

POLICY NO: 1-014

Water Restrictions

Policy Statement

To establish supporting regulatory framework for the Water, Sewer & Garbage Bylaw, Section 9.4, for all residents and businesses who are municipal water utility customers and provide detail on how the Village may restrict the manner in which customers use municipal water for certain purposes such as watering lawns, gardens, yards or grounds.

GENERAL

1.0 Application

- a. This policy applies to the use of potable water within the Delburne municipal boundaries and it includes all sectors of water use such as residential, industrial, commercial, and institutional (including municipal operations).
- b. Restrictions to the use of water will occur when environmental conditions (i.e. drought), or operational constraints, cause a shortage in the water supply, specifically in the form of ground water aquifer (water wells) or surface water supply.
- c. Exemptions from this policy include water uses from water recirculation, raw water use (untreated surface water), rainwater harvesting, grey water re-use, approved storm water use, water from on-site private water wells, or any other water source that does not originate from a municipally licensed groundwater supply well or municipally licensed surface water supply.
- d. These guidelines are in effect between May 1st and October 1st, or as designated by the Village Chief Administrative Officer.

2.0 Restricted Activity

- a. During times of water restriction, specific water use activities are defined to provide clarity on what activities are determined to be non-essential. Those activities are defined and described in Schedule A.
- b. Water use activities that are not identified as restricted activities are by default considered non-restrictive activities and therefore exempt, however, although not applicable under parameters of this policy, general water conservation efforts are always recommended, and any applicable laws under the Water, Sewer, Garbage bylaw, particularly around water waste, still apply.



3.0 Water Restriction Stages

a. There are stages to water restrictions. Each stage will have different restrictions associated with each Activity depending on the severity of the state of the water supply. Each stage has varying levels of notification, restrictive actions, enforcement, and penalties associated with non-compliance. The movements between Stages are defined by specific metrics, or Triggers, in relation to each system's water supply. Water Restriction Stages are defined and described in Schedule B.

4.0 Water Restriction Triggers

- a. The movement between Water Restriction Stages is defined by Triggers that have defined metrics on how the Stages are put on and off.
- b. Triggers are further described in Schedule B.

5.0 Levels of Enforcement

a. Each Water Restriction Stage has certain requirements for notification and/or penalties associated to non-compliance for first, second, third and subsequent offences. Notifications and penalties are described in Schedule B and further supported by the Waterworks Bylaw.



Schedule A: Activity Description by Water Restriction Stage

Activity	Recommended Application Method	Stage 1 Automatic May 1 to October 1 yearly, voluntary, no enforcement.	Stage 2 Enforcement with written warning, followed by fine.	Stage 3 Enforcement with automatic fine.	Stage 4 Water shortage emergency, enforcement with automatic fine.
Lawns	Irrigation through hose connected sprinkler, drip hose, or a hose with an automatic shutoff nozzle.	Watering only on designated days and non-restricted hours. Designated Watering Days: Even-numbered addresses are permitted to water on even days of the month. Odd-numbered addresses are permitted to water on odd days of the month. Restricted Hours: watering permitted between 6:00 pm and 10:00 pm. *Watering Exemption: customers that have newly- planted lawn are permitted to water on all days of the week, at any hour, for 3 weeks after lawn was planted.	Watering only on designated days and non-restricted hours, for a maximum of 1 hour per day. Designated Watering Days: Even-numbered addresses are permitted to water on even days of the month. Odd-numbered addresses are permitted to water on odd days of the month. Restricted Hours: watering permitted between 6:00 pm and 10:00 pm. *Watering Exemption: customers that have newly planted lawn are permitted to water on all days of the week, at any hour, for 3 weeks after lawn was planted	Watering only on designated days and during non-restricted hours for a maximum of 1/2 hour per day. Designated Watering Days: Even-numbered addresses are permitted to water on even days of the month. Oddnumbered addresses are permitted to water on odd days of the month. Restricted Hours: watering permitted between 6:00 pm and 10:00 pm. No new lawns should be planted. No Water Exemptions permitted.	No watering permitted. No new lawns should be planted. No Water Exemptions permitted.



Activity	Recommended Application Method	Stage 1 Automatic May 1 to October 1 yearly, voluntary, no enforcement.	Stage 2 Enforcement with written warning, followed by fine.	Stage 3 Enforcement with automatic fine.	Stage 4 Water shortage emergency, enforcement with automatic fine.
Trees, Shrubs, Ornamental Planters, and Vegetable & Ornamental Gardens	Irrigation through hose connected sprinkler, drip hose, hose with automatic shutoff nozzle, or water can.	Watering only on designated days and non-restricted hours. Designated Watering Days: Even-numbered addresses are permitted to water on even days of the month. Odd-numbered addresses are permitted to water on odd days of the month. Restricted Hours: watering permitted between 6:00 pm and 10:00 pm.	Watering only on designated days and non-restricted hours, for a maximum of 1 hour per day. Designated Watering Days: Even-numbered addresses are permitted to water on even days of the month. Odd-numbered addresses are permitted to water on odd days of the month. Restricted Hours: watering permitted between 6:00 pm and 10:00 pm.	Watering only on designated days and during non-restricted hours for a maximum of 1/2 hour per day. Designated Watering Days: Even-numbered addresses are permitted to water on even days of the month. Odd-numbered addresses are permitted to water on odd days of the month. Restricted Hours: watering permitted between 6:00 pm and 10:00 pm. No new landscaping should be planted. No Water Exemptions permitted.	No watering permitted. No new landscaping should be planted. No Water Exemptions permitted.
Vehicles	Any	Recommended at a commercial car wash.	Only permitted at a commercial car wash.	Only permitted at a commercial car wash.	Only permitted at a commercial car wash.



Activity	Recommended Application Method	Stage 1 Automatic May 1 to October 1 yearly, voluntary, no enforcement.	Stage 2 Enforcement with written warning, followed by fine.	Stage 3 Enforcement with automatic fine.	Stage 4 Water shortage emergency, enforcement with automatic fine.
Swimming Pools, Hot Tubs, Wadding Pools, Ponds, Fountains, or Water Features	Any	No restrictions.	No restrictions.	No filling or draining and refilling permitted. Topping up permitted.	No filling, draining and refilling, or topping up permitted.
Cleaning Outdoor Surfaces: Driveways, Decks, Building Exteriors, Sidewalks, Patios, Outdoor Furniture	Any	No restrictions.	Only hand washing permitted, or to prepare a surface for painting, or if ordered by a regulatory authority. Washing for the purpose of cleaning for aesthetics is not permitted.	Only hand washing permitted, or to prepare a surface for painting, or if ordered by a regulatory authority. Washing for the purpose of cleaning for aesthetics is not permitted.	Cleaning only permitted if ordered by a regulatory authority. Washing for the purpose of cleaning for aesthetics is not permitted.



Schedule B: Water Restriction Stage Triggers and Levels of Enforcement

Areas Supplied by Ground Water:

STAGE 1	Water Conservation		
TRIGGER (continuous)	Stage 1 is activated automatically from May 1 to October 1, annually.		
ENFORCEMENT	Voluntary restrictions only. The public is encouraged to follow the recommended restrictions. If the restrictions are not followed, no penalties will be given unless, in the Village's opinion, the use of water is wasteful as per Section 10.4 of the Water, Sewer & Garbage Bylaw. Voluntary restrictions are encouraged through public education and awareness.		

STAGE 2	Reduce Water Use
TRIGGER ON	Stage 2 is activated when combined well production refill rate drops the reservoir level below the normal reservoir operating level for a determined amount of time as specified by operating procedures, guidelines, or other metrics determined by the operator.
TRIGGER OFF	Stage 2 is moved back to Stage 1 when combined well production refill rate maintains normal operating level for a determined amount of time as specified by operating procedures, guidelines, or other metrics determined by the operator.
ENFORCEMENT	If the customer is non-compliant with the restriction they receive a letter concerning their non-compliance. They are given 14 days to resolve the action. If they continue the action, a fine of \$250 is issued for the first offence. The fine for the second offence is \$1,000. The fine for the third offence is \$2,500. Subsequent fines are \$2,500 and may result in disconnection of the water service.



VILLAGE OF DELBURNE

STAGE 3	Reduce Non-Essential Water Use		
TRIGGER ON	Stage 3 is activated when combined well production refill rate drops the reservoir level below halfway between minimum fire storage level and normal reservoir level for a determined amount of time as specified by operating procedures, guidelines, or other metrics determined by the operator.		
TRIGGER OFF	Stage 3 is moved back when combined well production refill rate maintains a reservoir level above halfway between minimum fire storage level and normal reservoir level for a determined amount of time as specified by operating procedures, guidelines, or other metrics determined by the operator.		
ENFORCEMENT	If the customer is non-compliant with the restriction, an automatic fine of \$250 is issued for the first offense. The fine for the second offence is \$1,000. The fine for the third offence is \$2,500. Subsequent fines are \$2,500 and may result in disconnection of the water service.		

STAGE 4	Emergency Water Shortage & Stop All Non-Essential Water Use
TRIGGER ON	Stage 4 is activated when combined well production refill rate drops the reservoir level below the minimum fire storage level for a determined amount of time as specified by operating procedures, guidelines, or other metrics determined by the operator, or as directed by the Government of Alberta.
TRIGGER OFF	Stage 4 is moved back when combined well production refill rate maintains a reservoir level above the minimum fire storage level for a determined amount of time as specified by operating procedures, guidelines, or other metrics determined by the operator, or as directed by the Government of Alberta.
ENFORCEMENT	If the customer is non-compliant with the restriction, an automatic ticket of \$250 is issued for the first offense. The fine for the second offence is \$1,000, and disconnection of the water service.

	Date	Resolution #
Approved	April 23, 2024	2024-091
Amended		
Amended		

Mayor – Tim Wilson

CAO – Karen Fegan