



# RETROSUBURBIA

THE DOWNSHIFTER'S GUIDE TO A RESILIENT FUTURE

## CHAPTER 9: GREYWATER AND HUMAN NUTRIENT RECYCLING

### QUESTIONS:

- How comfortable are you with recycling your human wastes? Why?
- What's in your greywater? Are there changes you need to make so it is suitable for use on the garden?
- Share your household tips for reducing soap and detergent use in the kitchen, bathroom and laundry
- How much water would you save by using a composting toilet?
- Is there somewhere at your place (shed?) you could install a simple bucket compost toilet?
- Brainstorm local sources of wood shavings/sawdust that could be used for a compost toilet

### ACTIVITIES:

- Construct a composting toilet
- Start using a pee bucket
- Give up shampoo and conditioner
- Make your own cleaning products eg for instance using bicarb soda, eucalyptus oil and vinegar
- Work out how much greywater your site could potentially absorb taking into account evaporation, rainfall and soil type.\*
- As a group, research different types of DIO greywater systems. Each member, or pair, could investigate a particular design and report back to the group. Construct one if possible.

\* Further resources for this activity may be available to registered book clubs

