

NEWS RELEASE

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City Asks Residents to Conserve Water

We are requesting residents to voluntarily reduce water consumption as watering restriction stage 3 becomes effective tomorrow, August 9. We are experiencing hot and dry weather with no significant rainfall expected in the next while. Adhering to watering restrictions as well as proactive water conservation is critical to maintain water supply for fire protection, essential household use and environmental flows in streams. The City will continue to monitor demands daily and we do appreciate the efforts of residents to voluntarily conserve water.

Stage 3 restrictions, the same as stage 2, enable residents to choose where they wish to cut back and most importantly, provide an opportunity to defer stage 4 or a comprehensive watering ban. Residents are asked to voluntarily conserve water, particularly discretionary outdoor water use such as the watering of lawns. Should we not see reductions in water consumption, it will be necessary to implement stage 4, a comprehensive watering ban which prohibits all outdoor watering, filling of pools, washing of vehicles, etc.

As a reminder to residents, stage 3 watering restrictions are as follows:

- Residents are encouraged to voluntarily reduce watering of lawns to a minimum in an effort to avoid potential future watering ban if City water demands cannot be managed.
- Vegetable gardens and fruit trees are exempt from all watering restrictions.
- Watering of ornamental shrubs, flowers and trees is restricted to a hand-held container or a hose equipped with a shutoff nozzle if watered outside of the times permitted.
- Washing of vehicles, boats and exterior building surfaces may be washed using City supplied potable water using a hand-held container or hose equipped with a shutoff nozzle.
- Washing of sidewalks, driveways or parking lots may be washed using City supplied potable water using a hand-held container or hose equipped with a shutoff nozzle.
- Swimming pools, wading pools, hot tubs and water features may be filled.
- Odd numbered addresses may water on odd numbered days and even numbered addresses on even numbered days. Watering times are 7 am to 10 am <u>OR</u> 7 pm to 10 pm for a maximum of two hours total allocated watering per day.

Detailed information about the City's water restrictions may be found on the City of Parksville website at parksville.ca [Quicklinks/Water Restrictions]. The City is a partner in the Regional District of Nanaimo's Team WaterSmart programs. For helpful tips on saving water and for a map with information on local watering restriction stages, visit www.teamwatersmart.ca.

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For more information:

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