



News Release

Stage 1 Outdoor Water Use Restrictions in Effect May 1

Sechelt, BC – April 24, 2017— Stage 1 outdoor water use restrictions come into effect annually on May 1 as guided by the Region's Drought Management Plan. These restrictions apply to all SCRD water users.

The objective of the Drought Management Plan is to manage demand for drinking water during the summer months when water use more than doubles, or during other unforeseen water shortage situations.

Outdoor water use restrictions are part of the SCRD's goal to reduce water consumption per person by 33% by 2020.

Sprinklers, soaker hoses, irrigation systems and other watering devices can be used for outdoor watering according to the Stage 1 schedule below:

- For even addresses outdoor watering is allowed Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- For odd addresses outdoor watering is allowed Monday, Wednesday and Saturday from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Rain sensors are required on all irrigation systems to prevent watering in the rain. Low flow and low pressure drip irrigation systems are exempt from the watering restrictions because they are water-conserving systems. This exemption is particularly useful for the agricultural community.

Hand held hoses with shut-off devices can be used anytime for watering trees, shrubs, flowers or vegetables.

Permits are available for watering beyond the allowable times in order to establish new lawns (seed or sod). Permits are only available during Stage 1 (Normal) outdoor water use, for a period of 21 days. Permits are available at the SCRD Field Road office.

Pressure washing sidewalks and driveways, windows or exterior building surfaces is permitted only during Stage 1.

SCRD water and compliance staff are now enforcing outdoor water use restrictions. Avoid fines and conserve your drinking water supply by following the sprinkling schedule above. For more information, contact the SCRD at 604-885-6806 or the Town of Gibsons 604-886-2274. Visit www.scrd.ca/Sprinkling-Regulations for details on water use restrictions.

Remember, one hour a week of sprinkling or rain is all you need for a healthy lawn.

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