

How wetlands work

Netlands: nature's sponge and filte

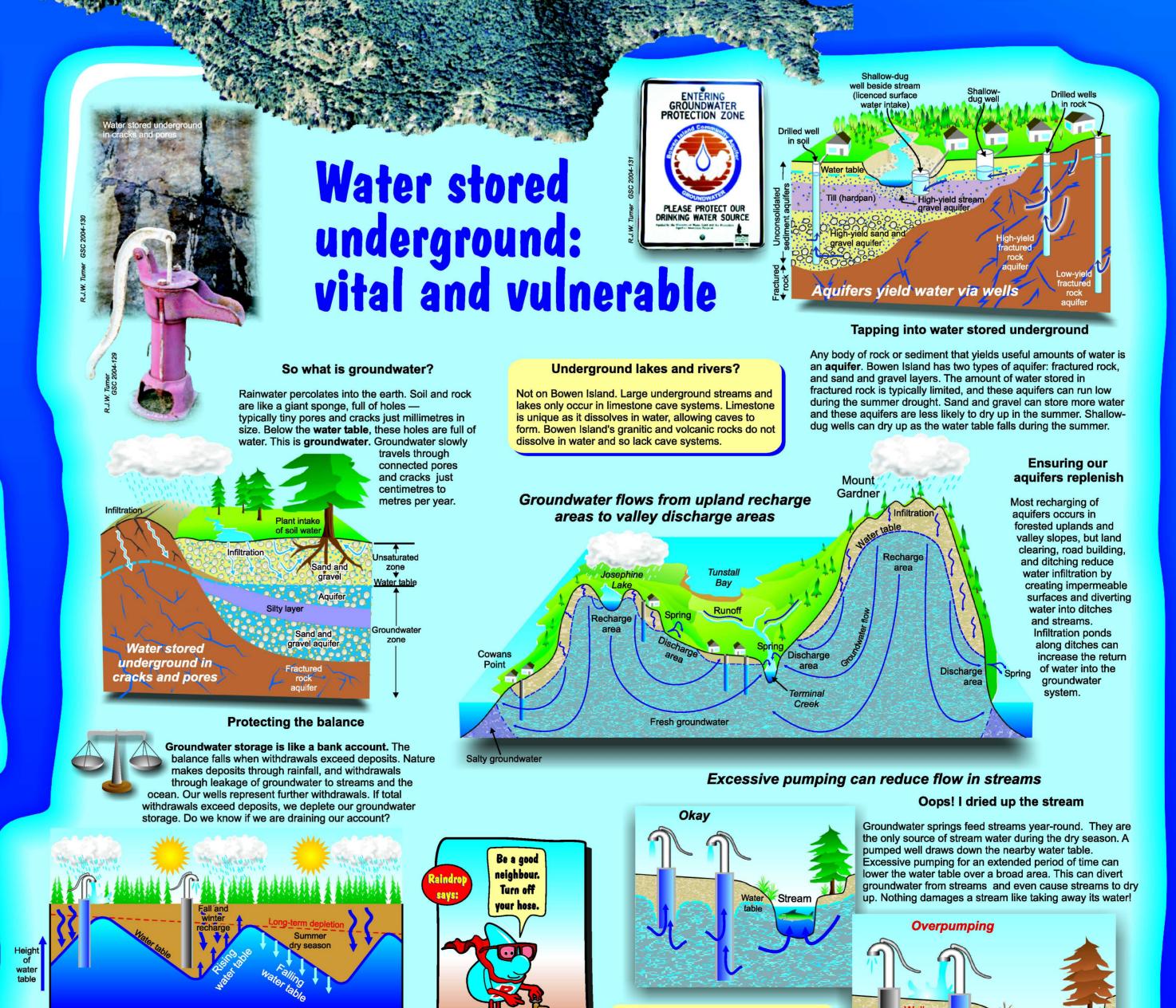
Wetlands, swamps, marshes, bogs, and fens provide many services. They filter

animals. Wetlands fill with water during rains and slowly release water through

droughts. Before we understood their critical role, we used to ditch and drain

stream waters, store water, and offer critical habitat for many plants and

wetlands to create lawns, pastures, or farms.



island aquifers, we need a series of

more observation wells are needed.

groundwater observation wells on Bowen

table levels can be regularly checked to

Island. These are unused wells where water

determine long-term trends. Some groundwate

monitoring has started on Bowen Island, but

← Year → ← Year →

Water table ups and downs through the seasons

The amount of water stored underground changes through the seasons. As

winter and spring rains infiltrate the ground, stored groundwater increases

groundwater leaks into streams and the ocean. Well pumping also removes

water and lowers the water table. Excessive pumping of groundwater can

and the water table rises. When the rains stop, the water table falls as

result in long-term depletion of groundwater storage.

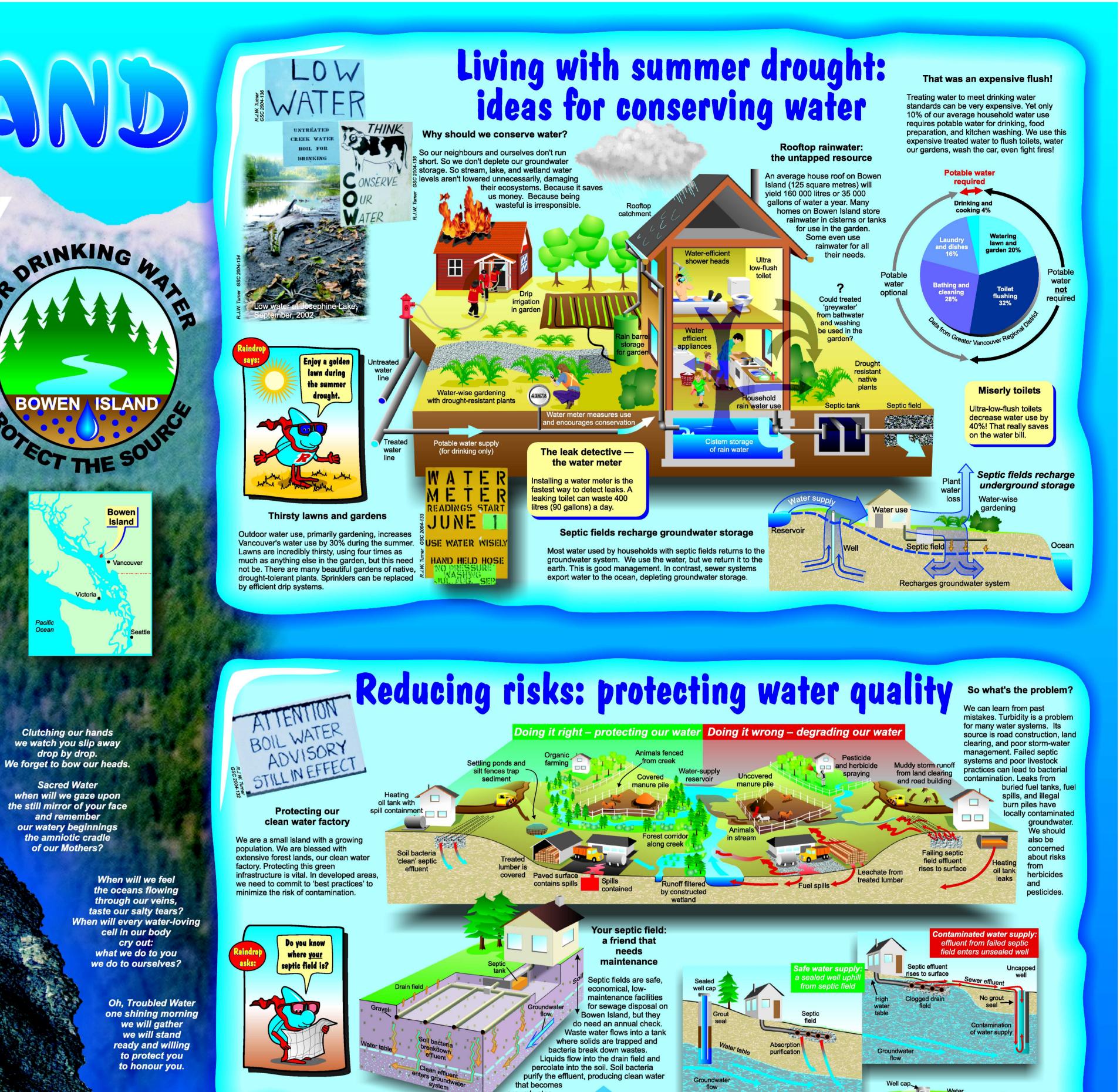
drop by drop.

Sacred Water

our watery beginning

the amniotic cradle

of our Mothers?



Septic fields fail when drain

effluent rises to the surface

streams. Wells downhill

from a failing septic field

are only protected if they

are capped and grouted

effluent can enter a well

properly. Otherwise, septic

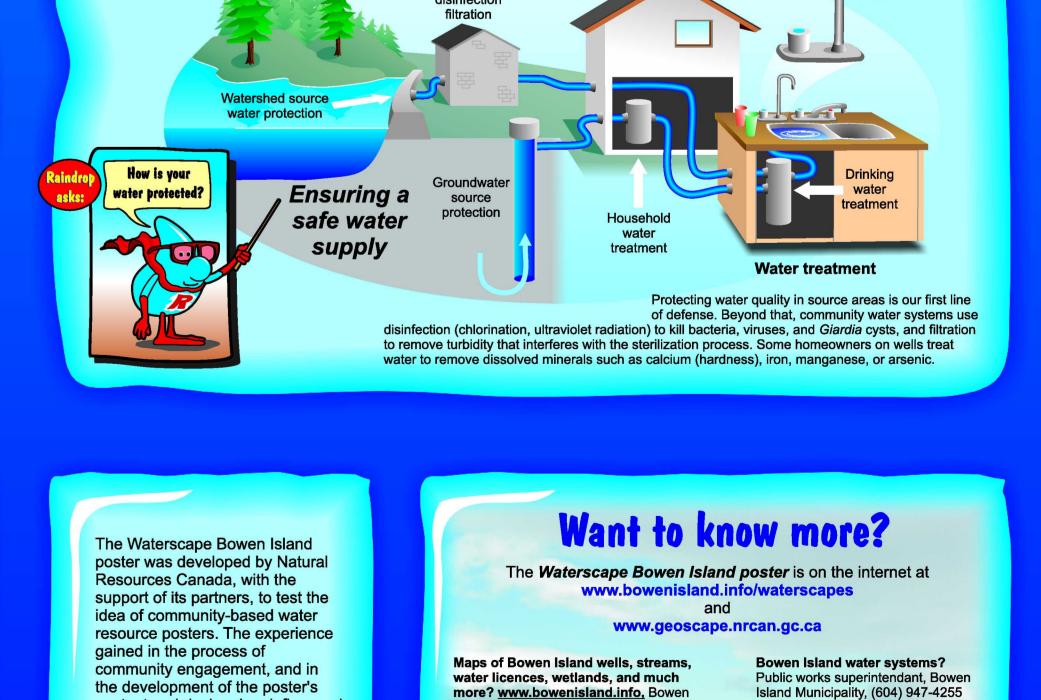
content and design, has influenced

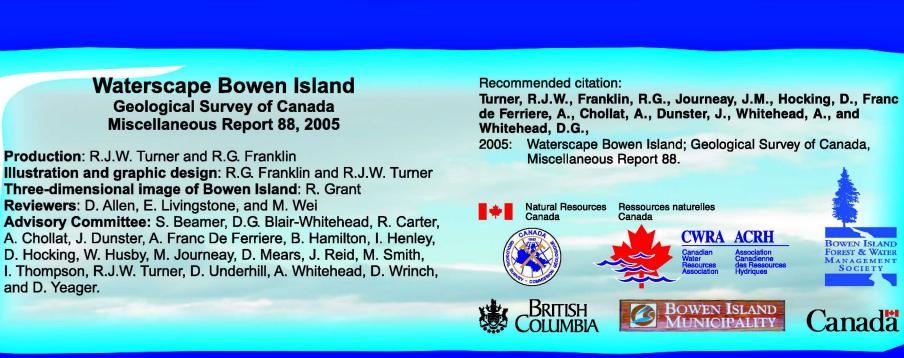
the development of water posters

in other Canadian communities.

fields clog and septic

and flows overland, contaminating wells and





Island Forest & Water Management Society,

(604) 947-0016

http://wlapwww.gov.bc.ca/wat/gws/

between the well casing

(steel pipe in the upper

well) and the well wall,

the top of the casing;