



City of Revelstoke

Media Release

For Immediate Release
June 3, 2024

Proposed Amendments to the Revelstoke Water Regulations Bylaw

Revelstoke, B.C – The City of Revelstoke is proposing changes to the water regulations.

In recognition of the importance of water security and responsible water consumption, City staff have worked with Council to explore ideas to ensure Revelstoke has enough water to provide residents with continued levels of services – even if the drought conditions, seen across BC, continue.

Last year, Revelstoke experienced “Stage 2” restrictions for the first time ever. After experiencing this as both staff and community members, City staff determined a need to create middle stages to reduce the stark contrast of regulations experienced in 2023.

Please see the proposed Water Regulation Stages on the next page.



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WATER USAGE RESTRICTIONS

Water usage restrictions are implemented to manage water demand and ensure there is sufficient water supply during summer months and more severe drought conditions. The City of Revelstoke has implemented a four-stage water usage restriction plan for outdoor water usage. The restrictions apply to all properties in Revelstoke that use City water - residential, commercial, industrial & institutional.

Stage 1 (Normal) restrictions are in effect year-round within the City of Revelstoke. Restrictions may be increased to Stages 2, 3 or 4 depending on environmental conditions, water supply system capacity and demand on the system.

Residents will be notified by newspaper, radio, social media, City website and/or other means available.

The water use restrictions permit outdoor water use on designated days of the week depending on the number of your street address, as follows:

Water Use Schedule	3 days / week	2 days / week	1 day / week
Odd numbered property addresses	Tue, Thu, Sat	Tue, Sat	Sat
Even numbered property addresses	Wed, Fri, Sun	Wed, Sun	Sun

Restrictions apply to water supplied by the City of Revelstoke only. This includes the Big Eddy water supply system. They do not apply to the use of reclaimed or recycled water, greywater, rainwater harvested by the customer, or any other sources of water not supplied by the City of Revelstoke.

At any stage of restrictions, the City asks that residents adopt good water conservation practices and minimise the frequency of their outdoor water use wherever possible.

Water Activity	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4
LAWNS				
Sprinkler or soaker hose (automatic/manual) <i>includes sprinkler use for cooling/children's play</i>	3 days / week ¹	2 days / week ¹	1 day / week ¹	NOT PERMITTED
Drip irrigation (automatic/manual) Hand watering (hose with spring-loaded shut-off or handheld container)				
New lawns (seed/sod)	In accordance with permit*	In accordance with permit*	NOT PERMITTED	NOT PERMITTED
FOOD PRODUCING PLANTS OR TREES				
Sprinkler or soaker hose (automatic/manual)	3 days / week ¹	2 days / week ¹	1 day / week ¹	NOT PERMITTED
Drip irrigation (automatic/manual)	No restrictions ²	No restrictions ²	3 days / week ¹	1 day / week ¹
Hand watering (hose with spring-loaded shut-off or handheld container)	No restrictions ²	No restrictions ²	No restrictions ²	No restrictions ²
TREES, SHRUBS, PLANTS, FLOWERS				
Sprinkler or soaker hose (automatic/manual)	3 days / week ¹	2 days / week ¹	1 day / week ¹	NOT PERMITTED
Drip irrigation (automatic/manual)	7 days / week ¹	7 days / week ¹	3 days / week ¹	NOT PERMITTED
Hand watering (hose with spring-loaded shut-off or handheld container)				
OTHER USES				
Hand washing vehicles or boats (hose with spring-loaded shut off, pressure washer, handheld container)	As needed ³	As needed ³	Permitted for essential reasons (commercial car wash preferred)	Permitted only to wash boats for control of invasive species
Washing sidewalks, driveways, windows, exterior building surfaces (hose with spring-loaded shut off, pressure washer, handheld container)	As needed ³	As needed ³	Permitted for health and safety only	Permitted for health and safety only
Filling swimming pools, hot tubs, garden ponds, fountains	As needed ³	As needed ³	Permitted for public pools only	NOT PERMITTED
Sports fields & common spaces	No restrictions	Restricted under separate schedule	Restricted under separate schedule	Restricted under separate schedule

*If you have planted new seed or put down new sod, please contact Public Works at 250-837-2001 for water exemption instructions.

1. On designated days, water use is permitted only between the hours of 6 AM and 10 AM.

2. Avoid watering food producing plants, trees, or shrubs between the hours of 10 AM and 7 PM to minimise evaporation.

3. Water use for non-irrigation purposes is discretionary, to be done only as necessary, on designated days, between the hours of 6AM and 10AM. Please minimise frequency and conserve water wherever possible.

[View the table in a larger format here](#)



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After consultation with surrounding municipalities that have seen the benefits of clearer water regulations, City of Revelstoke staff have developed a new “Stages” table for its community. The “Stages” provide clear guidance on what water usage would and would not be permitted under various external conditions (primarily droughts), breaking it down from two to four stages of water regulations. The Stage would be determined by the Director of Engineering, based on environmental conditions, guidance from the province, water supply system capacity and demand on the system.

These updates include small changes to the Stage 1 regulations, including a fairer three-days-per-week approach for odd vs. even numbered houses, one day per week set aside with no resident sprinkling to assist Public Works operations at the Water Treatment Plant, and throughout the distribution system. This structure will greatly assist the City in ensuring there is always sufficient drinking water and firefighting supply available, even in drought conditions.

Council gave First and Second Readings to [the amendments of Water Regulations Bylaw No. 2384](#) and directed staff to share the proposed changes with the public for an opportunity to provide feedback, before potential adoption.

[A full list of FAQs about this project can be found here.](#)

Public feedback on this project can be submitted to engineering@revelstoke.ca until noon, 12 p.m., on Tuesday, June 11.

For more information, please contact:

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