Your residential guide to

outdoor water restrictions

There may be times when we need all Calgarians to temporarily reduce their non-essential outdoor water use, such as when:

- Less water is available in the rivers, due to drought
- Water demand is high due to hot temperatures and is straining the capacity of our water treatment plants
- We're repairing or upgrading our water system infrastructure
- River water quality is poor, like during a flood, and it takes longer to treat



Take action when outdoor water restrictions are declared

Restrictions apply to all Calgary residences, businesses, organizations and City operations.



1. Find out what water restriction stage is in place.

Outdoor water restrictions will be announced through local news, social media and on calgary.ca/restrictions



2. Understand how and when you can use water outdoors.

Please refer to the table on the back to understand what mandatory actions to take.



3. Restrictions may change. Stay informed.

We're constantly monitoring conditions and our city's water usage to determine the necessary water restriction stage.

Outdoor Water Restriction Stages	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4
Sprinkler and irrigation systems with an automatic shut off	2 hrs/week 1 hr/week Even house/building number: Either Tuesday or Saturday Odd house/building number: Either Wednesday or Sunday Water between: 7 p.m. – 10 a.m.		8	8
Hoses with spring-loaded spray nozzle to water gardens, trees, and shrubs (lawns excluded)	Any day/time	Any day/time	8	8
Hand watering gardens, trees and shrubs (e.g. watering can or bucket)	Any day/time	Any day/time	Any day/time	8
Watering edible food crops	Any day/time Any watering method	Any day/time Any watering method	Any day/time Only by hose with a spring-loaded spray nozzle or hand-held container	
Watering newly planted grass, trees and shrubs • Sod laid within 21 days • Seed sown within 45 days • Trees and shrubs less than 5 years old	Any day/time Any watering method	Any day/time Any watering method	CONDITIONAL Allowed any day/time only by hose with a spring-loaded spray nozzle or hand-held container.	8
Testing and auditing irrigation systems	Any day/time	Any day/time	8	8
Washing outdoor building surfaces and windows	Any day/time	Any day/time	Any day/time	8
Washing cars outdoors Using water only	Any day/time	Any day/time	8	8
Washing sidewalks, driveways or walkways	8	8	8	8
Filling outdoor pools, hot tubs and wading pools	Any day/time	Any day/time	8	8
Filling fountains and other decorative features Filling bird baths and residential ponds is allowed	8	×	8	×
Water use for construction or renovation	Any day/time	Any day/time	Any day/time	×