

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Where do I catch the tour bus?

The tours leave from the CRD Field Office parking lot at 2955 Sooke Lake Road (near Goldstream Park campground) and return to the parking lot at the end of the tour. There will be a sign on the road indicating the tour parking area. There is a BC transit bus stop about 5- 10 minute walk from the parking lot. See BC Transit #58 Goldstream Meadows.

### What will I see?

#### Long Tour:

Sooke Lake Reservoir and the water supply intake, dam and spillway  
One of the main streams supplying the reservoir  
A walk in the Forest  
The Deception Reservoir and dam  
The Goldstream Reservoir and dam  
The Japan Gulch Ultraviolet Disinfection Facility

#### Short Tour:

Sooke Lake Reservoir and the water supply intake, dam and spillway  
The Goldstream Reservoir and dam  
Japan Gulch Ultraviolet Disinfection Facility

#### Family Tour:

Goldstream River  
Japan Gulch Ultraviolet Disinfection Facility  
Forest walk  
Fire Protection Equipment & 'Fire' Fighting Challenge

### Will there be a lot of hiking?

There will be some short walks at some of the stops. On the long tour there is a walk of several hundred metres through the forest. However, no one needs to get off the bus if they are unable to walk.

### What should I wear?

Wear clothes suitable for the weather because the tours will go ahead even if it is raining. It can be windy and cooler up at Sooke Dam because it is higher in elevation than down in the city. The weather can change so it is a good idea to wear layers. Wear walking shoes.

### What time will we be back?

#### Long Tour (5.5hr):

The bus leaves at 9:30am and returns to the parking lot around 3pm.

#### Short Tour (3hr):

The bus leaving at 1 pm returns to the parking lot around 4 pm.

#### Family Tour (2.5hr):

The bus leaves at 9:30am and returns to the parking lot around noon.

***We cannot guarantee that the bus will be back exactly at these times, but the tour leader will try to be back by then.***

### What are the Family Tours all about?

Most of our tours are geared towards an older audience so we restrict the age group to 12 and up. However we want to encourage young families to come out and see where their water comes from too. We've developed a short tour that we hope will engage young children. These tours are intended to connect children and their parents with concepts related to water, conservation and ecosystems in an interactive way. There will be some short walks. Please note that there are no baby changing facilities or flush toilets, and strollers cannot be accommodated on the bus. Be sure to bring water and snacks.

### How many people on a tour?

The tours (Long & Short) can accommodate 42 and the Family tour is best with 30.

### Do I need to bring anything?

Bring your questions, a camera, a lunch or snack and something to drink. Wear walking shoes and dress for the weather.

### Can I bring my children?

The Long and Short tour is unsuitable for children under 12 years of age because the information provided is geared towards adults. The Family tour is structured for younger children.

### Is there a waitlist?

Yes – Please register and the system will put your name on the waitlist and notify you via email if there is an opening.

### Wheelchair Accessibility?

No - Not at this time. The buses used for the tours are not wheelchair accessible (no lifts). They are school buses that have no storage. Please leave your name, phone number and email address to be added to a waitlist. If there is enough interest (10+) we will provide a dedicated tour in the fall. Please feel free to email [watertours@crd.bc.ca](mailto:watertours@crd.bc.ca) or to contact Kathy Haesevoets at 250- 474-9627 or Annette Constabel at 250-391-3556 to discuss options.

### Are there washrooms?

Outhouses are located at each stop. There is no washroom on the bus. .

### Why can we only register for one tour?

Tours are offered as a public service and they are intended to provide an opportunity for all residents of the Region to visit the water supply area and to see first-hand where there tap water comes from. Space is limited and tours do fill-up. In order to ensure that this opportunity is available to as many residents as possible, we ask that you choose the tour that interests you the most and register for only one tour.

### More information

Visit [www.crd.bc.ca/watertours](http://www.crd.bc.ca/watertours) for more information on:

- o Map of Tour routes
- o Parking Location Map
- o BC Transit bus trip planning link
- o Declaration to enter the Water Supply Area
- o Tour Details

If you have any questions or comments, please contact [watertours@crd.bc.ca](mailto:watertours@crd.bc.ca) or call 250.474.9627