize paper use

Administration

- Switch to electronic agendas and council correspondence
- Working with the Comox Valley Regional District (CVRD) on air quality
- Energy Step Code
- EV Charging stations
- Endorsed Help Cities Lead educational and awareness campaign to accelerate building decarbonization
- Working on single use plastics regulation
- Grant received to expand organics program to curbside multi-family (strata's)

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Parks and Open Space

- Obtained 4.5 additional hectares of parkland
- Developed new greenways (Highmoor, Claddagh, Cottonwood) to enhance pedestrian linkages and wildlife corridors.
- Planted 170 trees in Town parks and along roadways
- Installed satellite-controlled irrigation system reducing water consumption
- Supported and expanded local stewardship groups to restore natural areas by removing invasive plant species and replanting native species.
- Support salmon enhancement groups and lead habitat projects to improve salmon spawning grounds.
- Support local school groups with volunteer events to conduct shoreline and forest clean-ups to remove waste and dispose of properly.
- Support ongoing environmental research programs in the area carried out by the Government of Canada and Government of BC including Fisheries and Oceans, Environment and Climate Change Canada, The Nature Trust, Duck's Unlimited, etc.
- Installing dedicated drip irrigation for street trees to ensure establishment and reduce water consumption used for passive lawn areas.
- Planting different, drought tolerant, tree/plant species where appropriate for Town land

Cross Department Initiatives

Waste Management

- Reduced weekly garbage limit to one 121 litre garbage receptacle per week
- Implemented bi-weekly curbside recycling program
- Implemented weekly curbside organics program (yard and kitchen waste)
- Banned all open fires and outdoor burning in the Town
- Switched to biodegradable dog waste bags in dispensing units

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- Converted all traffic lights to LED, resulting in an 80% reduction in energy consumption
- Installed solar-powered pedestrian crossing lights
- Required the use of cut-off flat lens streetlights in all new developments and road projects
- Allowed for the provision of bicycle parking spaces in lieu of vehicle spaces in commercial development
- Recycled waste asphalt from major road project
- Adopted Idling Control policy to reduce air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions from municipal vehicles

Storm Water Management

- Created Environmental Development Permit Guidelines
- Added requirement for temporary stormwater erosion control ponds on development projects
- Implemented an Integrated Storm Water Management System and alternative subdivision servicing standards for a nearby development in order to maintain the environmental integrity of the Lazo Marsh Conservation Area
- Implemented an Integrated Storm Water Management System to ensure the long term environmental integrity of McDonald Bog
- Implemented a stormwater management plan for Butchers Road area, including the construction of major retention facility
- To view details on the [Northeast Comox Stormwater Management Plan initiative](#)
- CAVI -Comox Valley Regional Team. [Click on this link to view an update on our cross-jurisdictional collaboration towards Water Sustainability](#)

Other

- Increased sidewalk width and installed pedestrian bulbs in the downtown area creating a safer and more pedestrian-friendly environment
- Participated in the Regional Water Education Partnership undertaken by the Regional District

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- Instituted the Water Conservation Plumbing Regulation requiring the installation of low-flush toilets in all new development and significant renovations
- Implemented Pesticide Use Bylaw that bans the cosmetic use of pesticides on private residential land
- Implemented a "Sustainability Checklist" encouraging developers to incorporate more environmentally and socially sustainable practices in development
- Initiated a two-year baseline monitoring study of McDonald Bog
- Developed a comprehensive greenway and park dedication plan for the Butchers Road area, including the protection of a significant aspen forest
- Adopted an Affordable Housing Strategy, including a Strata Conversion Policy
- Legalized the development of new secondary suites within single-family homes in certain areas
- Held three public information forums – one on Smart Growth, one on Sustainable Buildings, and a Climate Action Open House
- Signed on to BC Climate Action Charter, committing to reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions in order to address global climate change
- Switched to using 100% recycled content printer and photocopier paper
- Converted the annual Town Square Christmas tree and street tree lights to LED
- Installed numerous EV Charging Stations throughout Comox including Town Hall, the Fire Hall, Comox Centre Mall.
- Council updated the Building Bylaw to include the BC Energy Step Code, which requires energy efficiency in new construction in the Town, ahead of the Province's schedule.

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