

July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009

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### **All non-essential water use prohibited in Campbell River and Area D**

Over the past three days, water consumption has increased dramatically each day as citizens react to the heat wave. This has caused an unprecedented demand for water which the City's water system can no longer meet. As a result, our water system does not have the capacity to provide adequate fire flows. *In the event of a fire in some areas of the City, the fire department would need to truck necessary water in for fire fighting.*

In order to reduce these demands on the system, the City is enacting Stage 3 Watering Restrictions effective immediately.

- These restrictions prohibit anyone from watering lawns, washing vehicles, and filling pools, ponds or hot tubs.
- Residents may hand water gardens and plant beds with an automatic shut-off nozzle between the hours of 4am and 9am.
- Commercial car washes that re-circulate water may continue operation.
- Golf Courses and Sports Fields may water their fields to prevent permanent loss of plant material.

Residents who do not comply with these restrictions, may be subject to a fine or have their water shut-off.

*"With the current heat wave, we have unusual circumstances requiring all Campbell River citizens to conserve our water. The increased use of water for lawn watering and other non-essential uses has compromised our ability to provide for fire protection and domestic water use. Since we cannot provide more water, it is up to all of us to participate in this conservation program. People in the community may know of neighbours and friends who have not heard of this restriction and we would ask that you inform them or the City."* says Mayor Cornfield.

Mayor Cornfield also added that *"smokers should be vigilant in ensuring they refrain from smoking on trails or in wooded areas."*

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## Stage 3 - Watering Restrictions

1.(a) no person shall

- water a lawn or boulevard;
- fill or add water to a swimming pool, hot tub, or garden pond;
- fill or add water to or operate a decorative fountain at any time; or
- wash a vehicle or a boat with water.

(b) a person may

- water trees, shrubs, flowers, and vegetables on any day between the hours of 4:00 a.m. to 9:00 if watering is done by hand-held container or a hand held hose equipped with an automatic shut-off nozzle;
- water newly planted trees, shrubs, flowers and vegetables between the hours of 4:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. only by hand held container or a hand held hose equipped with an automatic shut-off nozzle during installation and during the following 24 hours after installation is completed;
- use micro-irrigation or drip- irrigation systems to water trees, shrubs, flowers, and vegetables on any day between the hours of 4:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.;
- water all-weather playing fields at any time, but only if failure to do so will result in a permanent loss of plant material; and
- use water to wash sidewalks, driveways, parking lots, exterior windows, or exterior building surfaces, but only if necessary for applying a product such as paint, preservative, and stucco, preparing a surface prior to paving or repointing bricks, or if required by law to comply with health or safety regulations.

2. As exceptions to the stage 3 restrictions

(a) nurseries, farms, turf farms, and tree farms are exempted from the restrictions;

(b) owners or operators of sports fields and golf courses may water

- fairways and sportsfields at any time on not more than one day per week;
- trees, shrubs, flowers, and vegetables grown on golf courses in accordance with stage 3 sections 1(b) (i), (ii), and (iii) of this schedule; and
- sports fields, golf greens and tees on any day if failure to do so will result in permanent loss of plant material;

(c) wading pools may be filled with water; and

(d) vehicles and boats may be washed with water only at car dealerships and commercial car washes using less than 205 litres of water per vehicle wash or fifty percent recirculated water as long as the total amount of water, excluding recirculated Water, does not exceed 205 litres per vehicle wash.