

Watering Restrictions Downgraded to Stage 1

In response to current weather conditions, and aligned with the Regional District of Nanaimo, Stage 1 watering restrictions will take effect on Thursday, October 19. We have now received significant rainfall and the forecast shows continued rain in the coming weeks. We wish to thank our residents for your efforts to conserve water during this summer's drought.

Stage 1 watering restriction will be in effect from October 19 through October 31 which is the usual watering restriction stage for this time of the year. All watering restrictions will be lifted November 1 through March 31, unless otherwise advised.

The City's website provides information about our water sources, supply, management, and usage, as well as some frequently asked questions and fun facts. Please refer to [Arrowsmith Water Service](#) and [Englishman River Water Service](#) links on our website.

The City of Parksville is in the privileged position to have two robust drinking water sources - the Englishman River and groundwater well systems. Water conservation measures in summer months are used to manage outdoor water demands. Always being mindful of conserving this precious resource, reducing unnecessary water use when there are significant seasonal weather events such as drought conditions, allows the City to support the ecology of the river and protect the potable water supply. Water demand from current development is in line with the City's long-term water supply and demand plan, which also considers the base flow requirements for the river.

Water use planning and management is a focus area in [Council's 2023-2026 strategic plan](#). During financial plan deliberations earlier this year, Council approved the development of a comprehensive drinking water master plan with recommendations. The request for proposals to be issued by year-end, will include analysis of current consumption rates and uses, data on drinking water sources and availability to meet current and future demand, analysis of storage options, an assessment of the water treatment plant capabilities and efficiencies and climate change implications for long-term sustainability of the drinking water system. Opportunities for public engagement will be provided as part of the study process.

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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.*
