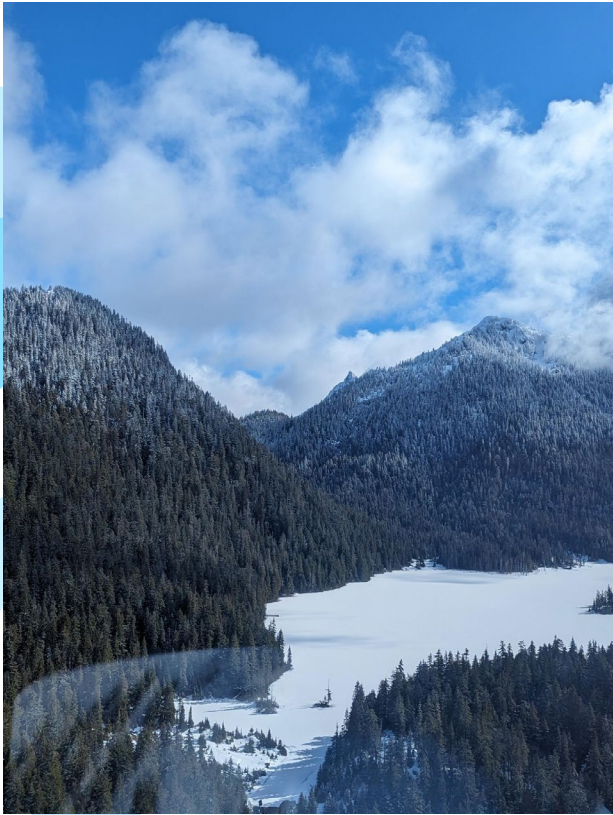
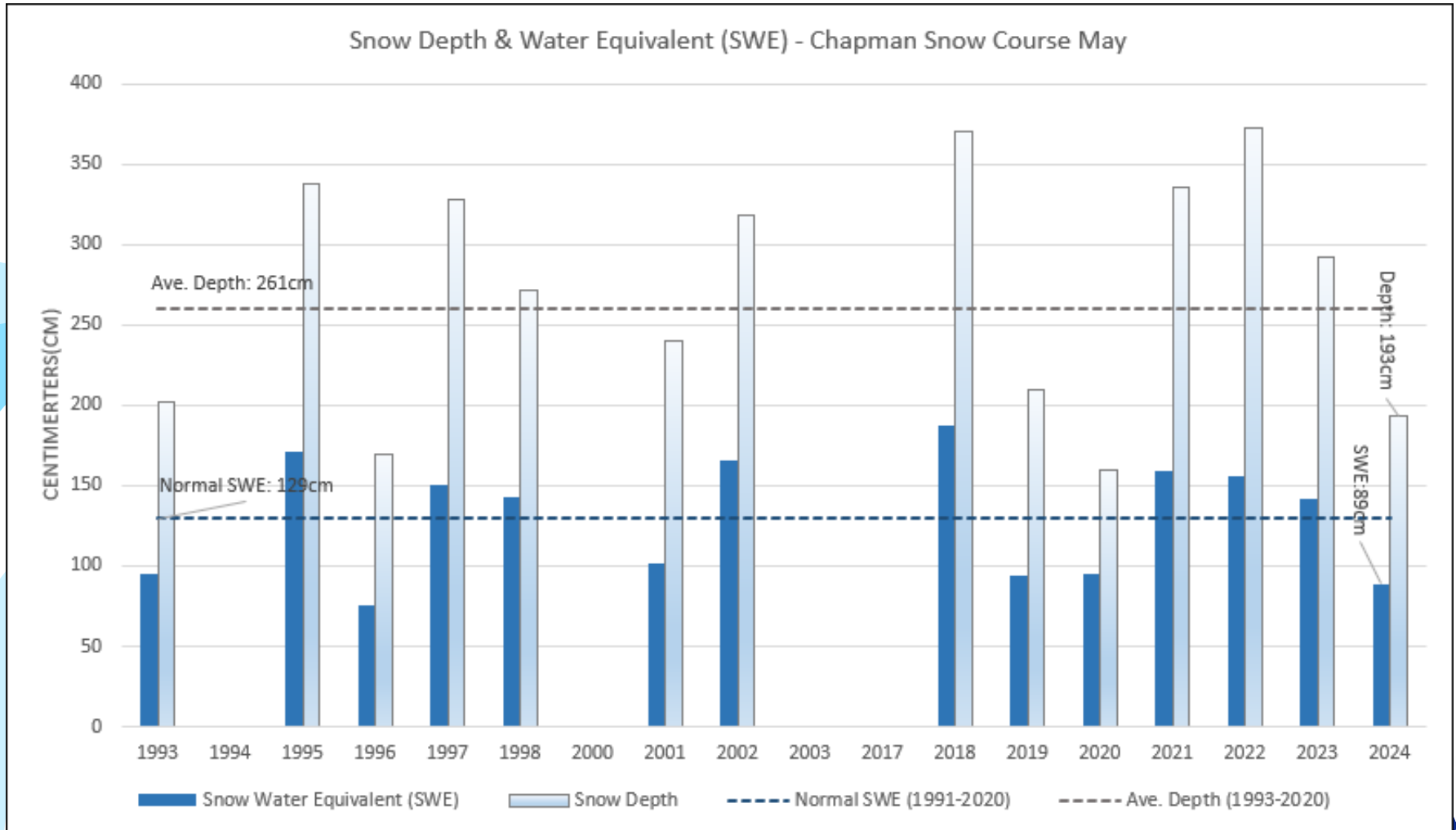


# Water Supply Update

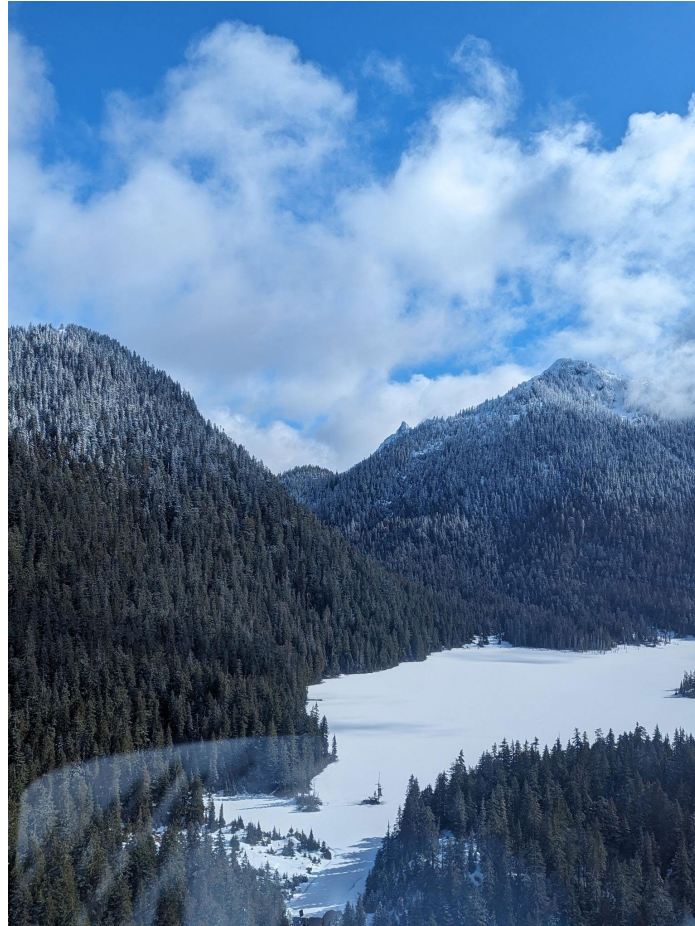
Committee of the Whole  
May 9, 2024



# Snowpack – Chapman Lake



# Chapman Lake

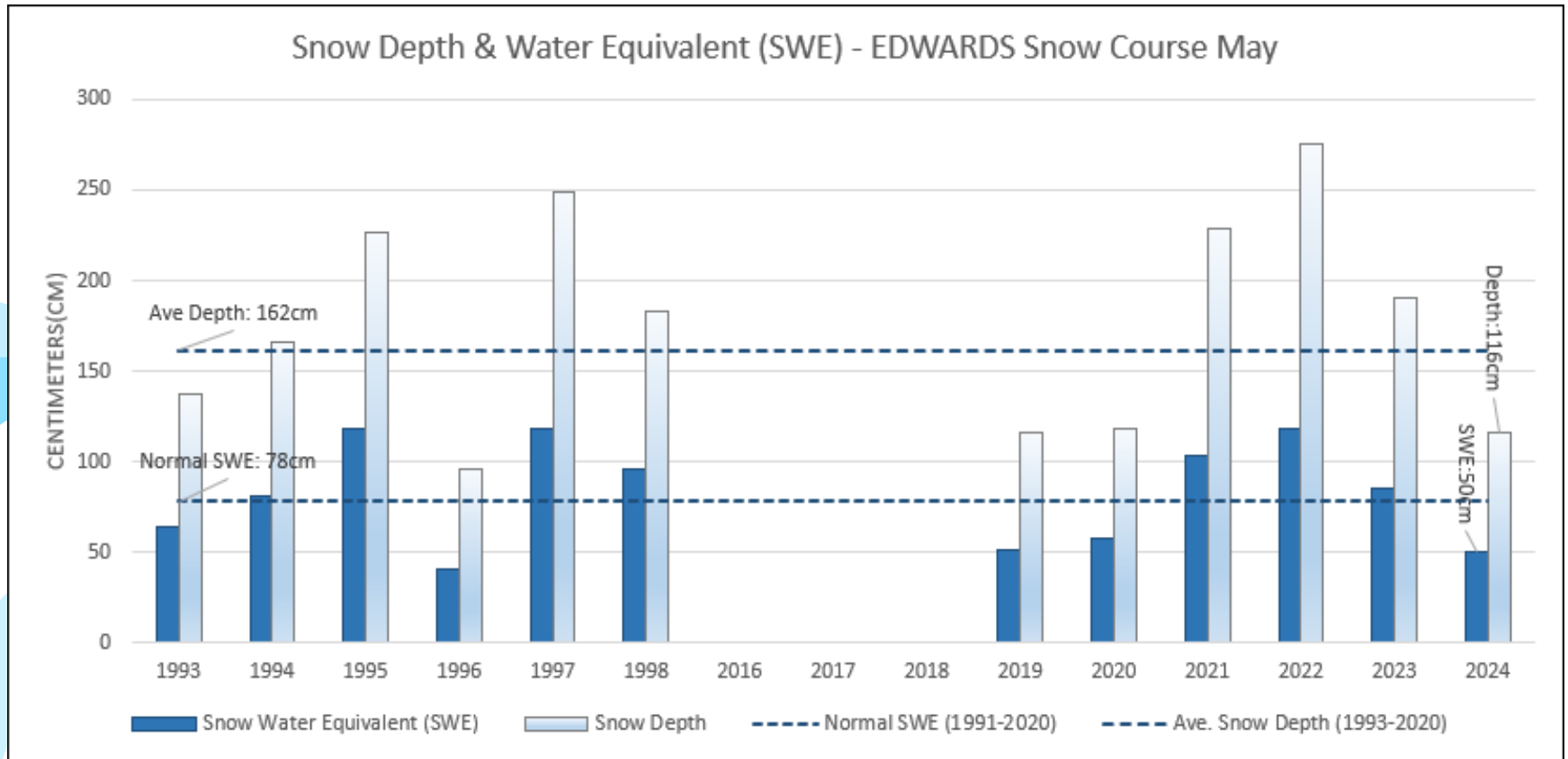


April 30, 2024

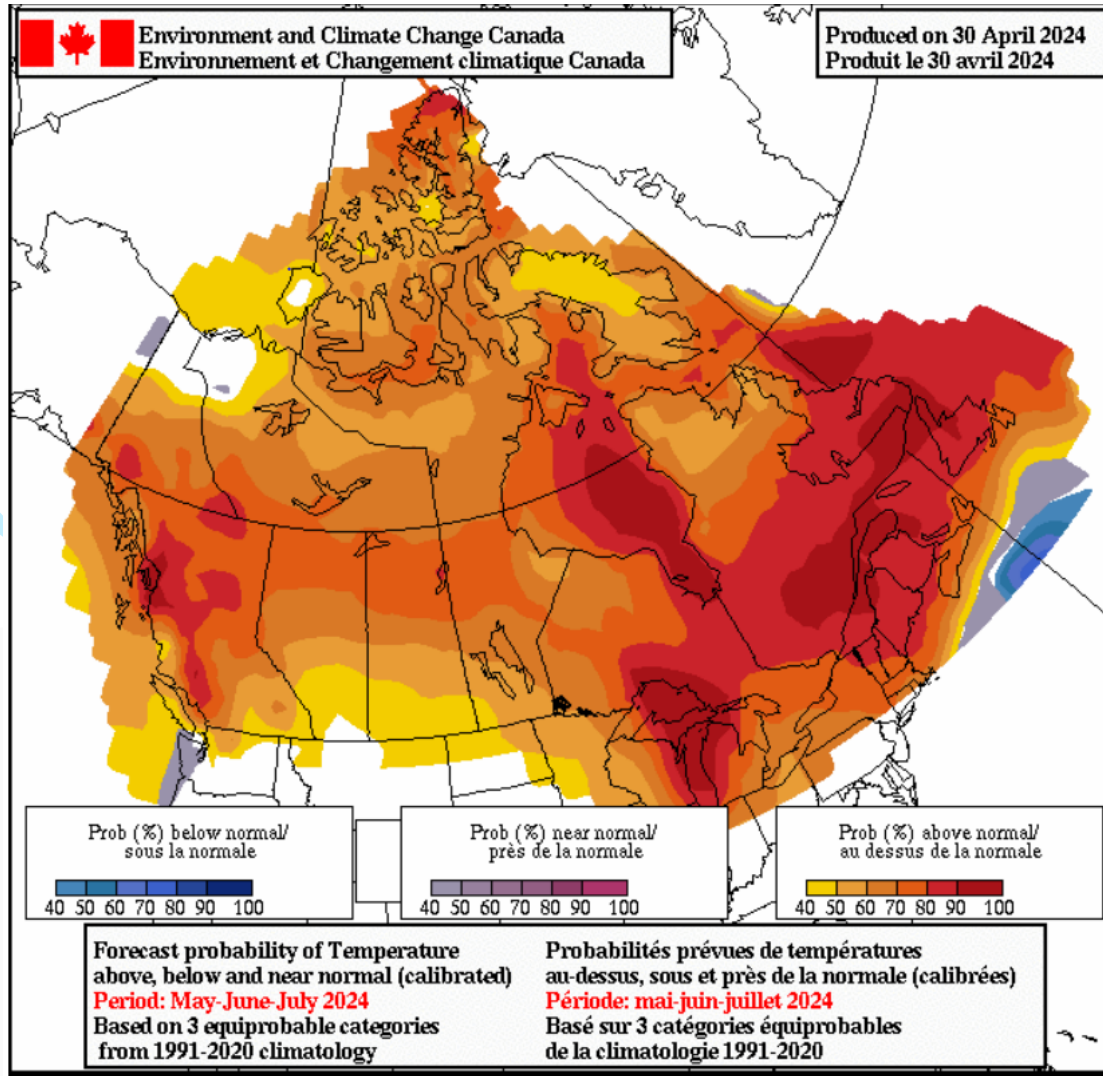
[www.scrd.ca](http://www.scrd.ca)



# Snowpack – Edwards Lake

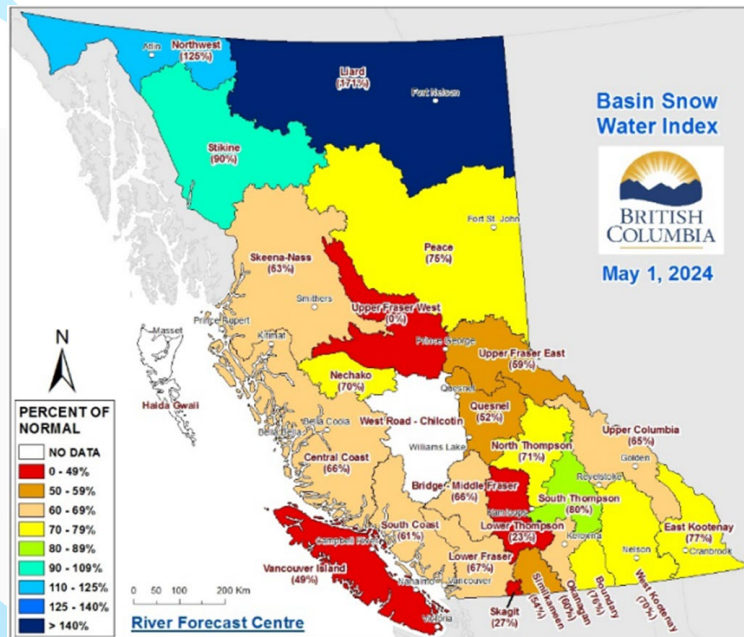


# Temperature Forecast May-July



# Water Supply Outlook

- All systems on Stage 1 as of May 1
- Given weather forecast; severe drought conditions are plausible this summer.
- We are not alone:
  - our snowpack is comparable to other parts of BC
  - upgraded provincial site: [gov.bc.ca/drought](http://gov.bc.ca/drought)



Global News this morning:  
*“River expert says B.C. is heading into summer with multi-year precipitation deficit”.*



# Water Supply Outlook – cont'd

- Chapman system:
  - Timing of Stage 2 is dependent on temperature and precipitation in May.
  - Church Road Wellfield: fully operational
  - Chapman Creek Environmental Flow Needs reduction: ongoing collaboration with shíshálh Nation and Province to confirm plan for this summer.
  - Siphon systems: Discussions with shishalh Nation and Province ongoing for continued used in case of extended late summer drought.



# Water Supply Outlook – cont'd

- South Pender
  - Primary concern is the daily use by community and leakage resulting in an exceedance of the licensed maximum daily diversion rate.
    - Feasibility of amending Water Licence is to be confirmed by 2025. If confirmed, the required technical assessments and regulatory process could take several years to complete.
  - Secondary concern is water availability in McNeill Lake and Harris Lake.
    - 2023 confirmed that there are no technical limitations in getting water from Harris Lake to McNeill Lake as required.
    - 2023 was lowest lake level since the current intake was installed in McNeill Lake. Critical lake level for functioning intake needs to be reestablished.
    - Study to confirm technical improvements and critical lake levels approved as part of 2024 budget process, completed in 2025.





# Communications

## Building on the successes of last year:

- Water Conservation Regulation mailouts to 11,000 SCRD customers, including launch of Get Ready for Summer campaign
- Direct letters to known high-users (163 Chapman and 69 South Pender)
- Sign-up to monthly Water Use Update
- Upcoming: dedicated letter to all users on South Pender Harbour water system
- Still some Rainwater Harvesting Rebate funds to be allocated for the Regional Water Service

## Get Ready for Summer



The climate is changing...and so can we.

The Province of British Columbia is in a drought – we've all heard it, the "New Normal." Many communities across the province are struggling with water shortages. This year, low snowpacks and forecasted warm temperatures puts water supplies at risk.

Every year in the Sunshine Coast Regional District, water conservation regulations begin May 1. Reduce the summer stress on yourself and water supplies by completing water intensive home maintenance and garden projects in the spring. Your thoughtful, early actions reduce the risk to community water supplies during times of drought.



**Drought conditions are expected in 2024.** With less rain in the summer, watersheds on the Sunshine Coast become very dry, putting drinking water supplies at risk. We've all gained valuable experience over the past few years in adapting to drought. This summer, plan ahead and be prepared.



**Take only what you need and use everything you take.** Prioritize summer water use by needs, not wants. Only using water in the summer for essential needs extends our supply. How you choose to use water affects everyone.



**Focus on what you can do.** Take action in your household to improve water efficiency. Water resources are shared. By respecting the water we have, everyone benefits. With world class water from pristine aquifers and beautiful lakes, let's be grateful for every drop.

Knowing how much water you use is the first step to efficiency.

Get curious about your household's water use. How much does your usage change by the season?

Receive your personal monthly water use by email. No water meter yet? Use the graph on the right to estimate how much you might be using.

Visit [scrd.ca/water-use](http://scrd.ca/water-use) to sign up.

Find updates on water conservation stages in your area, current water supply levels, water conservation tips and more:

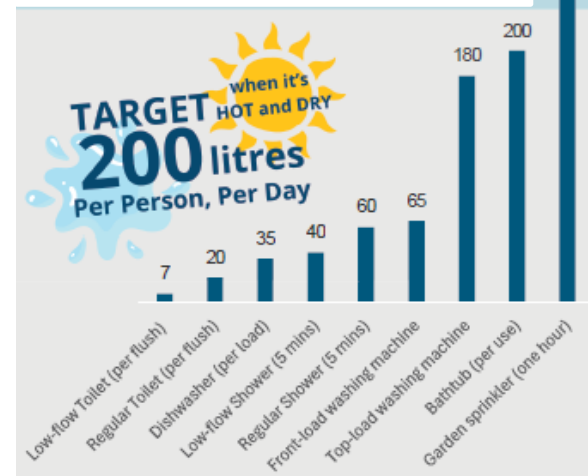
Visit [scrd.ca/water-updates](http://scrd.ca/water-updates).



# “Take only what you need and use everything you take.”

## Target: 200 litres Per Person Per Day

*“Can you imagine loading 200, 1 liter bottles of water in your shopping cart for every day per person in your household? Shouldn't that be sufficient when we have drought conditions?”*



# Communication approach this summer

- These presentations focus on Drought Response
- Communication on Water Supply Projects
  - Monthly news releases providing progress updates on water supply projects. The first will be issued next week.
  - A map that will show where all of these projects are located (expected to be live in June).
  - Linked to the map will be one-sheet with the relevant information of each project (e.g. short description, cost, projected yield status, and next steps).
  - Let's Talk Pages
  - Ads and social media



# Leak resolution approach

- Leak resolution is a priority for staff this summer.
- Approach taken for all major leaks:
  - Send leak notification letter(s)
  - Staff providing support (also info on [scrd.ca/fix-leaks](http://scrd.ca/fix-leaks))
  - If continued as unresolved, a shut-off notice sent
  - Water is shut-off until leak has been fixed
- Over 281 leak notification letters are being sent this morning to residential and commercial users.



# Learn more

- For current information on water supply and Water Conservation Regulations, visit [www.scrd.ca/water-updates](http://www.scrd.ca/water-updates).
- Questions?

