

# NEWS RELEASE

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## Stage 2 Watering Restrictions come into effect May 1

*Even and Odd day watering will run until September 30*

### Summary

On Tuesday, May 1, Stage 2 watering restrictions will come into effect. Stage 2, often called 'Even and Odd day watering' is an annual approach to responsible water use.

In 2016, the City of Nanaimo, and communities spanning from North Cedar to Deep Bay, adopted a unified approach to watering restrictions. All major water suppliers in the area covered by the Regional District of Nanaimo now use the same classification for each watering restriction stage (Stages 1 through 4), with each water supplier determining the start date of each stage.

For more information on the region-wide watering restrictions and an interactive map, visit [www.teamwatersmart.ca](http://www.teamwatersmart.ca).

*Strategic Link:* Water Conservation

### Key Points

- Stage 2 will run from May 1 to September 30. Even numbered addresses can water on even-numbered days of the month; odd numbered addresses can water on odd-numbered days of the month, for two hours only, between 7:00 am and 10:00 am OR between 7:00 pm and 10:00 pm.
- Hand-watering, drip irrigation and micro irrigation can continue at any time. Vegetable and food gardens are exempt from the restrictions.
- Visit [www.teamwatersmart.ca](http://www.teamwatersmart.ca) for an interactive map, a list of frequently asked questions and watering restriction stage in each area of the region.

### Quotes

"Watering restrictions are part of the City's waterworks bylaw. We implement Stage 2 restrictions from May 1 to September 30 every year, so that people are conserving outdoor water as we move into the dry season. It's vital to conserve our most precious resource."

Bill Sims  
Director, Engineering & Public Works  
City of Nanaimo

## Quick Facts

- Stage 3 restrictions will only be brought into effect should water supplies become stressed. Stage 3 consists of voluntary reductions to avoid a full sprinkling ban, with the emphasis on cutting back on lawn watering. This approach was very effective in Nanaimo during the 2015 drought.
- Stage 4 bans non-essential water use – particularly automated sprinkling, vehicle washing and outdoor surface washing – when supplies are stressed and voluntary reductions beyond Stage 2 are not sufficiently decreasing demand.
- Vegetable watering and drip irrigation are exempt from restrictions. Exemptions for businesses which require water for operations, essential municipal playing fields and nurseries are also exempt, to minimize economic impact while conserving. This helps avoid challenges in applying the bylaw.

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### Contact:

John Elliot  
Sr. Manager, Public Works  
City of Nanaimo  
250-758-5222

Bill Sims  
Director, Engineering & Public Works  
City of Nanaimo  
250-758-5222



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