



**CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA
NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

TUESDAY, February 28, 2017 7:00 p.m.
AMEDEE O. "DICK" RICHARDS, JR. COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1424 Mission Street, South Pasadena, CA 91030

Commissioners: Al Benzoni, Hailey Bugg, Kay Findley, William Kelly, Stephen Leider,
Noah Puni, Daniel Snowden-Ifft and Nancy Wilms
City Council Liaison: Council Member Richard D Schneider, MD
Staff Liaison: Jennifer Shimmin

Roll Call

Approval of Minutes from Regular Meeting: January 24, 2017.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

Time reserved for those in attendance who wish to address the Commission. All attendees should be aware that the Commission may not discuss details or vote on non-agenda items. Your concerns may be referred to staff or placed on a future agenda. Note: public input will also be taken during all agenda items.

BUSINESS ITEMS

- 1) **Administration of Oath of Office** – Administer the Oath of Office for the newly appointed Commissioner.
- 2) **Arroyo Seco Golf Course Subcommittee Nomination (Shimmin)** – Discuss the nomination of a new commissioner appointment to the Arroyo Seco Golf Course Subcommittee.
- 3) **Chair and Vice-Chair nominations (Shimmin)** – Approve nominations for both NREC seats.
- 4) **Gray Water (Shimmin)** – Review draft language by Building & Planning.
- 5) **Cool Roofs (Benzoni)** – Discuss potential recommendation regarding incorporating cool roofs into building standards.
- 6) **Tree Ordinance** – Discuss commission involvement in tree removal requests during building process.

INFORMATION ONLY (No Discussion Required) (15 minutes)

- 7) **Urban Forest Update (Shimmin)**
- 8) **Update on Renewable Energy Request for Proposals or Qualifications (Shimmin)**
- 9) **Upcoming Events** – 626 Golden Streets Event – March 5th; Budget Community Forum – March 11th; E-Waste/Document Shredding at the Rose Bowl – March 18th

- CHAIR COMMUNICATIONS**
- COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATIONS**
- STAFF LIAISON COMMUNICATIONS**
- COUNCIL LIAISON COMMUNICATIONS**

ADJOURNMENT – Next Regular Meeting – March 28, 2017

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA)
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES)

I declare under penalty of perjury, that I am an employee of the City of South Pasadena, and that I posted this Agenda on the bulletin board in the courtyard of the City Hall at 1414 Mission Street, South Pasadena on 2-22-17, as required by Law.

Date: February 22, 2017 Signature: _____

Any disclosable public records related to this meeting distributed to the Commission fewer than 72 hours prior to the meeting shall be available for public inspection at the Public Works Office, 1414 Mission Street, Room #201, prior to the meeting. Copies of the agenda packet and any supplemental documents will be available at the meeting. Any documents distributed at the meeting will be made available following the meeting at the Public Works Office during normal business hours.

**CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA
NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
MINUTES – January 24, 2017**

Roll Call – The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. Present were Commissioners: Chair William Kelly, Al Benzoni, Kay Findley, Noah Puni and Nancy Wilms. Absent were Commissioner Stephen Leider, and Student Commissioner Hailey Bugg. Also present was Staff Liaison Jenna Shimmin, and Council Liaison Robert Joe.

Minutes – Minutes from November 22, 2016 were approved with minor edits (Benzoni, Findley 6-0; Absent: Leider).

Minutes from December 8, 2016 were approved with minor edits (Findley, Wilms 6-0; Absent: Leider).

Public Comments and Suggestions – None.

BUSINESS ITEMS

1. **Arroyo Seco Gold Course Subcommittee Nomination (Shimmin)** – The commission discussed who might be able to take on the responsibility. Discussed the idea of Nancy Wilms being nominated. The commission decided to discuss further at the February meeting, when the new commissioner is present.

Council Liaison Joe gave an update on the status of the subcommittee: He stated that the subcommittee is looking into the possibility of hiring a new contractor, or making improvements to the agreement with the current contractor. They are also looking into refreshing or remodeling the banquet hall, and irrigation water sources.

2. **Chair and Vice-Chair Nominations (Shimmin)** – The commissioners discussed the possibility of Bill Kelly as Chair for a second term, and Al Benzoni as Vice Chair. Plan to discuss it further at the February meeting when the new commissioner is present.
3. **Tree Removal Application Update (Courdy)** – This item was incorrectly labeled on the agenda, it is actually an update to a tree removal application that was approved in 2009. The original application was granted permission to remove 24 trees; however, they are only removing 17 as of January 2017. Since the circumstances have changed, Public Works felt it best to bring this item back to the NREC for review.

Commissioner Findley: Had a question on the replacement tree figure calculation. She wanted to confirm the methodology (each diameter assessed separately versus an aggregate of all diameters). Kristine Courdy will revise the calculation prior to issuing a response to the developer.

Commissioner Benzoni: Stated that Public Works should allow all 22 trees to be native or non-native, not hold them to non-natives only (thus giving them the option). He also requested that the developer consider a 5 year warranty, instead of 2 years.

Chair Kelly: Asked about the procedure for tree removal requests, inquiring whether there was a formal procedure or not. Kristine Courdy explained that the arborist evaluates the health of the tree, and any potential impacts of the development. The planning commission and Public Works approve the removal request based on the site plan footprint and place conditions of approval on the project in accordance with the City's tree ordinance. They may require the developer to protect and save a tree(s) when possible and/or necessary.

Commissioner Benzoni: Recommended that the replacement trees should be required to be installed somewhere on the property as a screen to neighboring properties, as original trees did.

4. **Gray Water (Shimmin)** – Staff has not heard back from Craig Melicher, so this item is tabled until February's meeting.
5. **Tree Ordinance (Shimmin)** – Kristine Courdy covered a brief background on the proposed changes to the City's tree ordinance (which were taken to the Council, who sent it back for NREC review). In short, the new language spells out that a person cannot harm any tree on public property, and actually defined "harm." It does not define harm for trees on private property. There is currently no language that protects those trees from harm.

Chair Kelly: Noted that trees in Garfield Park, specifically the older larger ones, are rather sturdy. He inquired what City staff would do if children were climbing in the tree. Ms. Courdy responded that the new language is meant to keep people from actions that intentionally cause harm to the City's trees.

The commissioners all agreed that trees should be protected, but that children shouldn't be restricted from playing or other non-harmful behavior. They also expressed that this language should apply to any tree in City limits, because, for example, improper care of non-mature trees could be detrimental to their growth and long term health. It is because of this they would like the language changed to be all inclusive. Ms. Courdy replied that she would need to discuss this with the City Attorney regarding the legality of such an ordinance.

Councilmember Joe: Explained that the Council referred this item back to the NREC to ensure that it accomplished what staff intended, which was to limit liability and damage from those who had intent.

The Commission gave the following direction to staff to review with the City Attorney:

- Remove specific reference to Piñatas, use a more generic term for items used in trees
- Ensure that "all trees" are included
- Ensure that intent of harm to a tree isn't too specific, protects the City from liability and also protects the tree(s) from harm without being too restrictive
- Would also like to see a definition of a "Park"

INFORMATION ONLY

6. **Urban Forest Update** – Kristine Courdy provided an update that Public Works and West Coast Arborist are in more of a reactive mode this month responding to downed trees and branches, and service orders as a result of recent storms. There have been forty trees planted so far. Grid pruning is on hold until spring.

Commission Findley: Inquired as to the extent of the damage caused by the bore beetles. Ms. Courdy responded that they are finding the treatments in other trees aren't helping if the tree has been heavily infested and affected. It works best on minimally affected trees or as a preventative measure. She advised that experts are saying our trees are probably too far gone for any treatment to be affective. Sycamore trees are host trees where the beetles can reproduce, and so Public Works will be introducing species of trees that they can't reproduce in.

Downed trees have mostly been private, but there was one at Fremont & Spruce that fell and Public Works had to push it onto private property for the time being in order to clear the street. As branches are falling off of trees the arborist has been inspecting the trees to ensure that there are no other issues.

7. **Upcoming Events** – Friends of the South Pasadena Library Garden Walk February 4th

Chair Communications- Stated that he heard conflicting messaging from various city representatives regarding the LLMD vote, and how to discuss it with the general public. Also stated the he felt the meetings were held too close to the ballot due date, and there should have been a better informational campaign. He also felt that the timing in relation to the holidays was a poor choice as many were distracted and could have forgotten about the vote in general.

He also stated that he'd like an update on the pesticides item when possible, as well as the renewables RFP.

Commissioner Communications-

Commissioner Benzoni: Would like to see the Cool Roofs item as a future agenda item.

Commissioner Findley: Expressed that she was disappointed in the outcome of the LLMD vote. Stated that she would have liked to have seen messaging more directed at the weighted voters to help them better understand the benefits their parcel would receive.

Stables Subcommittee Update: They have employed Ron Hagen, a consultant, and are pleased with this work so far. He has given them good input for an RFP for a formal contract. He has provided insight on the outlook for where the stables currently are. They will not be visiting any other stables.

Commissioner Puni: No updates at this time.

Commissioner Wilms: Asked for a status update on the hiring of a new Parks Supervisor. She also stated that it would be nice to do something more formal at the end of the year when there is an outgoing commissioner.

Staff Liaison Communications- Advised the Commission that the City is participating in a program where Edison will install 4' LED bulbs at no cost. Also advised them that the Organic Waste program was passed by Council in December, and that the rate and formal ordinance adoption would be coming in the next few months. Gave an update on a meeting with the Chamber regarding the EPS ban outreach, and a possible Earth Day fair aimed at local businesses. The renewables RFP is under development and should be released in the next few weeks. The General Plan update is currently gearing up and the City is seeking individuals to participate in focus groups and advisory committees.

Council Liaison Communication – Informed the Commission that the Council passed a resolution passing an Inclusion Ordinance.

Also stated that because the LLMD didn't get enough "Yes" votes, City staff will need to assess what the funds currently being collected can actually cover without general fund assistance. Last fiscal year roughly \$200,000 was used from the general fund, and he doesn't think that can happen again next fiscal year.

As a result of the recent storms there has been damage throughout the City that is going to need to be repaired, costing the City more money. A few of the problems areas include:

- Iron Works Museum flooding: there is currently a pump in place for future storms, but drainage will need to be mitigated at some point
- Orange Grove Park supply room flooded
- Garfield Park had a sink hole on Mission by the drain (5-6' deep)
- Eddie Park sun room had water inside from roof issues
- Senior Center PC lab roof has an ongoing leak
- War Memorial had lots of water in the basement
- CNG fuel pump had mud coming under the fence
- Dog Park is mostly OK
- Golf Course has two new lakes with all the standing water

Adjournment – Commissioner Benzoni motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m., Commissioner Puni seconded. Ayes: All (Absent – Leider), Nays: None.

NEXT MEETING – The next meeting of the Natural Resources and Environmental Commission will be held on February 28, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

William Kelly, Chair

From: Craig Melicher <craig.melicher@transtech.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 2:45 PM
To: Jennifer Shimmin
Cc: Ayla Jefferson; Dennis Tarango; David Watkins; John Mayer
Subject: RE: Greywater Provisions
Attachments: grey_water_01.jpg; grey_water.jpg; greywater-installation2.jpg; grey_water_02.jpg

Hi Jenna,

I think the NREC should take the following steps or consider the following:

1. Define the goal of the Ordinance;
2. Decide whether South Pasadena should require that greywater systems be installed in a 'ready-to-use' state, or a partial system that could be used at some point in the future. (I have no recommendation one way or the other);
3. If the system is to be ready to use when the house is ready for occupancy, then some level of coordination is required with the landscape design. I haven't thoroughly researched this, but I'm assuming that any of the following conditions could exist or should be considered:
 - a. Plumbing fixtures could drain directly to landscape areas – in which case the landscape areas need to be able to accept the discharged greywater without creating a nuisance based on variable flow;
 - b. Some quantity of greywater could be stored for more controlled use. In addition to storage vessels, some type of pump will probably be required. The quantity of water stored would have to be decided along with permitted locations for the storage vessels. Would the City accept above-grade barrels that are visible from the street for example? Maybe above-grade barrels would be acceptable in the back- or side-yards only?
 - c. Where coordination with a landscape plan is required, who will review the design to make sure it is consistent with City requirements and the proposed greywater system. I'm also assuming that a fee will be required to recover the City's review costs.
4. Alternatively, the City could simply require that each permitted plumbing fixture be allowed to drain to the site, or collected in a common system, or a combination of both. If the entire system is not going to be installed, then each permitted plumbing fixture could simply be piped to an exterior location via some type of accessible 3-way valve, or the City could require that each plumbing fixture be collected into a common pipe that terminates on the exterior along with the required 3-way valve, or some combination of the two.
5. I think there are overlaps with Zoning issues that should also be explored with the Planning Division in addition to Building Division.
6. If partial systems are installed, I don't think that Health Department approval is required for an incomplete system. If a system is installed with stub-outs, verification of the final installation by the Building Department may be very difficult because of the likelihood that owners will complete the system without getting an appropriate permit from the City.

For clarification, I am picturing systems similar to the attached graphics or a system similar to the GreyFlow system (see video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lg-HEgDgnw>)

If the City wants to mandate a working system, then the draft ordinance I wrote could be used as a guide. If the NREC prefers, we can go back and work with the draft from Encinitas. Or if the NREC wants to do something completely different, I'm open.

Ayla, the Building Services Manager, reviewed my draft language and provided the significantly improved version below. She is also suggesting that we need a definition for 'Net Irrigable Landscape Area,' and I agree. Also, does there

even need to be greenery in the landscape? If someone wanted to discharge greywater beneath brick pavers rather than put the waste into the sewer system, would the City object? If someone builds a new house with pavers and DG and a couple of trees that require very little irrigation water, would the City object? Would this qualify as 'New Irrigable Landscape Area?'

9.51 Purpose

Greywater systems shall be installed in all new one- and two-family dwellings.

Exceptions:

- 1) Greywater systems shall not be required for individual lots that have a net irrigable landscape area of less than 200 square feet.
- 2) Greywater piping shall not be required from interior residential fixtures where the invert elevation of the greywater piping cannot terminate at least 6 inches above adjacent grade at an exterior wall without the use of a pump.
- 3) Use of greywater for irrigation of parkways in the public right of way shall be at the sole discretion of the Director of Public Works.

9.52 Installation requirements

Greywater systems shall be installed in full accordance with current Health Department requirements. Greywater systems shall be plumbed from all plumbing fixtures permitted to serve a greywater system to at least one discharge location on an exterior wall that is capable of supplying a landscape irrigation system with nonpotable water.

Landscape areas, where provided, shall be capable of accepting, storing and percolating not less than 60 gallons of discharged greywater in any single 24-hour period of time and not less than 30 gallons within any 90-minute period of time, or storage tanks with a capacity of not less than 100 gallons shall be provided. Where storage tanks are provided, pumps or other means shall be provided to discharge the greywater into landscape areas at a rate not greater than the actual capacity of the landscape area.

At no time shall greywater be permitted to flow beyond the defined boundary of the landscape area or across a property line.

9.53 Definitions

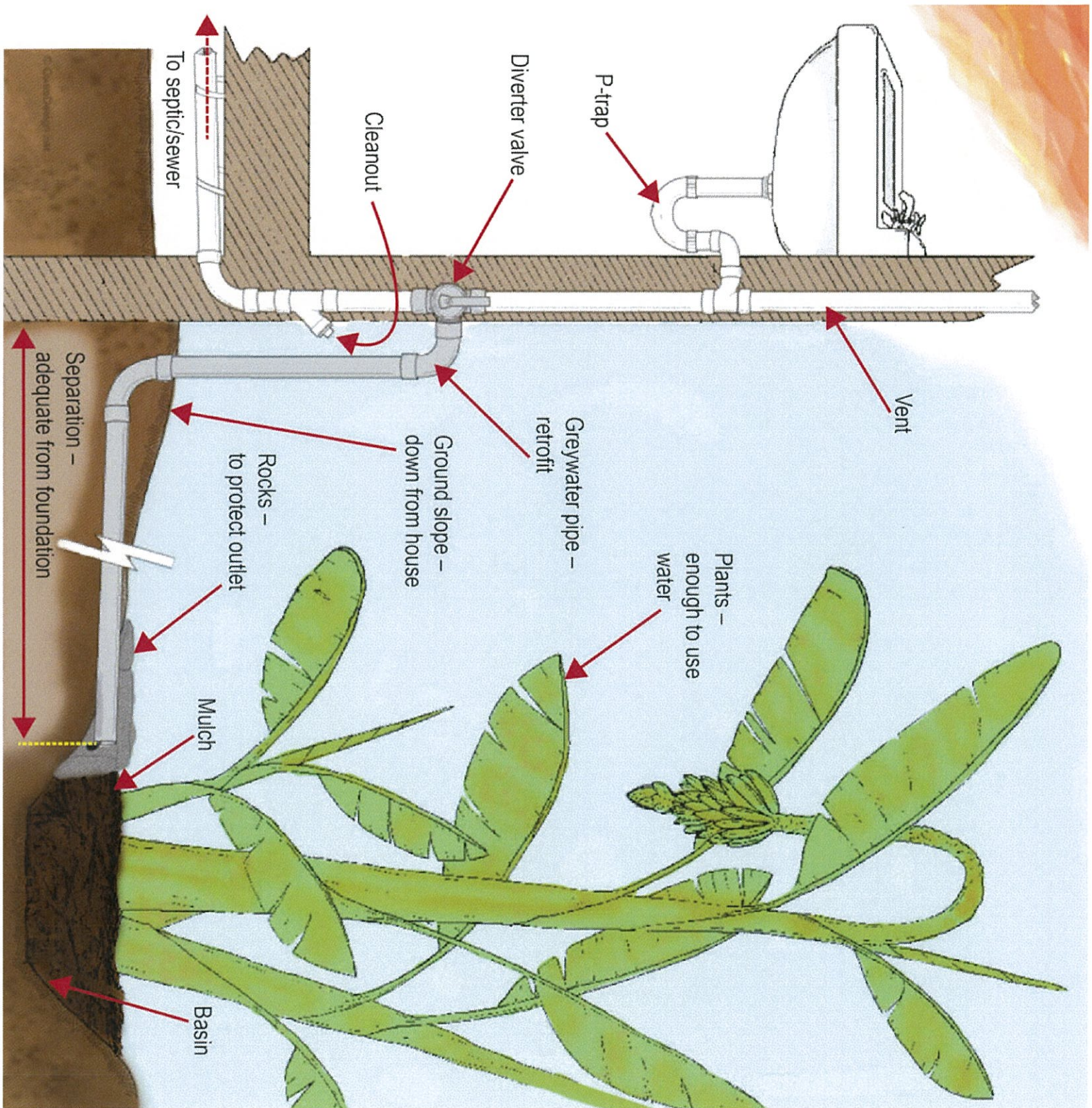
Net irrigable landscape area;

Craig Melicher
Vice President
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(626) 217-3748



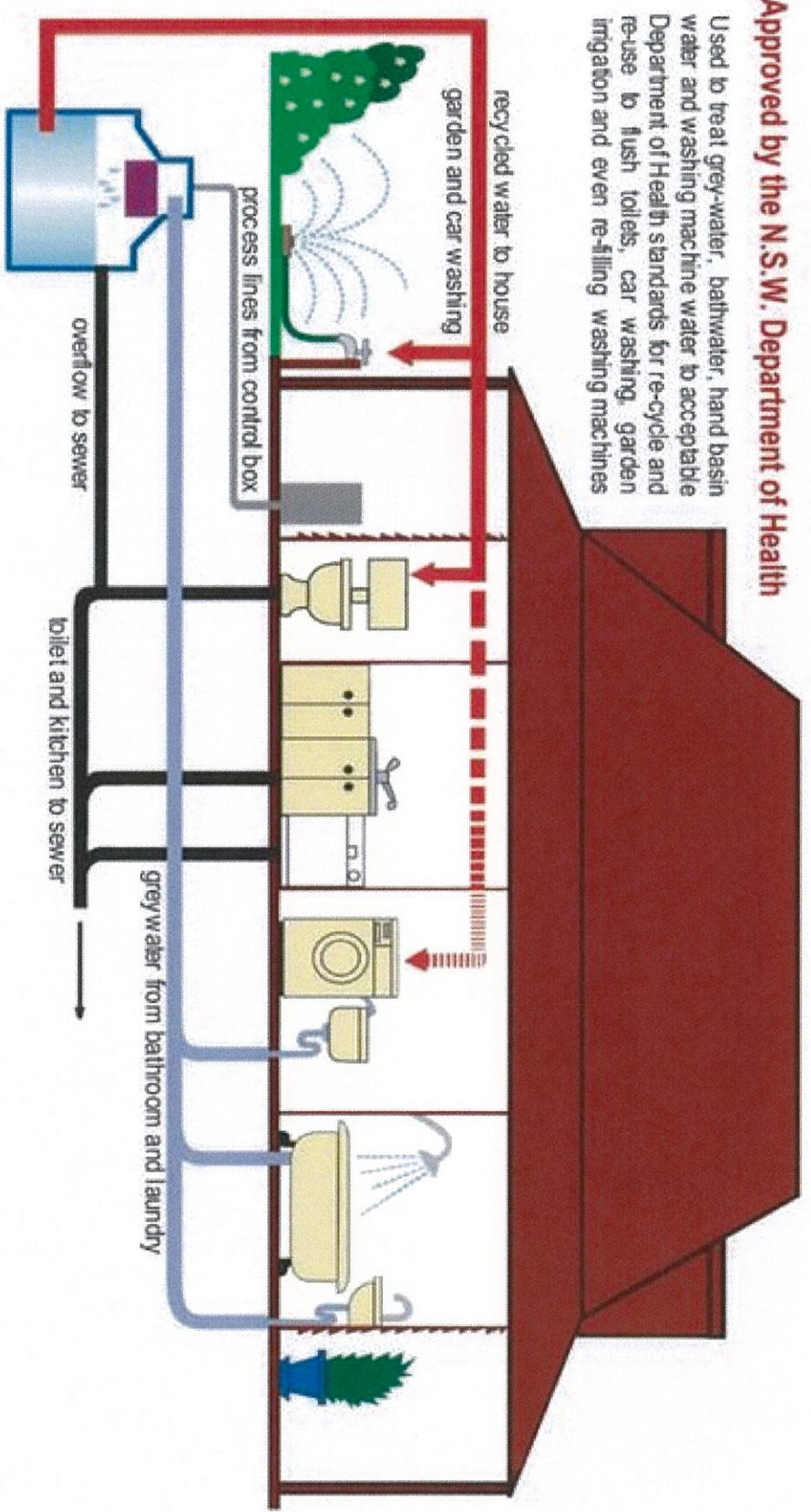
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Approved by the N.S.W. Department of Health

Used to treat grey-water, bathwater, hand basin water and washing machine water to acceptable Department of Health standards for re-cycle and re-use to flush toilets, car washing, garden irrigation and even re-filling washing machines



Advanced greywater treatment

