

# DROUGHT RESPONSE PRIORITISATION RATIONALE



## Reduce residential and business demand to prolong the water supply

High level considerations are:

1. Lower levels of water restrictions aim to educate and create awareness of the current water supply situation. Promoting behavioural change in terms of water usage across the community.
2. Higher levels of water restrictions aims to result in significant reduction of residential and commercial/ institutional water as a result of the change of behaviours learnt from the lower levels. Continued water supply planning aims to avoid moving to higher levels of restrictions.
3. Exemptions will be in place for those that do not readily fit within the restrictions systems, such as hospitals, care facilities or core business activities. Council approval is given through the Water Saving Action Plan (WSAP) for businesses required to prepare one.
4. There should not be any compromise for maintaining health, hygiene and safety for people or pets. Cleaning outdoor areas for these reasons are acceptable.
5. Rainwater tanks that are connected to the town water supply for refilling are to be subject to the same water restrictions as town water.
6. These restrictions are applied to the use of reticulated town water supply. For those using alternate supply such as bores, Council encourages signage be placed at the front of the premises to identify the water source. Compliance officers may seek to obtain evidence of this alternative water supply.

## Baseline water usage 400 litres per person per day

### LEVEL 1: LOW

### LEVEL 2: MODERATE

### LEVEL 3: HIGH

### LEVEL 4: VERY HIGH

### LEVEL 5: EXTREME

### LEVEL 6: CRITICAL

#### DECISION MAKING RATIONALE:

These levels of water restriction are focused on:

- General awareness rather than trying to achieve significant reductions in usage. The key measure is to limit outdoor watering. Generally the impact on residents and their gardens would be relatively minor.
- Actions are mainly initial measures that activate the Drought Management Plan and its various components.

#### KEY TASKS

1. Activate Drought Management Plan.
2. Implement water restrictions.
3. Review backup / emergency supply options.
4. Prepare community awareness campaign (media advertising, internet and appropriate signage at town entrances).
5. Review major existing Water Management Plan and update.
6. Weekly review of water supply , actual water consumption and targets.

#### DECISION MAKING RATIONALE:

These levels focus on:

- Implementation of water restrictions within the community, including bans on unattended or untimed watering of lawns and gardens.
- Reducing water usage below typical levels for that time of year. The measures are likely to cause a moderate level of inconvenience to the community, without having extreme impacts on most lawns and gardens. The aim is to prevent over-watering and change watering behaviours.
- Increased communication with key stakeholders to take place.

#### KEY TASKS

1. Implement community awareness campaigns.
2. Commence issuing warnings and fines for violation of restrictions.
3. Regular drought management coordination meetings, track costs and budgets, water consumption and targets, issues and risks.
4. Meetings with large water users.
5. Consider temporary closure of non-essential, high water dependent services.
6. Preparation of back up supply sources.

#### DECISION MAKING RATIONALE:

This level limits all forms of outdoor watering. Residents will experience significant impacts to their normal water usage. The aim is to reduce usage well below typical base line levels while still allowing gardens to be maintained, at a basic level.

Key actions include increased focus on compliance for violation of restrictions, increasing the community awareness campaign and notifying Commonwealth/ NSW Government of the intention to investigate and, if necessary, implement backup supply and/or emergency water supply options.

#### KEY TASKS

1. Increase community awareness campaign.
2. Meet with large non-residential users to discuss options for further water reduction.
3. Regular liaison with key stakeholders.
4. Daily review of water supply against actual water consumption compared to target
5. Contact large residential water users.
6. Consider temporary closure of non-essential, high water dependant services.

#### DECISION MAKING RATIONALE:

This critical level of restrictions involve an intense communication campaign to reduce usage to absolute minimum levels. This would include elimination of all non-essential water usage. It would have major impacts on nearly all residences and businesses. Businesses may be asked to restrict water usage to only essential services, with the possible shutting down of non-essential, water dependent services.

Key actions include implementing emergency response/supply options and an intensive community water reduction appeal.

#### KEY TASKS

1. Strict compliance.
2. Intense community water reduction campaign.
3. Meetings with large water users continue.
4. Temporary closure of non-essential, high water dependent services.
5. Daily review of water supply vs actual water consumption compared to target.
6. Implement emergency responses.

# WATER RESTRICTIONS RESIDENTIAL EFFECTIVE 27 JULY 2020



ACTIVITY	LEVEL 1 LOW	LEVEL 2 MODERATE	LEVEL 3 HIGH	LEVEL 4 VERY HIGH	LEVEL 5 EXTREME	LEVEL 6 CRITICAL
<b>Daily target per person per day</b>	<b>380 Litres</b>	<b>360 Litres</b>	<b>320 Litres</b>	<b>280 Litres</b>	<b>240 Litres</b>	<b>195 Litres</b>
<b>General notes apply to all activities</b>	<p><b>LAWNS AND GARDENS</b> Watering is to be attended by a resident or on programmable timed systems.</p> <p><b>Daylight Savings Period</b> Watering permitted between 6pm and 9am.</p> <p><b>Period Outside Daylight Savings</b> Watering permitted anytime</p>	<p><b>LAWNS AND GARDENS</b> Watering is to be attended by a resident or on programmable timed systems.</p> <p><b>Daylight Savings Period</b> Watering permitted between 6pm and 9am.</p> <p><b>Period Outside Daylight Savings</b> Watering permitted anytime</p>	<p><b>LAWNS AND GARDENS</b> Watering is to be attended by a resident or on programmable timed systems.</p> <p><b>WATER OUTDOORS FOR 1 HOUR MAXIMUM ON WEDNESDAYS AND SUNDAYS ONLY (PER HOUSEHOLD)</b> Only 1 outlet at any time.</p> <p><b>Daylight Savings Period</b> Watering permitted between 6pm and 9am.</p> <p><b>Period Outside Daylight Savings</b> Watering permitted anytime</p>	<p><b>LAWNS AND GARDENS</b> Watering is to be attended by a resident or on programmable timed systems.</p> <p><b>WATER OUTDOORS FOR 30 MINUTES MAXIMUM ON WEDNESDAYS AND SUNDAYS ONLY (PER HOUSEHOLD)</b> Only 1 outlet at any time.</p> <p><b>Daylight Savings Period</b> Watering permitted between 6pm and 9am.</p> <p><b>Period Outside Daylight Savings</b> Watering permitted anytime</p>	<p><b>GARDENS ONLY</b> Watering is to be attended by a resident or on programmable timed systems.</p> <p><b>WATER OUTDOORS FOR 15 MINUTES MAXIMUM ON SUNDAYS ONLY (PER HOUSEHOLD)</b> Only 1 outlet at any time.</p> <p><b>Daylight Savings Period</b> Watering permitted between 6pm and 9am.</p> <p><b>Period Outside Daylight Savings</b> Watering permitted anytime</p>	<p>Critical water shortage means that we reduce our water consumption to essential needs only.</p> <p>Essential needs are the basic needs to sustain human health.</p> <p>Outdoor water use is not permitted except for maintaining fish life.</p>
<b>GREYWATER USE:</b> Collecting greywater from laundries, sinks and showers can hold harmful bacteria and high salt levels as well as other chemicals. With care, greywater can be used on gardens and lawns.	<p>Bucketing of greywater is permissible</p> <p>A greywater diversion device whilst not encouraged is permissible if it complies with the NSW Guidelines for Greywater Reuse in Sewered, Single Household Residential Premises including the requirement for subsurface irrigation only.</p>	<p>Bucketing of greywater is permissible</p> <p>A greywater diversion device whilst not encouraged is permissible if it complies with the NSW Guidelines for Greywater Reuse in Sewered, Single Household Residential Premises including the requirement for subsurface irrigation only.</p>	<p>Bucketing of greywater is permissible</p> <p>A greywater diversion device whilst not encouraged is permissible if it complies with the NSW Guidelines for Greywater Reuse in Sewered, Single Household Residential Premises including the requirement for subsurface irrigation only.</p>	<p>Bucketing of greywater is permissible</p> <p>A greywater diversion device whilst not encouraged is permissible if it complies with the NSW Guidelines for Greywater Reuse in Sewered, Single Household Residential Premises including the requirement for subsurface irrigation only.</p>	<p>Bucketing of greywater is permissible</p> <p>A greywater diversion device whilst not encouraged is permissible if it complies with the NSW Guidelines for Greywater Reuse in Sewered, Single Household Residential Premises including the requirement for subsurface irrigation only.</p>	<p>Bucketing of greywater is permissible</p> <p>A greywater diversion device whilst not encouraged is permissible if it complies with the NSW Guidelines for Greywater Reuse in Sewered, Single Household Residential Premises including the requirement for subsurface irrigation only.</p>
<b>GENERAL WATERING OF LAWNS AND GARDENS</b>						
Hand held hoses fitted with an on/off trigger style nozzle, buckets and watering cans. Water efficient drip and/or fixed timing / programmable/smart water systems. Any watering system that does not have a timer must be attended at all times.	Permitted	Permitted	Permitted up to a maximum time of 1 hour per watering day.	Permitted up to a maximum time of 30 minutes per watering day.	Permitted up to a maximum time of 15 minutes per watering day.	<b>NOT PERMITTED</b>

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Activities shown below are common activities for households.

ACTIVITY	LEVEL 1 LOW	LEVEL 2 MODERATE	LEVEL 3 HIGH	LEVEL 4 VERY HIGH	LEVEL 5 EXTREME	LEVEL 6 CRITICAL
<b>GENERAL WATERING OF LAWNS AND GARDENS</b>						
<b>Topping up, filling garden water features</b>	Permitted.	Permitted.	Permitted up to a maximum time of 1 hour. Filling of new garden water features not permitted.	Not permitted except to maintain fish life. Filling of new garden water features not permitted.	Not permitted except to maintain fish life. Filling of new garden water features not permitted.	Not permitted except to maintain fish life. Filling of new garden water features not permitted.
<b>Untimed watering systems, micro sprays and fixed hoses.</b>  <b>Any watering system that is unattended or not able to be programmed.</b>	Permitted	Permitted.	<b>NOT PERMITTED</b>	<b>NOT PERMITTED</b>	<b>NOT PERMITTED</b>	<b>NOT PERMITTED</b>
<b>Watering new turf</b>	Permitted.	Permitted.	Watering is permitted for turf establishment. Use suitable ground preparation with soil wetting agents.  A new turf watering plan must be submitted and approved by Council.	Watering is permitted for turf establishment. Use suitable ground preparation with soil wetting agents.  Up to a maximum 50m <sup>2</sup> of new turf. A new turf watering plan must be submitted and approved by Council.	<b>NOT PERMITTED</b>	<b>NOT PERMITTED</b>
<b>OUTDOOR AREAS, POOLS, CARS AND BOATS</b>						
<b>Washing down walls or paved surfaces or window cleaning</b>	Pressure washers, trigger nozzle hoses or buckets are permitted.	Pressure washers, trigger nozzle hoses or buckets are permitted.	Cleaning with bucket only.	Cleaning with bucket only.	<b>NOT PERMITTED</b>	<b>NOT PERMITTED</b>
<b>Washing cars at home</b>  <b>Washing of boats, jet skis, boat motor and trailers</b>	Permitted with bucket and rinse with trigger hose on lawn at any time.  Pressure washers can be used.	Permitted with bucket and rinse with trigger hose on lawn at any time.  Pressure washers can be used.	Permitted with bucket and rinse with trigger hose on lawn at any time.  Pressure washers can be used.	Permitted with bucket and rinse with trigger hose on lawn at any time.  Pressure washers can be used.	Cleaning of vehicle windows, windscreens, number plates and mirrors permitted for safety and regulatory purposes with a bucket only.	<b>NOT PERMITTED</b>
<b>Topping up private swimming pools</b>	Permitted. Must have a pool cover.	Permitted. Must have a pool cover.	Permitted. Must have a pool cover.	Permitted. Must have a pool cover.	<b>NOT PERMITTED</b>	<b>NOT PERMITTED</b>
<b>First fill of swimming pool</b>	Permitted. Must have a pool cover.	Permitted. Must have a pool cover.	Permitted. Must have a pool cover.	Only permitted with Council permission. Must have a pool cover.	Only permitted with Council permission. Must have a pool cover.	<b>NOT PERMITTED</b>

**Failure to comply with water restrictions can result in on the spot fines, under the Local Government Act 1993.**