



CAMA Awards 2011

City of Calgary, AB

2011 Environment Award, Presented by Citi Canada

(Population over 100,000)

The City of Calgary Fire Training Water Re-use Project

Reducing its environmental footprint while fostering positive partnerships has resulted in The City of Calgary saving up to 150 million litres of water a year as part of a world class, one-of-a-kind fire training facility that allows water from training to be captured, treated and re-used.

The Fire Training Water Re-use Project was launched in July 2010 as a result of collaboration between the Calgary Fire Department (CFD), the City of Calgary Parks and ATCO Gas. A naturalized water treatment and re-use system has been successfully integrated to create a unique and environmentally friendly training facility at the department's training academy.

The Fire Training Water Re-Use Project encompasses three essential components which make it one-of-a kind: water capture and diversion from the storm water system; the re-use of the captured water; and, practical use in real training scenarios at ATCO Village, a street-like setting of vacant single-family homes.

The creation of a water re-use system is a perfect example of how innovation can be incorporated into an existing training centre and aid in reducing its environmental footprint. A series of four ponds capture and re-use the large quantity of water expended in training and practice fire exercises, saving up to 150 million litres of water annually.

This pond system is a first of its kind in Canada. The water re-use system has been effectively tested at ATCO Village, a training facility in partnership with ATCO Gas, which consists of vacant single-family homes in a street-like setting and helps to facilitate real-life scenarios and training opportunities.

The goal of the project was to construct sustainable world-class training facilities for the Calgary Fire Department and has solidified the department as leader in the industry.