



Water Restrictions - Stage 1

Frequently Asked Questions

To manage water use and ensure the continued supply of safe, high-quality drinking water throughout the hot, dry summer months,
Stage 1 Water Restrictions are in effect July 1, 2020.

CAN I WASH MY HOUSE OR OTHER OUTDOOR SURFACES?

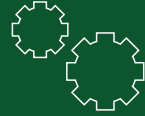
Stage 1 allows outdoor surfaces including houses to be washed using a spring-loaded shut off nozzle or watering bucket/pail.

I LIVE IN A STRATA, HOW DO I DETERMINE MY DAYS?

The watering day is dependent on the address of the strata and not the unit number.

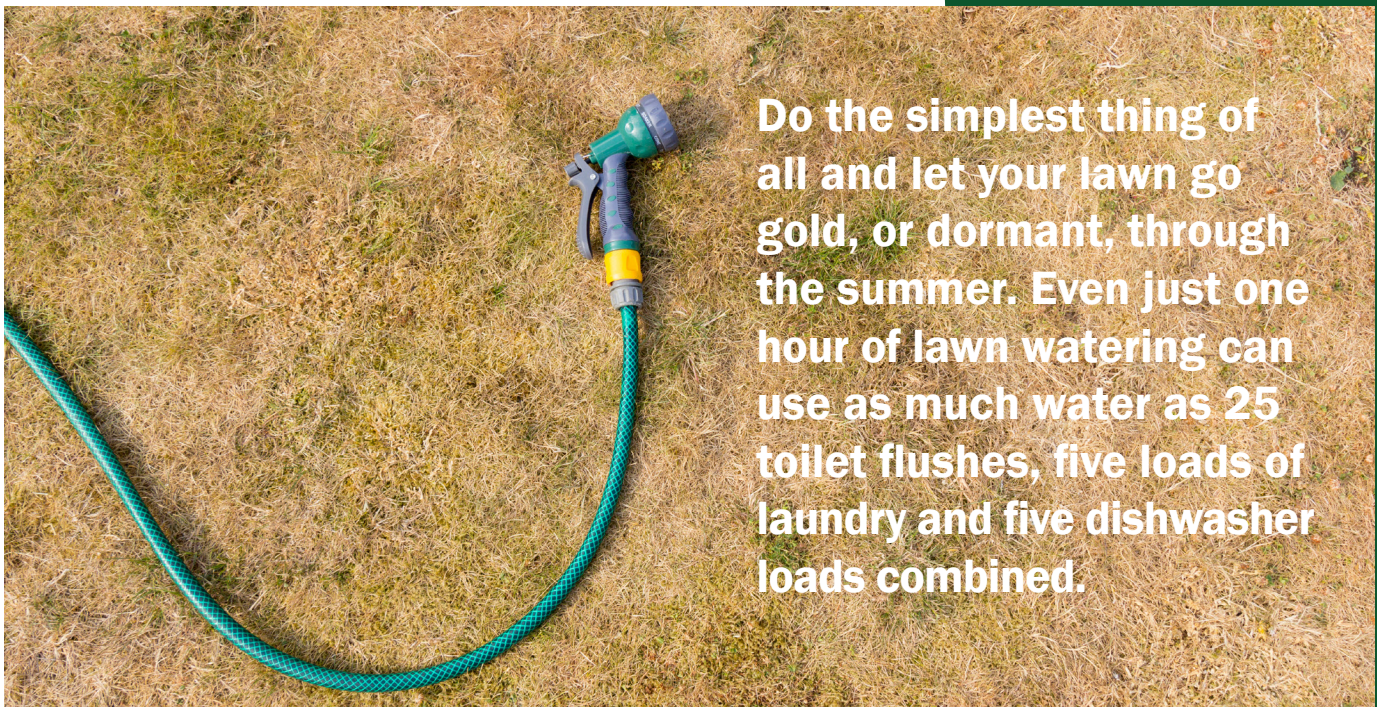
I CAN'T MEET THE ALTERNATE DAY AND TIME RESTRICTIONS. WHAT SHOULD I DO?

The bylaw restrictions must be met; automated sprinkler systems that cannot be programmed to comply with the restrictions will have to be manually operated.



WHY 6 - 9 AM & 6 - 9 PM?

Watering during the morning and evening hours reduces the amount of evaporation that occurs from the lawns, sprinklers and soil.



Do the simplest thing of all and let your lawn go gold, or dormant, through the summer. Even just one hour of lawn watering can use as much water as 25 toilet flushes, five loads of laundry and five dishwasher loads combined.

I USE A PRIVATE WELL/WATER SOURCE FOR LAWN WATERING. DOES THE BYLAW APPLY TO ME?

Water restrictions do not apply to those homes on private wells or water sources. However, property owners are encouraged to be good environmental stewards and follow the bylaw restrictions.

WHY ARE THERE EXEMPTIONS FOR COMMERCIAL ENTERPRISES?

Sprinkling regulations are meant to reduce water use in ways that do not cause serious economic hardship.

Those users requiring water as part of a commercial operation are expected to conserve as much water as possible without resulting in a loss of business.






EVERY DROP COUNTS

Reduced watering still allows for healthy landscapes and will help us make sure we have enough water to last through the hot, dry summer months.

WHAT ARE THE STAGE 1 RESTRICTIONS?

Stage 1 Water Restrictions are in effect starting July 1, 2020, and are as follows:

Lawns, trees, shrubs and flowers 	Vegetable gardens 	Washing of cars, boats, houses, driveways and sidewalks 
Sprinkling/watering Even-numbered addresses: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Even calendar days• 6 – 9 a.m.• 6 – 9 p.m. Odd-numbered addresses: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Odd calendar days• 6 – 9 a.m.• 6 – 9 p.m.	Anytime (2-hour max) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hand watering using a hose with spring-loaded nozzle• Watering pail/bucket• Drip/micro irrigation	Anytime <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hand watering using a hose with spring-loaded nozzle• Watering pail/bucket

WHAT ABOUT NEWLY SODDED LAWNS?

New lawns apply to the watering restrictions. If you have a new lawn and would like to water outside of the designated hours, please contact the City of Port Alberni Works Yard at 250-720-2840.

New lawns should be planted in the spring to avoid excessive use of artificial irrigation during the drier summer months. Better yet, plants native to the region could be incorporated into your landscape design to avoid artificial irrigation all-together.

DO SOAKER HOSES OR IN-GROUND SPRINKLER SYSTEMS APPLY?

Yes. The restrictions apply to all sprinkling systems.

WHAT ABOUT MICRO IRRIGATION AND DRIP IRRIGATION SYSTEMS?

Weeper or soaker hoses are not considered micro/drip irrigation. Only a system using less than 25 psi to deliver water to the root zone of the plant material is considered to be micro irrigation or drip irrigation.

Restrictions for these methods of irrigation are less stringent as they reduce evaporation losses by delivering the water directly to where the plants need them as well as having significantly lower flow ratings than other methods of irrigation. For the reasons stated above, these types of systems are allowed to operate at any time of day for a maximum of two hours per day.



Example of micro/drip irrigation

WATER RESTRICTION STAGES AT A GLANCE

To ensure the continued supply of safe, high-quality drinking water throughout the hot, dry summer months, the City of Port Alberni developed four stages to Port Alberni's water restrictions. **Stage 1 is currently in effect.**

STAGE 1: Even-numbered addresses can sprinkle on even-numbered calendar days, 6-9 am or 6-9 pm. Odd-numbered addresses can sprinkle on odd-numbered calendar days, 6-9 am or 6-9 pm.

STAGE 2: Even-numbered addresses can sprinkle on Wednesdays & Saturdays, 6-9 am or 6-9 pm. Odd-numbered addresses can sprinkle on Thursdays & Sundays, 6-9 am or 6-9 pm.

STAGE 3: Even-numbered addresses can sprinkle on Saturdays, 6-9 am or 6-9 pm. Odd-numbered addresses can sprinkle on Sundays, 6-9 am or 6-9 pm.

STAGE 4: All forms of watering using treated drinking water are prohibited.

Contact Us

City of Port Alberni Public Works: 250-720-2840
(Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.)

Email: citypa@portalberni.ca
(Please include "Water Restrictions" in the subject line)

Web: portalberni.ca



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