



News Release

Return to Stage 1 Water Conservation Regulations

Sechelt, BC – September 20, 2021 – Effective immediately the Sunshine Coast Regional District (SCRD) has declared a return to Stage 1 water conservation regulations for SCRD water users on the South Pender, Chapman, Langdale, Soames Point, and Granthams Landing Water Systems. Stage 1 regulations remain in effect until September 30 and in the coming days SCRD staff will be removing Stage 4 displays and signage in the Region.

Eastbourne Water System will remain at Stage 4 until further notice.

Since Friday morning 126 mm of rain fell in the Chapman Lake area.

“This has been by far the most challenging year for the SCRD in managing our water supply,” says Remko Rosenboom, SCRD General Manager of Infrastructure Services. “Thank you to everyone in our community who stepped up and answered our call to conserve water, your efforts made a real difference. We are also grateful to our municipal partners, particularly the Town of Gibsons for assisting us with water supply through the late Summer months.”

As a result of the easing of water conservation regulations, the SCRD’s Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) will also be winding down in the coming weeks. The future of an emergency project being undertaken by the EOC at Edwards Lake will be discussed with regulatory agencies as it could become a permanent emergency measure for the Chapman Water System.

“We remain hopeful that we will be in a position to bring the Church Road wells source online in 2022. We hope to be able to confirm a more detailed timeline for that later this year.” says Rosenboom. “However, this Summer we saw record temperatures and dry weather across the Province so I encourage residents and businesses to start planning for water supply for outdoor use for the summer of 2022. Even with the Church Road wells online it is possible that an extended drought next year will again require more stringent Water Conservation Regulations to be activated to guarantee the water supply.”

SCRD staff are also working on updating lawn permitting processes and work on other water sources at Langdale and Gray Creek has been ongoing through the Summer. In the near future SCRD staff will be conducting a debrief on this year’s Drought Response Plan which will include reaching out to the community.

“I want to take an opportunity to recognize SCRD staff for their work in securing our water supply through the Summer,” says Dean McKinley, SCRD Chief Administrative Officer. “Whether it’s been water technicians monitoring our water supply through the night,

management working into evenings and weekends or staff assisting homeowners with fixing leaks, I am proud of how everyone has pulled together through what has been a very challenging Summer.”

The updated water conservation regulations now in place are as follows:

Watering Lawns

Sprinklers or soaker hoses can be used to water lawns according to the Stage 1 schedule which is:

- For even numbered addresses, lawn sprinkling is allowed Thursday and Sunday from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m.
- For odd numbered addresses, lawn sprinkling is allowed on Wednesday and Saturday from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m.

Watering trees, shrubs, flowers and food producing plants

Sprinklers or soaker hoses can be used to water trees, shrubs, flowers and food producing plants and trees according to the Stage 1 schedule:

- For even numbered addresses, sprinkling is allowed Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- For odd numbered addresses, sprinkling is allowed on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Exemptions from Stage 1

- During Stage 1 water restrictions, hand held hoses with shut-off devices can be used anytime for watering lawns, trees, shrubs, flowers or vegetables.
- Commercial food producing farms paying a metered rate for water are exempt from Stage 1 regulations.
- Pressure washing sidewalks and driveways, windows or exterior building surfaces is permitted only during Stage 1.

Sunshine Coast Arena

Ice will be installed at the Sunshine Coast Arena as per the schedule outlined in a [news release issued earlier this month](#). Ice is due to be available starting October 12, any changes to this schedule will be communicated directly to user groups by SCRD staff and to the community through the SCRD Website and Facebook Page.

For more information on water projects in the SCRD, visit www.scrd.ca/letstalk.

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Media Enquiries:

Remko Rosenboom, General Manager of Infrastructure Services
Sunshine Coast Regional District
Phone: 604-885-6800
Email: Remko.rosenboom@scrd.ca