



**Dufferin Grove Park
Composting toilet project**

Benefits

Facilities

A safe place for children and families to use the washroom

Water conservation

Uses per season = up to 6,900

Litres of water saved per season = 65,550

Education

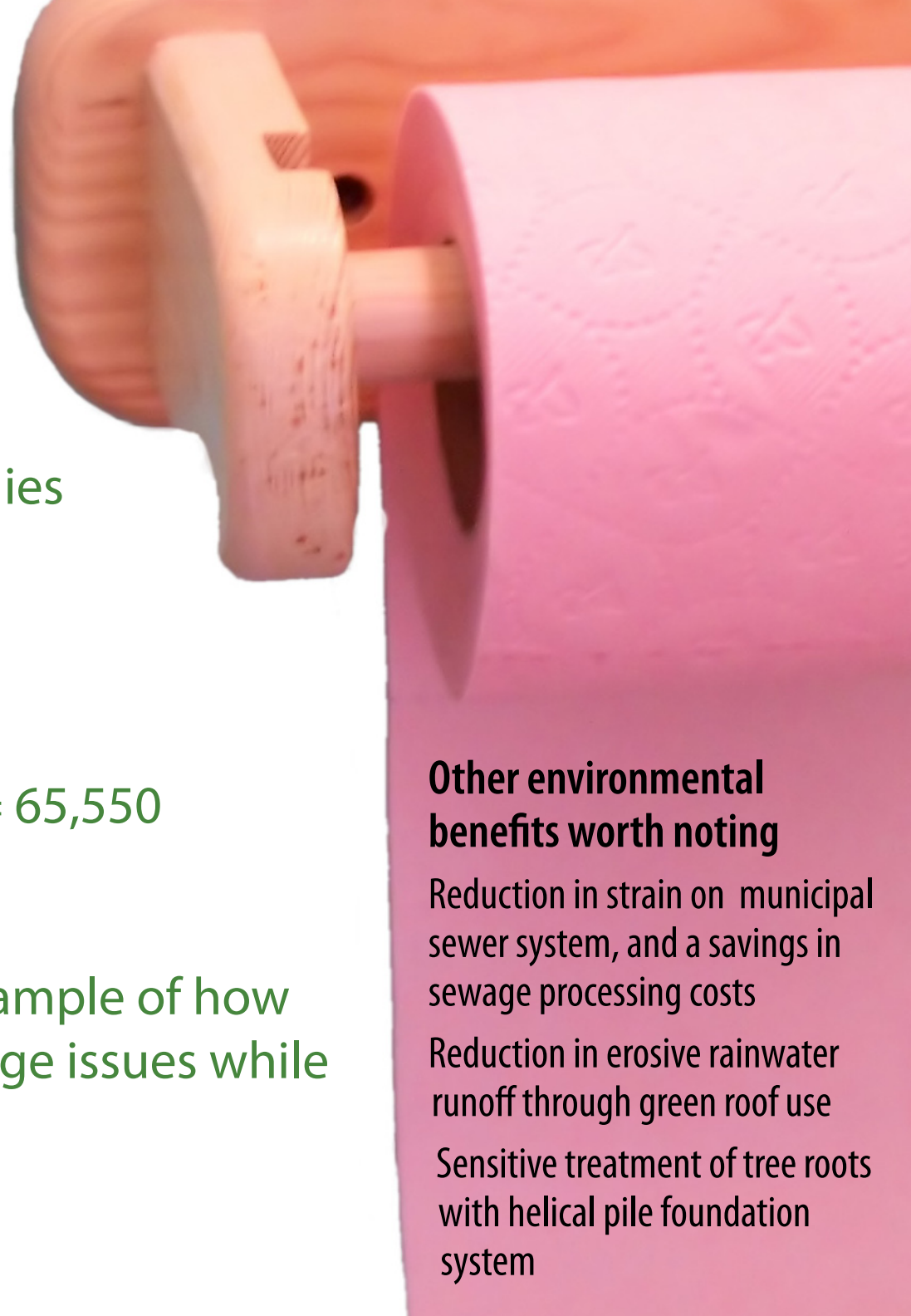
A chance to provide a positive example of how Toronto can address climate change issues while improving its infrastructure

Other environmental benefits worth noting

Reduction in strain on municipal sewer system, and a savings in sewage processing costs

Reduction in erosive rainwater runoff through green roof use

Sensitive treatment of tree roots with helical pile foundation system



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CITY IN BRIEF

By JENNY YUEN and KATE ZANKOWICZ

Park's new poop-and-scoop

Dufferin Grove Park will soon grow flowers with your poop.

Local artist Georgie Donais is working with the city to install Toronto's first outdoor compost toilet close to the park's playground.

"It's a statement that there are other options," says Donais, referring to the city's struggle to find a destination for its many thousands of tonnes of sludge. "[Our toilet] doesn't drain into the sewer system and doesn't go into Lake Ontario."

Right now, a 100-square-foot hole in the ground is the starting point for the toilet, which should be ready next summer.

Says Parks and Rec manager Sandy Straw , "Porta-potties are also an option, but then there's the whole question of disposal."

You can go number one or two in the compost toilet, and instead of flushing you put a scoop of wood chips in the bowl. The plan is for city staff to turn the crank on the outside of the stall once a day to filter material downwards. Fans will suck air down the toilet to minimize the stink factor.

Says Donais, "We're going to make sure that everyone is comfortable with the use and that there's no chance of odour."

Gord Perks of the Toronto Environmental Alliance says we should take advantage of any long- or short-term solution to the sludge problem. "Compost toilets have improved drastically in the last 25 years," he says.

But even though a compost toilet is cheaper and saves water, you can't replace an existing residential toilet with one for health reasons, according to **Ministry of Housing building code interpreter Al Suleman** .

If this pilot project doesn't crap out, the city will look at putting more compost toilets along the waterfront.





You are invited
to an outdoor **Public Meeting**



to discuss the proposal for a
composting toilet facility near the
playground in Dufferin Grove Park

Sunday, June 25, 3pm, by the cob wall





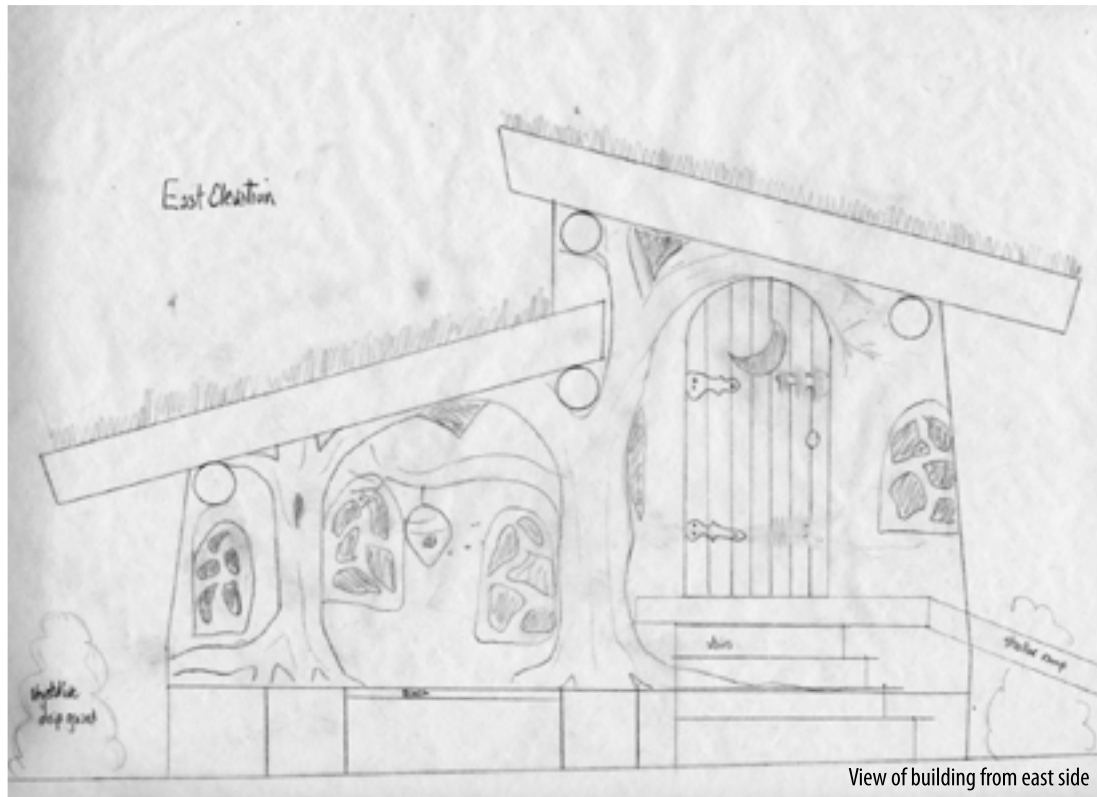






EARTHEN ARCHITECTURE

Community-Built Earthen Building/Bio-toilet
Dufferin Grove Park
2007





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The City of Toronto holds public consultations as one way to engage residents in the life of their city. Toronto thrives on your great ideas and actions. We invite you to get involved.

Dufferin Grove Park

Public Meeting

Toronto Parks, Forestry and Recreation, along with a consultant hired by the City of Toronto, is undertaking a feasibility study. Options will be presented for the development of a future washroom structure containing a bio-toilet, to be located near the playground. The local community is invited to attend this meeting and provide suggestions and/or feedback that will guide the feasibility study.

Date: Monday, November 8, 2010

Time: 7 to 8:30 p.m.

**Location: St. Mary's Catholic Secondary School cafeteria,
66 Dufferin Park Ave.**  

The community is also invited to attend a follow-up meeting:

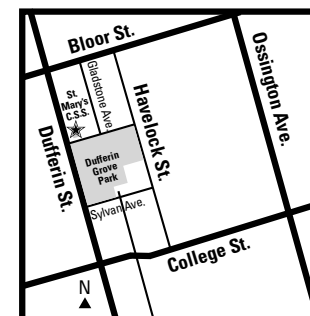
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2010

Time: 7 to 8:30 p.m.

**Location: St. Mary's Catholic Secondary School cafeteria,
66 Dufferin Park Ave.**  

Interpretation services may be arranged with at least one week's notice in advance of the meeting date.

For more information please contact:
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Information will be collected in accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.

