

## Extreme Heat Conditions Elevate Watering Restriction to Stage 3

In response to the record-breaking extreme heatwave and increased water demand, along with the Regional District of Nanaimo water service areas, the City of Parksville is implementing Stage 3 water restrictions immediately and until further notice.

Under Stage 3, residents are requested to further reduce non-essential outdoor water use, including curtailing lawn watering and refraining from washing cars or outdoor surfaces. If water demand does not decrease under voluntary measures in Stage 3, it will prompt a move to Stage 4 comprehensive outdoor watering ban in order to ensure essential water needs for household use, cooling measures for health and safety, fire protection, and environmental flows can be met.

Under Stage 3 watering restrictions, the same even and odd day watering framework as Stage 2 is maintained with additional conservation. Stage 3 offers flexibility for residents to decide where and how they cut back on water use. As a reminder to residents, Stage 3 watering restrictions are as follows:

- Residents are encouraged to voluntarily reduce watering of lawns to avoid potential future watering ban if City water demands cannot be managed.
- Vegetable gardens and fruit trees are exempt from all watering restrictions.
- 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 OR 7 pm to 10 pm for a maximum of two hours watering per day. However, Stage 3 asks residents to reduce watering times within these times.

Our region is experiencing a long and continuing stretch of hot dry weather and further outdoor water use restrictions help to effectively manage the supply and demand of water during the summer months when consumption skyrockets. Long-range forecasts project a warmer and drier than average summer ahead. We will continue to monitor demands and should we not see reductions in water consumption, it will be necessary to implement Stage 4, which prohibits all outdoor watering such as filling of pools and washing vehicles. We appreciate the efforts of residents to voluntarily conserve water, particularly discretionary outdoor water use.

Detailed information about our water restrictions may be viewed at [parksville.ca](http://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 information on local watering restrictions, visit [teamwatersmart.ca](http://teamwatersmart.ca).

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**For more information:**

Deb Tardiff, Manager of Communications

250 954-3073