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# Water Sprinkling Regulation



The recent heavy rains have restored Metro Vancouver's reservoirs to acceptable water levels, and therefore the region will return to the second stage of water use restrictions from \_\_\_\_\_ until further notice. Lawn sprinkling is allowed once a week. Here is a glance of what you can or can not do in stage two: [Water Shortage Response Plan](#).

What is not allowed in Stage 2:

- Lawn sprinkling is prohibited out of the restriction time;
- New lawns or nematode watering is allowed only with a permit;
- Pressure washing for aesthetic purpose is prohibited;
- Washing of driveways, sidewalks and parkades for aesthetic purposes is prohibited;
- Hose washing of cars, trucks, motorcycles, boats and other recreational vehicles without a spring-loaded shut off is prohibited;
- Operation of ornamental fountains is prohibited.

## Lawn Sprinkling Schedule

### Residential Addresses from 4 a.m. to 9 a.m.

- Even numbered addresses: Monday
- Odd numbered addresses: Thursday

### Non-residential Addresses from 1 a.m. - 6 a.m.

- Even numbered addresses: Wednesday
- Odd numbered addresses: Tuesday

## What is still allowed in Stage 2:

- Hand watering of trees, shrubs, flowers, decorative planters and vegetable gardens using a spring-loaded shutoff nozzle, containers or a drip irrigation system is permitted;
- New lawns or nematode watering is permitted with a municipal permit.
- Watering of turf at turf farms or flowers and vegetables at commercial gardens is permitted.
- Hosing or pressure washing of outdoor surfaces (e.g. driveways, sidewalks, roofs) for health and safety concerns or to prepare a surface for painting/sealing or similar treatment is permitted;
- Commercial car wash operations are permitted;
- Golf course watering of greens and tee areas at minimum levels required to maintain areas in useable condition is permitted. Fairways watering once a week is permitted.
- Sports & sand-based playing field and school yard watering at minimum levels as required to maintain areas in useable condition is permitted;
- Artificial turf requiring wetting, or outdoor tracks if required for dust control or safety reasons is permitted;
- Filling or refilling of private swimming pools, hot tubs and garden ponds is permitted.

## Reporting a water sprinkling violation

Report any Active water sprinkling violations to the By-law Call Centre at 604-591-4370. To report past violations or request for information, please call Engineering Department at 604-591-4340 or email at [EngWebmail@surrey.ca](mailto:EngWebmail@surrey.ca). Any complaints received, or observed violations, may result in fines imposed under Surrey Bylaw [No. 12508, the Bylaw Contravention Fines](#).

## [Some Water Saving Tips](#)

### History of Lawn Sprinkling Regulations

In the Winter and Spring of 1992, low rainfall and snow pack significantly reduced water levels within the Greater Vancouver Regional District's (GVRD's) 3 main reservoirs. In addition, during the summer months, unusually warm weather resulted in a much higher water consumption rate, further lowering water levels. This resulted in a solution requiring a 10-week ban on all lawn and garden sprinkling.

In the summer of 1993, the [Greater Vancouver Water District's \(GVWD\)](#) <sup>☞</sup> member municipalities imposed regular twice weekly lawn sprinkling regulations. Since 2011, new lawn sprinkling regulations have been imposed in our region each summer between June 1 and September 30. These regulations allows people water 3 times a week, keep the rate of water consumption evenly distributed, and lower the risk of reservoir levels being depleted too quickly.

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