

Englishman River Water Supply

On Tuesday evening, July 17, the water in the Englishman River at Top Bridge Park became highly turbid or muddy as a result of a clay bank sloughing into the river further upstream. Staff immediately responded to the Englishman River water intake to monitor conditions and at about 8 pm, the river intake was shutdown ahead of the turbidity plume. At this time, all water is being supplied by City owned wells.

The City relies on the river intake for summer supply. With the river station down because of the high turbidity, the City is having difficulty meeting current water demands using the well water supply only. The City anticipates this will be a short-term event however; precautions were taken to close down City irrigation and the Community Park water park. The City advised the Parksville Fire Department and notified the Regional District of Nanaimo requesting that they close down the supply of river water from the Parksville system to Area E Nanoose Bay Peninsula Water Service.

On July 18, the City moved to Water Conservation Level 3 which allows a total of two hours watering per watering day. Watering times are 6 am to 10 am and 6 pm to 10 pm on an every other day basis.

Staff will continue to monitor turbidity and reservoir levels and in the event the situation continues may implement further water conservation measures. In the interim, in an effort to conserve water we request that residents limit their water use.

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For more information:

Engineering and Operations

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