



## News Release

### Stage 4 Water Conservation Regulations for Chapman Water System Users

Sechelt, BC – August 10, 2021— Our water supply is at risk due to prolonged dry weather and high water usage. Effective Tuesday August 10<sup>th</sup> at noon, and until further notice, the Sunshine Coast Regional District (SCRD) has declared Stage 4 (severe) water conservation regulations for water users on the Chapman Water System.

Stage 4 water conservation regulations means a **BAN ON ALL OUTDOOR USE OF SCRDR DRINKING WATER**. Under these drought conditions, water use priorities focus on water for human health, firefighting and environmental flow requirements.

Groundwater sources in Langdale, Soames Point and Granthams Landing will follow Stage 2 water conservation regulations.

Customers on SCRDR water in Pender Harbour, Earl's Cove and Egmont will follow Stage 1 until further notice.

Eastbourne Water System will remain at Stage 4.

#### **PLEASE DO NOT:**

- Use tap water for any outdoor water use, this includes tap water through garden hoses, watering cans, irrigation systems or laid sprinklers
- Fill swimming pools, hot tubs, wading pools, garden ponds and fountains
- Wash driveways, sidewalks, vehicles, boats or other equipment
- Use power washers

In addition to water conservation measures, the SCRDR will start diverting water from Edwards Lake shortly and is working to deploy an emergency backup system to access additional water at Chapman Lake.

“Due to dry weather and the ongoing high community demand, the water level at Chapman Lake has dropped quickly over the last several weeks. This past weekend, Chapman Lake received a very minimal (6 millimetres) amount of rain and the water supply to the customers on the Chapman water system is not guaranteed if the current dry weather continues into the fall,” says Remko Rosenboom, General Manager of Infrastructure Services at the SCRDR. “Now more than ever, we really need the community to stop using drinking water for outdoor use and to conserve as much as possible inside the home.”

“In our Province we are seeing wildfires devastating communities,” says Matt Treit, Manager of Protective Services with the SCRDR. “With more drought like conditions in the forecast it is of the upmost importance that we have water for fire suppression on the Coast, on behalf of all of our Fire Chiefs I ask that Sunshine Coast residents please obey water regulations and help protect our valuable water supply.”

SCRD staff patrol neighbourhoods on a regular basis to enforce regulations. Staff follow up on all complaints received. The SCRД will issue warnings to properties in violation of regulations and provide information about water conservation regulations. If there is continued non-compliance, bylaw officers will issue a Bylaw Enforcement Notice and a fine of \$500.

Complaints may be submitted through [www.scrd.ca/bylaw-complaint-form](http://www.scrd.ca/bylaw-complaint-form), 604-885-6806, or [infrastructure@scrd.ca](mailto:infrastructure@scrd.ca).

In response to local drought conditions, the Sunshine Coast Regional District is taking the following steps to manage our own water consumption and water use:

- Sports fields are no longer being irrigated.
- The hot tub at the Sechelt Aquatic Centre will not reopen until Stage 4 water conservation regulations are lifted.
- The water park at Shirley Macey Park has been closed.
- The vehicle fleet, as well as BC Transit buses are no longer being washed.
- The annual water main flushing program has been postponed in the Chapman water system area.

Visit [www.scrd.ca/Sprinkling-Regulations](http://www.scrd.ca/Sprinkling-Regulations) for details on water conservation regulations.

– 30 –

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