

Crosby Park Recirculating Water Play

Program: Federation of Canadian Municipalities Green Municipal Fund and Canada's Gas Tax Fund

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

In 2010, the Town used funding from the Green Municipal Fund and Canada's Gas Tax Fund to construct a unique water conservation system in Crosby Park.

Crosby Park is a community park located near the historic downtown of Richmond Hill that provides important sports fields, tennis courts, playground, and water play facility to the community. In 2009, the park was reconstructed to be fully accessible. The water play area is one of the most popular features of the park, as water plays are highly requested facilities in Richmond Hill and the demand for these facilities is increasing. However, traditional water plays operate at a total loss in terms of the water used: the water used simply flows down the drain. Therefore, as part of the renewal of the park, Richmond Hill conducted a field test to assess the effectiveness of using a water-supply recirculation system as part of the water play area.



The recirculating water play system continuously filters, treats, and reuses water. Fresh municipal water is only used to fill the system initially, and to replace water lost through overspray or evaporation. As a result, the recirculating system only requires 3.5% of the water necessary for a conventional system. This system has resulted in 15 178 m³ of annual water savings, and a considerable reduction in operating costs. The success of this project has resulted in the system being implemented in two subsequent projects and may be implemented in the Town's other water play facilities.



Project Highlights:

Shared federal and municipal investment in unique water conservation system

Upgrades include:

- The installation of a recirculating water system at the Crosby Park water play area

Project benefits include:

- Substantial reduction in water use, cleaner water and lower greenhouse gas emissions
- Ability to operate during water restriction periods
- Reduction in annual operating costs



“ We are grateful for the assistance provided by FCM's Green Municipal Fund through our partnership. We believe this project will help us further protect our environment and maximize our use of limited resources, in this case, water. We also hope that our success in this project will encourage other municipalities and organizations to adopt this unique approach to water conservation. ”

Mayor Dave Barrow



Richmond Hill

Richmond Hill, where people come together to build our community.

PROJECT FACTS



PROJECT BUDGET: \$170 000
COMPLETION DATE: June 2010

PROJECT BENEFITS

The upgrade of the water play at Crosby Park to a recirculating system has realised many environmental and social benefits to the residents of Richmond Hill:

Environmental Benefits

The conversion of the water play to recirculated water has resulted in 15 178 m³ of potable water being conserved annually and cleaner water. The reduction in energy used for pumping and treating water means that this facility produces 2.0 tonnes less greenhouse gas emissions per year than a conventional water play.



Operating Efficiency

The reduced water usage at this site has resulted in an annual operating cost savings of about \$22 000.

Increased Service

The use of recirculated water allows residents to use the water play during water restriction periods that may have affected other facilities.

Municipal Leadership

By adopting this unique approach to water conservation, Richmond Hill is continuing to serve as a role model for municipal management.

The installation and testing of the water recirculation system at the Crosby Park Water Play has resulted in significant environmental benefits. Undertaking this project has helped Richmond Hill continue to make wise use of its available resources.



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