

North Shore Water Utility Nelson Ltd. Water Conservation Program

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Introduction

In order to increase water conservation awareness, and to ensure that the North Shore Water Utility (NSWU) has enough water to meet the needs of all customers throughout the hot and dry summer months, this Water Conservation Program has been developed.

It is encouraged that customers partake in voluntary measures to conserve water, including but not limited to:

In the Home:

- Run dishwashers and washing machine with full loads only;
- Plug the sink while washing dishes or vegetables, and don't leave water running for rinsing;
- Turn water off while shaving and brushing teeth;
- Keep a pitcher of water in the fridge instead of letting tap run until it gets cool;
- Take short showers rather than baths;
- Check faucets and pipes for leaks, and repair;
- When replacing fixtures, choose water saving features and low flow devices.

In the Yard:

- Limit outdoor watering to mornings and evenings to reduce evaporation;
- Use a shutoff nozzle on your hose;
- Sweep of driveway instead of washing it with water;
- Check underground sprinklers systems for leaks and setting the timer to only give the lawn about one hour worth of water each week;
- Ensure that water does not over-spray onto sidewalks, driveways or roads;
- Wash vehicle with bucket and sponge, only turning the hose on to rinse.

On an as needed basis, certain water restrictions will be implemented. These water restrictions will be based on a 4 Level Program, of increasing intensity. This Water Conservation Program is similar to the City of Nelson's current program.




Potential reasons for moving to higher levels of the Water Conservation Program include persistent dry and hot weather, declining reservoir levels, and decreasing creek flows.

Water Conservation Program

The Water Conservation Program for the NSWU involves 4 levels of restrictions. The restrictions involved in each level are summarized in Table 1, and described in the following sections.

Table 1 Water Conservation Program Summary

Activity	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Lawn Sprinkling or Irrigation Watering	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Red
Hand Watering Gardens	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Red
Washing sidewalks, driveways, parking lots, exterior windows, exterior building surfaces etc.	Green	Red	Red	Red
Washing vehicles, RVs, boats etc.	Green	Green	Yellow	Red
Filling and refilling indoor and outdoor pools, hot tubs, garden ponds and non-recirculating water features	Green	Green	Red	Red

-  Acceptable
-  Restricted, see following sections for details
-  Prohibited

Level 1:

- Lawn sprinkler or irrigation watering is only permitted between 4 – 9 AM or 7 – 10 PM every other day. Even numbered houses may sprinkle on even numbered days of the month (ie: 2nd, 4th, 6th etc) and houses with odd numbered addresses may sprinkle on odd numbered days of the month (ie: 1st, 3rd, 5th etc).
- Filling and refilling of indoor and outdoor swimming pools is acceptable, however, **please alert the NSWU** at (250) 509-2222 or by email at billing@northshorewaterutility.com, before filling or refilling.

Level 2:

- Lawn sprinkler or irrigation watering is only permitted between 4 – 9 AM or 7 – 10 PM one day per week on Wednesdays for even numbered houses or Thursdays for odd numbered houses.
- Garden watering is permitted with a hand held watering can or using a hose equipped with a shutoff nozzle or watering wand between 4 – 9 AM or 7 – 10 PM.



- Using water to wash sidewalks, driveways, parking lots, exterior windows or exterior building surfaces is prohibited.
- Filling and refilling of indoor and outdoor swimming pools is acceptable, however, **please alert the NSWU** at (250) 509-2222 or by email at billing@northshorewaterutility.com, before filling or refilling.

Level 3:

- Lawn sprinkler or irrigation watering is only permitted between 4 – 9 AM or 7 – 10 PM for a maximum of one hour per period and two hours per day, one day per week on Wednesdays for even numbered houses or Thursdays for odd numbered houses.
- Garden watering is permitted with a hand held watering can or using a hose equipped with a shutoff nozzle or watering wand between 4 – 9 AM or 7 – 10 PM.
- Using water to wash sidewalks, driveways, parking lots, exterior windows or exterior building surfaces is prohibited.
- Filling of indoor and outdoor pools, hot tubs and non-recirculating water features is prohibited.
- Washing vehicles, RVs, and boats is permitted only with use of a bucket and sponge or hose with shutoff nozzle.

Level 4:

- All forms of watering using treated drinking water are prohibited.
- Filling of indoor and outdoor pools, hot tubs and non-recirculating water features is prohibited.
- Using water to wash sidewalks, driveways, parking lots, exterior windows or exterior building surfaces is prohibited.
- Using water to wash vehicles, RVs, and boats is prohibited.

Notification

If water restrictions are to be implemented, all customers of the NSWU will be notified via mail outs. The notice will also be posted on the NSWU website.

Compliance

It is expected that all NSWU customers will abide by the water restrictions as required. However, it is asked of all customers to kindly remind neighbours if need be. If noncompliance becomes an issue, the addition of fines may be considered by the NSWU.