



# Outdoor Water Restrictions

Let's work together to conserve the water we all rely on.



## Water-saving tips:

- Utilize rainwater collected in rain barrels to water your plants.
- Improve moisture retention in your soil by adding gravel or mulch on top of flower beds.
- Opt for drought-tolerant plants that require less water to maintain a beautiful yard for an extended period.

At times, Wheatland County may ask all utility users to temporarily cut back on non-essential outdoor water usage. This might happen when:

- There's less water in the rivers because of a drought.
- We're fixing or improving water infrastructure.
- Hot temperatures lead to high water demand, stretching our treatment plants' capacity.
- The raw water source is less clean than usual, requiring additional time for treatment.

If we all do our part and follow the restrictions when they're in place, we can reduce the strain on the rivers and water treatment plants.

## We all have a role to play

These restrictions apply solely to Wheatland County Utility Account holders for potable water use, including:

- Residences
- Businesses and organizations
- Wheatland County Operations

There are some exceptions for certain customers who may need to continue outdoor water use for health, safety, or essential business reasons. This includes:

- Watering plants, shrubs, and trees for commercial sale.
- Watering fruit and vegetable gardens for food security and consumption.
- Washing outdoor surfaces for childcare facilities, restaurants, kennels, and animal care facilities.
- Washing vehicles according to health and safety regulations.
- Businesses licensed to provide exterior window washing services.

During times of water shortages, Wheatland County also reduces water use.

**Take action when outdoor water restrictions are declared:**

- 1. Find out what water restriction stage is in place:** Updates on outdoor water restrictions will be available on Wheatland County’s website and social media channels.
- 2. Understand outdoor water usage guidelines:** Depending on the water restriction stage, refer to the provided table for mandatory actions.
- 3. Stay informed:** Wheatland County consistently monitors water usage to determine necessary restrictions and will notify of any changes.

We prioritize educating citizens and businesses about the significance of water conservation rather than relying solely on enforcement measures.










However, failure to comply with water restrictions may result in fines as follows:

**First offense: \$50**  
**Second offense: \$100**  
**Third offense: \$200**

**Outdoor Water Restriction Stages**

There are four stages of mandatory outdoor water restrictions, determined by the severity of the water shortage. These restrictions are enforced through the Water and Sewage Bylaw NO. 2021-33.

**Please note:** The water restrictions outlined in this document are applicable solely to Wheatland County Utility Account holders for potable water use.

		STAGE 1	STAGE 2	STAGE 3	STAGE 4
Sprinklers 		<b>YES</b> 2 hrs max., one day/week	<b>YES</b> 1 hr max., one day/week	<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>
	Watering schedule is based on house number: <b>Even house number:</b> Wednesday or Saturday <b>Odd house number:</b> Thursday or Sunday <b>Watering is allowed between:</b> • 4 a.m. - 7 a.m.; or • 9 a.m. - 11 a.m.; or • 7 p.m. - 10 p.m.			<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>
Hoses with spray nozzle  Only for gardens, trees, and shrubs		<b>YES</b> Any day/time	<b>YES</b> Any day/time	<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>
Hand watering 		<b>YES</b> Any day/time	<b>YES</b> Any day/time	<b>YES</b> Any day/time	<b>NO</b>
Watering new grass 		<b>YES</b> Any day/time	<b>YES</b> Any day/time	<b>YES</b> Any day/time	<b>NO</b>
Washing outdoor:  Vehicles, exterior building surfaces, sidewalks, driveways		<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>
Filling outdoor pools or hot tubs 		<b>YES</b> Any day/time	<b>YES</b> Any day/time	<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>
Filling decorative features 		<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>
Water use for construction:  Grading, compaction, dust control		<b>YES</b> Any day/time	<b>YES</b> Any day/time	<b>YES</b> Any day/time	<b>NO</b>
Water use after applying pesticides OR fertilizers 		<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>

For more information, contact Wheatland County at **(403) 934-3321** or email [admin@wheatlandcounty.ca](mailto:admin@wheatlandcounty.ca)

The material and visuals in this document have been modified from The City of Calgary’s “Outdoor Water Restrictions” brochure and are used here courtesy of The City of Calgary.