


Subject:	Water Restriction Policy	Policy No.:	T-01-24	
Department:	Utilities			
Approval Date:		Review Date:		
Associated Policies:				

Water Restriction Policy

I. Purpose

- a. To promote water conservation awareness and standards for the community during times of drought, high usage seasons and emergency situations.

II. General Policy

- a. This policy establishes the rules and expectations intended to conserve water in the community.

III. Definitions

Within this Policy the following definitions shall apply:

- a. Alberta Emergency Alert is a public warning system in Alberta that warns the public on impending or occurring emergencies affecting an area.
- b. C.A.O Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) is an executive who manages the daily administrative functions of the Town of Drayton Valley
- c. Commercial refers to a business buying or selling goods and services.
- d. Containments any device used to hold or store water for any reason
- e. Drought a prolonged period of abnormally low precipitation such as snow or rainfall, leading to a shortage of water
- f. High Consumption Users refers to commercial and industrial users that use or consume large volumes of water.
- g. Industrial refers to a business dealing with manufacturing goods
- h. Infrastructure refers to the structures and facilities (e.g. pump stations, reservoirs) needed for the operation of the water distribution system
- i. Mayor refers to the current elected head of the municipality
- j. Outdoor Water Use outside water consumption such as, but not limited to washing cars, watering gardens, greenhouses and sprinklering
- k. Peak Season refers to the months that have the highest water consumption on average (e.g. May-September)
- l. Residential areas occupied by private homes
- m. Restriction a limit, control or measure of water usage

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- n. State of Local Emergency an emergency or disaster (as defined in the Emergency Program Act) within its jurisdiction which requires limits, measures or controls be put in place
- o. Town refers to the Town of Drayton Valley, elected officials and authorized representatives
- p. Water Conservation strategies used to limit or control water usage

IV. Responsibilities

- a. The C.A.O or designate will be the final decision maker in determining what stage of residential water restrictions are imposed. When a residential water restriction is imposed, the C.A.O or designate shall cause to be issued an official memorandum, signed by the C.A.O or designate of the Town, to become official record. In the event of a local or provincial state of emergency, decisions will be made according to the direction of provincial and local authorities.

V. Communication

- a. When a water restriction is declared, the following shall occur:
 - I. Notice provided to residents via social media and radio by the end of the business day;
 - II. Notice provided to residents via electronic signage located at 50 Street and 50 Avenue, by the end of the business day;
 - III. Notice provided to all staff, via internal email, of the restrictions, by the end of the business day;
 - IV. Printed notices shall be posted in a conspicuous place at the entrance to all publicly accessed Town Facilities by the end of the business day;
 - V. Posted on the Town of Drayon Valley's Website, by the end of the business day;
 - VI. A non-broadcast intrusive alert can be issued through Alberta Emergency Alert
- b. When a water restriction is lifted, and is no longer in effect, the following shall occur:
 - I. Notice provided to residents via social media and radio by the end of the business day;
 - II. Removal of notices on the electronic signage;
 - III. Notice provided to all staff, via internal email
 - IV. Printed notices removed from entrances to all publicly accessed Town Facilities
 - V. Removed from the Town of Drayton Valley's website
 - VI. A non-broadcast intrusive alert can be issued through Alberta Emergency Alert

VI. Procedure

- a. It is the responsibility of all persons and organizations within the municipality of Drayton Valley to exercise water conservation strategies throughout the year. In times of drought and in peak use seasons, it is necessary to abide by a standard outdoor water usage schedule, when declared. The Town of Drayton Valley has chosen to adopt the

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“odd/even” residential outdoor water use system, utilized by a growing number of other communities in addition to limitations for high use commercial and industrial business. The “odd/even” system allows outdoor water use for approximately half of the Town’s water users per day. For example, homes and businesses with even numbers as the 4th digit in the address (5024 45 St, 4944 46 Ave) would use water outdoors on specified days. Homes and businesses with odd numbers as the 4th digit in the address (5055 49 St, 4927 52 Ave) would use water on different specified days.

- b. Due to the naturally occurring changes per year, residential water restrictions will be set up in stages in relation to drought conditions, peak seasonal demands, emergencies and infrastructure limitations. Under normal conditions there are no restrictions.
- c. The stages of water restriction are as follows;
 - I. **Stage 1:** Outdoor water use is permitted for addresses that are even numbers on Mon/Wed/Fri and odd number addresses on Tues/Thurs/Sat. No residential outdoor water use is permitted on Sundays. Scheduled/timed sprinkler systems, including lawn, greenhouse and garden use will only be permitted for periods totaling 1.5 hours between the hours of 8am-12pm on the days permitted pertaining to the odd/even system. The filling of tank/pools etc. will be restricted to containments <1000L or 1 m³ and following the odd/even system. Commercial and industrial high consumption users will be limited to 12 hours per day of operations. Municipal services utilizing water such as, but not limited to, watering flowers, wastewater system flushing, fire hydrant flushing and street sweeping will be limited to 4 days per week. The pool and splash park will operate as normal.
 - II. **Stage 2:** Outdoor water use is limited to 2 days per week. Addresses that are even numbers on Mon/Wed and odd number addresses on Tues/Thurs. No residential outdoor water use is permitted on Fri/Sat/Sun. Scheduled/timed sprinkler systems, including lawn, greenhouse and garden use will only be permitted for periods totaling 1 hour between the hours of 9am-11am on the days permitted pertaining to the odd/even system. The filling of tank/pools etc. will be restricted to containments <500L or .5 m³ and follow the odd/even system. Commercial and industrial high consumption users will be limited to 10 hours per day of operations. Municipal services utilizing water such as, but not limited to, watering flowers, wastewater system flushing, fire hydrant flushing and street sweeping will be limited to 3 days per week. The pool will be limited to 10 hours per day. The splash park will operate as normal.
 - III. **Stage 3:** Outdoor water use is limited to 1 day per week. Addresses that are even numbers on Mondays and odd number addresses on Tuesdays. No residential outdoor water use is permitted on the remaining weekdays. No persons are permitted to fill tanks/pools etc. of any size. Scheduled/timed sprinkler systems will not be permitted. The filling of tanks/pools etc. is not permitted. Garden, greenhouse watering is permitted for food bearing plants only. Commercial and industrial high consumption users will be limited to 8 hours per day of operations. Municipal

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services utilizing water such as, but not limited to, watering flowers, wastewater system flushing, fire hydrant flushing and street sweeping will be limited to 2 days per week. The pool and splash park will be limited to 8 hours of operation per day.

- IV. **Stage 4:** No residential outdoor water use will be permitted on any day. The filling of tanks/pools etc. is not permitted. Commercial and industrial high consumption users will be limited to 5 hours of operations per day Monday to Friday and are not permitted to operate on weekends. Municipal services utilizing water such as, but not limited to, watering flowers, wastewater system flushing, fire hydrant flushing and street sweeping will cease, unless an emergent situation should arise. Municipal services emergencies such as, but not limited to water line breaks, sewer backups, potential water quality issues and dangerous road conditions will be addressed as necessary. The pool and splash park will be limited to 5 hours of operation per day.
- V. **Stage 5:** No residential outdoor water use will be permitted on any day. The filling of tanks/pools etc. is not permitted. Commercial and industrial high consumption users will not be permitted to operate. Municipal services utilizing water such as, but not limited to, watering flowers, wastewater system flushing, fire hydrant flushing and street sweeping will cease, unless an emergent situation should arise. Municipal services emergencies such as, but not limited to water line breaks, sewer backups, potential water quality issues and dangerous road conditions will be addressed as necessary. The pool and splash park will be closed.
- d. The Town of Drayton Valley always encourages residents to be mindful of their water consumption, especially during drought conditions.
- e. Any person who violates this Policy may be subject to fines as set out in bylaw No. 2022/06/P titled the Community Standards Bylaw schedule "A" section 19.5.

Mayor, C.A.O or Designate

Approval Date