

INFORMATION RELEASE

*parksville.ca*September 23, 2024

Comprehensive Water Ban - Water Conservation Efforts Essential

Effective today, September 23 and until further notice, the City of Parksville has moved to Stage 4 water conservation, a comprehensive watering ban.

On July 16,2024, the City received a temporary <u>Enabling Order</u> from the Province of BC at which time, the City moved to Stage 3 water conservation when water flow maintains above 1.6 cubic metres per second (m3s) in the Englishman River. This order indicated when the average flow in the Englishman River falls below 1.20 m3s, the City would move to Stage 4. This occurred over the past week, and we were advised today to immediately move to water conservation Stage 4 to comply with the Enabling Order. There has been a significant shortfall in precipitation over the summer which has continued into September. The province has requested water providers reduce water usage by implementing stricter watering conditions.

STAGE 4 WATER CONSERVATION

Stage 4 helps ensure the community's essential water needs for drinking water, hygiene and fire protection are met, and water flows for fish and aquatic habitats are maintained. this comprehensive water ban aims to reduce the pressure on surface water and groundwater sources vulnerable to ongoing drought.

Stage 4 includes a ban on all lawn watering activities and residents are not permitted to wash vehicles, boats, or siding, nor fill fountains, pools or hot tubs. Vegetable gardens and fruit trees are exempt from Stage 4 restrictions. Between 7 am and 10 am OR 7 pm and 10 pm, drip irrigation and hand watering of gardens is permitted using a hand-held container or a hose equipped with shutoff device.

Detailed information about City of Parksville water restrictions may be viewed on our <u>website</u> and <u>Let's Talk Parksville</u>. The City is a partner in the Regional District of Nanaimo's <u>Team WaterSmart</u> programs.

Please direct questions to the City's bylaw compliance department by email to bylaw@parksville.ca

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TYPE OF WATER USE STAGE 4 **SPRINKLING BAN** Frequency Lawn Watering Lawn watering **NOT PERMITTED** times Hand-watering, Between 7-10 am drip irrigation, or 7-10 pm micro irrigation Washing vehicles, **NOT PERMITTED** boats, houses (siding) Filling fountains, **NOT PERMITTED** pools, hot tubs New lawn NO PERMITS ISSUED permits Pressure washing ONLY prior to application of paint preservative, walkways, stucco or sealant driveways, siding

For more information:

Deb Tardiff, Manager of Communications communications@parksville.ca; 250 954-3073

The City of Parksville is located on the traditional territory of the Coast Salish Nations, home to the Snaw-Naw-As First Nation and the Qualicum First Nation.

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