

## **COMOX VALLEY REGIONAL DISTRICT**

### **BYLAW NO. 622**

A bylaw to amend the Comox Valley water conservation bylaw to refine and improve the water use restriction stages and associated language

**WHEREAS** the Comox Valley Regional District adopted Bylaw No. 129 being the “Comox Valley Water Conservation Bylaw 2010” on May 25, 2010;

**AND WHEREAS** the board desires to update the bylaw to refine and improve the water use restriction stages and associated language;

**NOW THEREFORE** the Board of the Comox Valley Regional District in open meeting assembled enacts as follows:

#### **Amendment**

1. Bylaw No. 129 being “Comox Valley Water Conservation Bylaw 2010” is hereby amended by:

(a) Replacing Section 4 “Inspections” which reads:

“The general manager or a bylaw compliance officer has the authority to enter at all reasonable times on any property that is subject to this bylaw to ascertain whether the requirements of this bylaw are being met or the regulations in this bylaw are being observed.”

with the following:

“The general manager or a bylaw compliance officer has the authority to enter, at all reasonable times and in a reasonable manner and after taking reasonable steps to give notice, on any property that is subject to this bylaw to ascertain whether the requirements of this bylaw are being met or the regulations in this bylaw are being observed.”

(b) Inserting new sections 9 and 10 under the heading “Water Use Restrictions” as follows::

“9. The water use restrictions for each stage apply to both indoor and outdoor water use.

10. The water use restrictions for each stage do not apply to the use of rain water, gray water, any forms of recycled water, or other sources of water outside the Comox Valley Regional District Water Supply System.”

(c) Renumbering and reformatting the remaining sections accordingly.

(d) Replacing Schedule A – Outdoor Water Use Restrictions Stages with revised Schedule A - Water Use Restrictions Stages which is attached to, and forms part of this bylaw.

This Bylaw No. 622 may be cited as “Comox Valley Water Conservation Bylaw 2010, Amendment No. 7”.

Adopted this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2020.

Corporate Legislative Officer

Corporate Legislative Officer

**SCHEDULE A****WATER USE RESTRICTION STAGES****STAGE 1 WATER USE RESTRICTIONS**

Stage 1 is intended to raise public awareness of potential drought, prevent drinking water wastage and ensure all water users employ efficient and effective practices.

User	Water Use	Restriction
RESIDENTIAL AND NON-RESIDENTIAL	Watering lawns with a sprinkler	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Even-numbered civic addresses may only water between the hours of 5:00 am and 8:00 am and 7:00 pm and 10:00 pm on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.</li> <li>Odd numbered-addresses may only water between the hours of 5:00 am and 8:00 am and 7:00 pm and 10:00 pm on Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays.</li> </ul>
	Watering of new grass plantings (sod or seed) with reasonable evidence of recent installation (sod within 21 days, seed within 45 days),	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At any time if watering is done by a hand held hose equipped with an automatic shut-off nozzle.</li> <li>Under the authority of a permit, water with a sprinkler between the hours of 5:00 am and 8:00 am and 7:00 pm and 10:00 pm.</li> </ul>
	Watering trees, shrubs, flowers, and vegetables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Even-numbered civic addresses may only water using a sprinkler between the hours of 5:00 am and 8:00 am and 7:00 pm and 10:00 pm on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.</li> <li>Odd numbered-addresses may only water using a sprinkler between the hours of 5:00 am and 8:00 am and 7:00 pm and 10:00 pm on Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays.</li> <li>Any day at any time if using micro-irrigation or drip-irrigation system, hand held container or a hand held hose equipped with an automatic shut-off nozzle.</li> <li>Any day and time and using any method during installation and for the following 24 hours.</li> </ul>
	Wash sidewalks, driveways, parking lots, exterior windows, vehicles or exterior building surfaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On any day at any time if using a hand held container or hand held hose equipped with an automatic shut-off nozzle.</li> </ul>
	Washing vehicles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On any day at any time if using a hand held container or hand held hose equipped with an automatic shut-off nozzle.</li> </ul>

LOCAL GOVERNMENT	Watering parks, ornamental lawns and grassed boulevards with a sprinkler	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Only water between the hours of 11:00 pm and 7:00 am on even numbered days for even-numbered civic addresses and odd numbered days for odd-numbered civic addresses.</li> </ul>
	Water all weather playing fields	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At any time using any method if failure to do so will result in a permanent loss of plant material.</li> </ul>
<b>Exceptions to Stage 1 Water Use Restrictions</b>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Owners or occupiers of property who, by reason of physical or mental incapacity, and where such incapacity has been documented by a medical practitioner, are unable to water their property within the restricted days and times, may water their property on any three days of the week for a maximum of six hours per day.</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nurseries, farms, turf farms, and tree farms.</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local government water parks and pools.</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Owners or operators of golf courses may water trees, shrubs, flowers, and vegetables grown on golf courses any day at any time if using micro-irrigation or drip-irrigation system, hand held container or a hand held hose equipped with an automatic shut-off nozzle or by any method during installation and for the following 24 hours. In addition, fairways, golf greens and tees may be watered on any day if failure to do so will result in permanent loss of plant material.</li> </ul>	

**SCHEDULE A (continued)****STAGE 2 WATER USE RESTRICTIONS**

Stage 2 restrictions provide further conservation measures for drinking water in response to low water supply conditions or in prolonged, moderate drought conditions. These restrictions are designed to conserve enough drinking water to avoid or delay moving to Stage 3 as long as possible.

User	Water Use	Restriction
RESIDENTIAL AND NON-RESIDENTIAL	Watering lawns with a sprinkler	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Even-numbered civic addresses may only water between the hours of 6:00 am and 8:00 am and 8:00 pm and 10:00 pm on Tuesdays and Saturdays.</li> <li>Odd numbered-addresses may only water between the hours of 6:00 am and 8:00 am and 8:00 pm and 10:00 pm on Wednesdays and Sundays.</li> </ul>
	Watering of new grass plantings (sod or seed) with reasonable evidence of recent installation (sod within 21 days, seed within 45 days)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At any time if watering is done by a hand held hose equipped with an automatic shut-off nozzle.</li> <li>Under the authority of a permit, water with a sprinkler between the hours of 6:00 am and 8:00 am and 8:00 pm and 10:00 pm.</li> </ul>
	Watering trees, shrubs, flowers, and vegetables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Even-numbered civic addresses may only water using a sprinkler between the hours of 6:00 am and 8:00 am and 8:00 pm and 10:00 pm on Tuesdays and Saturdays.</li> <li>Odd numbered-addresses may only water using a sprinkler between the hours of 6:00 am and 8:00 am and 8:00 pm and 10:00 pm on Wednesdays and Sundays.</li> <li>Any day at any time if using micro-irrigation or drip-irrigation system, hand held container or a hand held hose equipped with an automatic shut-off nozzle.</li> <li>Any day and time and using any method during installation and for the following 24 hours.</li> </ul>
	Wash sidewalks, driveways and parking lots	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prohibited except as necessary for applying a product such as paint, preservative and stucco, preparing a surface prior to paving or repointing bricks, or if required by law to comply with health or safety regulations.</li> </ul>
	Wash exterior windows and building surfaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On any day at any time if using a hand held container or hand held hose equipped with an automatic shut-off nozzle.</li> </ul>
	Washing vehicles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On any day at any time if using a hand held container or hand held hose equipped with an automatic shut-off nozzle.</li> </ul>

LOCAL GOVERNMENT	Watering parks, ornamental lawns and grassed boulevards with a sprinkler	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Only water between the hours of 11:00 pm and 7:00 am on even numbered days for even-numbered civic addresses and odd numbered days for odd-numbered civic addresses.</li> </ul>
	Water all weather playing fields	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At any time using any method if failure to do so will result in a permanent loss of plant material.</li> </ul>
<b>Exceptions to Stage 2 Water Use Restrictions</b>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Owners or occupiers of property who, by reason of physical or mental incapacity, and where such incapacity has been documented by a medical practitioner, are unable to water their property within the restricted days and times, may water their property on any two days of the week for a maximum of four hours per day.</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nurseries, farms, turf farms, and tree farms.</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local government water parks and pools.</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Owners and operators of commercial pressure washing companies may use water but only as part of their normal business operations.</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Owners or operators of golf courses may water:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- fairways at any time on not more than two days per week;</li> <li>- trees, shrubs, flowers, and vegetables grown on golf courses in accordance with stage 2 date and time restrictions for residential and non-residential users; and</li> <li>- golf greens and tees on any day if failure to do so will result in permanent loss of plant material.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

**SCHEDULE A (continued)****STAGE 3 WATER USE RESTRICTIONS**

Stage 3 restrictions implement stricter water conservation measures to maintain water supply during significant drought conditions or other water shortage.

In addition to the following water restrictions, further measures may be implemented under this stage, if necessary, to maintain supplies during a period of critical water shortage.

User	Water Use	Restriction
RESIDENTIAL AND NON-RESIDENTIAL	Watering lawns with a sprinkler	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prohibited</li> </ul>
	Watering of new grass plantings (sod or seed)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prohibited. All local government permits issued for lawn watering are invalidated.</li> </ul>
	Watering trees, shrubs, flowers, and vegetables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any day between the hours of 6:00 am to 8:00 am and 8:00 pm to 10:00 pm if watering is done using micro-irrigation or drip-irrigation systems or by hand-held container or a hand held hose equipped with an automatic shut-off nozzle</li> </ul>
	Watering newly planted trees, shrubs, flowers, and vegetables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At any time during the following 24 hours after installation using a hand held container or a hand held hose equipped with an automatic shut-off nozzle.</li> </ul>
	Fill or add water to a swimming pool, hot tub, garden pond or operate a decorative fountain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prohibited except wading pools less than 200 centimeters in diameter may be filled with water up to a maximum depth of 30 centimeters.</li> </ul>
	Wash sidewalks, driveways, parking lots, exterior windows, or exterior building surfaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prohibited except as necessary for applying a product such as paint, preservative and stucco, preparing a surface prior to paving or repointing bricks, or if required by law to comply with health or safety regulations.</li> </ul>
	Washing vehicles and boats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prohibited except: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to clean windows, lights, mirrors, licence plates, and engines for safety.</li> <li>at car dealerships and commercial car washes using less than 205 litres of water per vehicle wash or 50 percent recirculated water as long as the total amount of water, excluding recirculated water, does not exceed 205 litres per vehicle wash.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	Fill or add water to a swimming pool, hot tub, garden pond or operate a decorative fountain at any time.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prohibited except wading pools less than 200 centimeters in diameter may be filled with water up to a maximum depth of 30 centimeters</li> </ul>

LOCAL GOVERNMENT	Watering parks, ornamental lawns and grassed boulevards with a sprinkler	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Only water between the hours of 11:00 pm and 7:00 am on even-numbered days for even-numbered addresses and odd numbered days for odd-numbered addresses.</li> </ul>
	Water all weather playing fields	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At any time using any method if failure to do so will result in a permanent loss of plant material.</li> </ul>
<b>Exceptions to Stage 3 Water Use Restrictions</b>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Owners or occupiers of property who, by reason of physical or mental incapacity, and where such incapacity has been documented by a medical practitioner, are unable to water their property within the restricted days and times, may water their property on any two days of the week for a maximum of four hours per day.</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nurseries, farms, turf farms, and tree farms.</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local government water parks and pools.</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Owners or operators of golf courses may water:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>fairways at any time on not more than one day per week;</li> <li>trees, shrubs, flowers, and vegetables grown on golf courses in accordance with Stage 3 date and time restrictions for non-residential users; and</li> <li>golf greens and tees on any day if failure to do so will result in permanent loss of plant material.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	



**SCHEDULE A (continued)****STAGE 4 WATER USE RESTRICTIONS**

Stage 4 restrictions are implemented when no spare water is available. Severe water restrictions limit indoor and outdoor water uses as much as possible and are intended to maintain critical supply.

Stage 4 is activated based on the rare occurrence of a significant emergency, such as an earthquake, flood, wild land and interface fire, severe weather, or a prolonged power outage that causes significant impacts to the water system infrastructure.

In addition to the following water restrictions, further measures may be implemented under this stage, if necessary, to maintain community health.

User	Water Use	Restriction
RESIDENTIAL /NON-RESIDENTIAL/ LOCAL GOVERNMENT	All water uses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prohibited except for human and animal consumption, hygiene, safety, food and beverage preparation, use in firefighting, and by order of a regulatory authority having jurisdiction for health or safety.</li> <li>For clarity, the following water uses are specifically prohibited unless required for health, safety or sanitary purposes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- watering lawns, gardens, plants and trees</li> <li>- washing motor vehicles, boats and other recreational vehicles</li> <li>- washing outdoor surfaces, exterior windows, or exterior building surfaces</li> <li>- filling or topping off of pools, hot tubs, ponds or fountains</li> <li>- mixing concrete</li> <li>- mechanical services</li> <li>- spa services</li> <li>- manufacturing processes</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Exceptions to Stage 4 Water Use Restrictions</b>		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Irrigating local government all-weather playing fields.</li> </ul>