

## **New Water Conservation Levels for City of Parksville**

The City of Parksville Council recently approved water conservation levels consistent with those administered by the Regional District of Nanaimo. The amendment to the Water Service System Bylaw will allow residents to water every other day but with progressively less time per conservation level.

In an effort to establish a Regional District of Nanaimo equivalent, the City has established a four-level water conservation system which allows for greater flexibility for homeowners, businesses and strata developments, provides consistency in the region and also lowers maximum day water demands.

The City's bylaw amendment addresses a number of key concerns:

- Difficulty for some larger stratas not able to meet previous watering restrictions within the time allotted.
- Less confusion for residents who assume that Parksville watering is the same as RDN water use conservation
- Elimination of the 1am to 4 am watering time for automatic sprinkler systems will allow for sufficient recovery/replenishment time in the City's water storage reservoirs.
- Watering of City-owned parks, open space and sports fields would be exempt from the new conservation levels to accomplish proper upkeep. Similarly, the City's water utility would be exempt to allow for proper operations and maintenance of the water utility system.
- With written prior permission from the Director of Engineering and Operations, strata developments may vary watering hours to sustain plant stock, particularly where irrigations systems are metered separately.

The City's new water conservation levels and general information are explained on the attached page.

### **Water Conservation Level 2 is now in effect:**

Effective today, even numbered addresses may water on even numbered days and odd numbered addresses may water on odd numbered days (every other day frequency). It is important to note that with all conservation levels, the watering times or window to water is 6am to 10am and 6pm to 10pm. Level 2 allows four hours total allocated watering hours per day.

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For more information:

Engineering and Operations

250 248-5412

## Water Conservation Levels - City of Parksville

On July 4, 2011, the City of Parksville Council approved water conservation levels consistent with those administered by the Regional District of Nanaimo. The amendment to the Water Service System bylaw allows residents to water every other day but with progressively less time per conservation level.

In an effort to establish a Regional District of Nanaimo equivalent, the City has established a four-level water conservation system which allows for greater flexibility for homeowners, businesses and strata developments, provides consistency in the region and also lowers maximum day water demands. The amendment also eliminates the 1 am to 4 am time slot for automatic sprinklers.

### General Information

As of May 1st each year and throughout the summer (until further notice), we will be in Level 2 watering restrictions. Residents will be notified through proper channels should water conservation levels become more stringent. During this time, you may:

- Use any type of sprinkler, soaker hose or underground system ONLY during your watering time/date.
- Water your garden, trees, shrubs, flowers, and vegetables on days other than your watering day if you use a hand-held container or hose with a shut-off nozzle.
- Use micro-irrigation or drip-irrigation at ANY TIME to water trees, shrubs, flowers or vegetables (not soaker hoses- they're actually quite wasteful).
- Wash your vehicles, RV's and boats ANY TIME using a hose with a shut-off nozzle, unless dry conditions this summer cause us to move into a Level 4 Comprehensive Watering Ban.

### Water Conservation Levels

Even numbered addresses may water on even numbered days and odd numbered addresses may water on odd numbered days (every other day frequency). It is important to note that with all conservation levels, the watering times or window to water is 6am to 10am and 6pm to 10pm.

#### **Level 1 - April, September and October**

Every other day with six hours total allocated watering hours per day.

#### **Level 2 - May, June, July and August**

Every other day with four hours total allocated watering hours per day.

#### **Level 3**

Watering is as required; every other day with two hours total allocated watering hours per day. Restrictions include:

- No washing of driveways or sidewalks
- Must use a hose equipped with a shutoff device for vehicle and boat washing
- No use of decorative fountains without re-circulated water
- No filling of residential swimming pools, wading pools, garden ponds or water features

#### **Level 4 - Comprehensive Watering Ban**

Restrictions include:

- No hosing of exterior building surfaces including windows, parking lots, driveways or sidewalks.
- No use of decorative fountains without re-circulated water.
- No watering of trees, shrubs, flowers or vegetables except by a hand held hose with a shutoff device or micro irrigation systems between 6am-10am and 6pm-10pm.
- No washing of vehicles or boats.
- No filling of a residential swimming pool, wading pool, garden ponds or decorative fountains

For more information, please contact Engineering and Operations, 250 248-5412