



FAQs about Lawn Watering Restriction By-Law

Why is the City implementing this By-Law?

The Lawn Watering Restriction By-Law is in effect for the summer of 2015 and it is associated with plans to undertake structural maintenance on the City water tower on Tollgate Road this summer. The 4.5-million litre capacity water tower will be drained and off-line for a period of time during the work, and that will place an additional demand on the water supply system. The restrictions are in effect until September 30th.

How does it work?

Property owners with even addresses (ending with 0, 2, 4, 6, 8) can water their lawn on even calendar dates while owners with odd addresses (ending with 1, 3, 5, 7, 9) can water their lawn on odd calendar dates. This is not an outright ban on lawn watering but rather an opportunity to water every other day if need be.

Can I water my lawn at any time on my designated watering day?

Yes you can however the City encourages residents to water early in the day (between 5 am and 10 am). At that time of day, evaporation is at a minimum and this enables greater penetration of the water into the ground.

Does this By-Law apply to washing my car in my driveway or watering flowers?

No. Brief or sporadic water uses like washing a car in the driveway or watering flowers are not covered by this By-Law.

Who do I call if I wish to report an infraction or for additional info surrounding the By-Law?

Residents are asked to call Municipal Works at (613) 932-5354. A big focus of the implementation will be to educate residents about the By-Law and provide general information on water use.

How will this affect things like splash pads and kids playing in sprinklers?

The By-Law is intended to address blatant cases of excessive lawn watering (should they be encountered) as opposed to recreational uses such as children playing in splash pads or sprinklers on a hot day.

What about water used for things like street cleaning?

The City uses a street flusher and a sweeper to remove things like animal feces and other garbage and debris from the roads. It's also used for preventative maintenance to keep debris out of catch basins and sewers. The City monitors the amount of water used and only uses the minimum amount required.

I have seen City crews flushing hydrants in different parts of the City. Isn't this a waste of water?

The City's hydrant flushing program is a regulatory requirement from the Ministry of Environment to ensure we have sufficient chlorine residuals at all locations in the water distribution network.