

City of Bromont, QC
2010 CAMA Environmental Award
(Population under 20,000)
Integrated Watershed Management on the Yamaska River

Protecting the environment and having a positive impact on the growth of the economy. That was the focus of a partnership between the City of Bromont, QC and the Ski Bromont resort.

As the Ski Bromont resort area grew in popularity and size, there was a need to manufacture more artificial snow. How could this be done, while ensuring both the City of Bromont and the resort got the water they needed from the Yamaska River?

The first phase was to establish the minimum ecological flow in the Yamaska River and secure the water flow required by the municipality. The City and resort came to an agreement in this regard early in 2005, ensuring the protection of the Yamaska River watershed.

Following the agreement, Ski Bromont was able to request authorization from the Ministry of the Environment to upgrade their pumping capacity. This secured enough snowmaking power to ensure good quality skiing without negative effects on the environment.

The last phase was to have access, on an ongoing basis, to information about water flows in the river and water pumping efforts by the resort. To achieve this, a new information system was developed. The web-based system gives the partners access to all results, including a reading every 15 minutes.