



# Transition Salt Spring

Responding to climate change. Re-imagining community.



## Transition helps islanders tap into winter rains

BY ANDREA PALFRAMAN

[Excerpt from One Cool Island Column in the Driftwood October 20, 2021](#)

It's an October morning in Ganges Harbour. Crowded around the Rotary dinghy dock are assorted skiffs and rowboats, each filled with gallons upon gallons of rainwater. Looking at the collection, you can't help but notice how prolifically these vessels collect rain when the season is right.

While mariners may need to crack out their bailing buckets, this season, it's with relief that we tug on our rubber boots. We're emerging from a drought season that was longer, hotter, and more noticeably harmful to our salmon, cedar and ecosystems than any in recent memory. Squelching through soaked gardens, it's easy to wonder, "if only we could time the rains to come when gardens need it most!"

Thanks to the availability of rainwater catchment systems, it's not only possible, it's simple and affordable.

Islanders are catching on — big time. Recently, Transition Salt Spring piloted a Rainwater Harvesting Rebate program for homeowners looking to install rainwater catchment systems....

[...Read more in the Oct 20th Driftwood.](#)

One Cool Island is a regular series produced for the Driftwood by Transition Salt Spring on how we can all respond to the climate crisis--together. Andrea Palframan is a member of Transition Salt Spring and volunteer communications contributor.

## Featured Events

**ONE COOL island** **Transition SaltSpring** **Salt Spring Island CONSERVANCY** **SALT SPRING ISLAND FIRE RESCUE**

# FORESTS, WATER, FIRE

An evening of dynamic discussion about how to beat the heat and steward our own backyard

**Wednesday, October 27**  
6:30-8:30PM Via Zoom

Tickets \$10

**With Special Guests**

- BILL HENDERSON**  
Moderator, Musician
- SUSAN HANNON**  
President of the Salt Spring Island Conservancy
- MITCHELL SHERRIN**  
Captain at Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue
- MARK WHITEAR**  
Eco-Forester

Register at [tinyurl.com/ForestsWaterFire](https://www.tinyurl.com/ForestsWaterFire)

### Forests, Water, Fire ...

An evening of dynamic discussion on how to beat the heat and steward our own backyard

Wednesday, October 27, 2021

6:30 - 8:30 pm on zoom

Register here: [www.tinyurl.com/ForestsWaterFire](https://www.tinyurl.com/ForestsWaterFire)

Tickets \$10 as a fundraiser for TSS and SSI Conservancy

#### Special Guests

**Bill Henderson:** Moderator, Musician

**Susan Hannon:** President of the SSI Conservancy

**Mitchell Sherrin:** Captain at SSI Fire Rescue

**Mark Whitear:** Eco-Forester

Join an all-star community cast as we dive into ways that you can steward your land to better conserve water, maintain healthier ecosystems, and prevent wildfires. An evening for property-owners, land-stewards, neighbourhood pods, foresters, and landscapers.

## How to Plan Your Rainwater Harvesting System

November 9th 2021, 7:00 PM - 8:45 PM

Free to Register at:

<https://form-can.keela.co/rainwater-webinar>



A Public Live Zoom Presentation/Discussion



Join your Climate Action Coaches in our second webinar!

## How to Plan Your Rainwater Harvesting System

Tuesday, November 9th, 2021

7:00 - 8:45 pm on Zoom

[Free to register](#)

If you are interested in installing cisterns to collect rainwater this rainy season, this webinar is for you.

### Special Guests

**Shannon Cowan:** PhD Biology, Coordinator SSI Watershed Protection Alliance

**Rhonan Heitzmann:** Owner Salt Spring Island Water Company

**Matt Nowell:** Rainwater Collection Installer Gulf Islands Irrigation

Join us for this incredible opportunity to discuss non-potable rainwater collection, learn more about currently available rebates and our plans for the future, and get your questions answered about what installation of a rainwater harvesting system is like on Salt Spring Island.

IMPROVE WOOD-HEAT  
SAFETY, ECONOMY AND  
EFFICIENCY



# "BURN IT SMART"

Chat with wood-heat technicians and  
fire-safety professionals

Webinar on November 3, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm  
<https://tinyurl.com/BurnSmart>

For more information, call SSIFR (250) 537-2531  
or visit: [www.saltspringfire.com](http://www.saltspringfire.com)



## Why waste wood and risk fires when you can "Burn it Smart"?

Local firefighters are hosting the fourth annual "Burn it Smart" workshop to teach about wood heat.

**Wednesday, November 3rd, 2021**

**7 - 9pm on Zoom**

Pre-register at <https://tinyurl.com/BurnSmart>

Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue (SSIFR) has invited Richard Elwell, from the Home Design Centre, to talk about wood-burning appliances and Captain Mitchell Sherrin, from SSIFR, to talk about how to prevent chimney fires, and other fire safety tips.

Partners from the SSI Conservancy and Transition Salt Spring will also be on hand to address environmental concerns.

If you have any questions about the "Burn it Smart" workshop or other safety issues, drop by the Ganges Fire Hall, give us a call (250) 537-2531, or check the website: [www.saltspringfire.com](http://www.saltspringfire.com).

Please consider becoming a  
monthly donor  
to support our work!

Donate Today!

## Meet our newest board member!



Oonagh Duncan is an author and entrepreneur with a passion for climate justice, Salt Spring Island and getting stuff done. She is honoured to serve on the board of TSS and excited to put her energy towards the implementation of the Salt Spring Island Climate Action Plan. She serves as the lead on TSS communications and her goal is to get all Islanders aware of the incredible climate solutions available to us today - and the vision of the Cool Island we'll have in 2050 when we hit our net-zero target.

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**Our mailing address is:**

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