



News Release

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September 16, 2020

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Rainwater Harvesting Webinar – September 29 **Part of Islands Trust Climate Action Speaker Series**

Lək ʷəŋən, METULIYE/Victoria, B.C. – Islanders and other interested individuals are invited to attend a Rainwater Harvesting webinar, the first of three webinars in the Islands Trust Climate Action Speaker Series.

The webinar, which takes place online via Zoom Videoconferencing, is on Tuesday, September 29, 2020, from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

“Water shortages are a concern across the Trust Area,” said Peter Luckham, Chair, Islands Trust. “Non-potable rainwater harvesting is part of the solution because it reduces the demand on existing water supply, allows for storage and use in drought times, and can be used for irrigation.”

Presenters, Shannon Cowan, Coordinator of the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Alliance, and William Shulba, Senior Freshwater Specialist of the, Islands Trust, will profile climate impacts on water sustainability, basic components of rainwater systems, and provide a tour of different types of non-potable rainwater harvesting systems.

Webinar attendees will learn how to begin setting up a system; most suitable roof types for rain collection; the pros, cons, and costs of different types of storage; rainwater harvesting system components and how they work.

To register for the Rainwater Harvesting Climate Action Webinar, go to <https://bit.ly/3jGf17t>

Two other webinars in the Climate Action Speaker Series are:
Ecosystem-based Adaptation, Tuesday, October 27, 2020, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.
Eelgrass: A Climate Hero Tuesday, November 24, 2020, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

For more information, go to: <http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/trust-council/projects/stewardship-education-program/>

Preserving **island** communities, culture and environment

Bowen, Denman, Gabriola, Galiano, Gambier, Hornby, Lasqueti, Mayne, N. Pender, Salt Spring, Saturna, S. Pender, Thetis

About the Presenters

Shannon Cowan

Since 2014, Shannon has coordinated the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Alliance. She has coordinated three Rainwater Harvesting Home Tours on Salt Spring Island and recently compiled and directed the design of the Salt Spring Island Non-Potable Rainwater Harvesting Guide. Shannon is a published scientist in botanical and sustainability education sciences and has personal experience with rainwater harvesting. Shannon is also the Operations Director at Salt Spring Island Foundation.

William Shulba

William Shulba is a professional geoscientist and Licensed Science Officer. He has expertise in hydrogeology, watershed science, and water literacy education. At Islands Trust, William has conducted groundwater research and delivered public outreach and education on freshwater issues. William participates in a network of community organizations, practitioners, and governing agencies with jurisdiction and responsibility for freshwater in the Islands Trust Area.

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The Islands Trust is a federation of special-purpose local government bodies representing 26,000 people living within the Islands Trust area and another 10,000 non-resident property owners. The Islands Trust area is located within Coast Salish territory and is the homeland to over 28,000 Coast Salish Peoples who have called this place home since time immemorial. The Islands Trust is responsible for preserving and protecting the Islands Trust Area's unique environment and amenities by planning and regulating land use, development management, education, cooperation with other agencies, and land conservation. The area covers the islands and waters between the British Columbia mainland and southern Vancouver Island. It includes 13 major islands and more than 450 smaller islands covering 5200 square kilometres.

Contact:

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