

NOTICE

STAGE 3

Watering Restrictions

EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY

Due to extremely low flows in the Cowichan and Koksilah River basins and forecast of a hotter and drier than normal summer, all users of the following CVRD water systems are required to comply with the following **STAGE 3** watering restrictions:

- **Bald Mountain (Woodland Shores)**
- **Dogwood Ridge**
- **Honeymoon Bay**
- **Mesachie Lake**
- **Youbou**

Watering by **HAND** may be carried out **ONLY** for **ONE HOUR** per designated day during **ONE** of the time periods noted below:

Between 6:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m.

or

7:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.

Residents with **ODD** numbered houses may hand water on **ODD** numbered days **ONLY**.

Residents with **EVEN** numbered houses may hand water on **EVEN** numbered days **ONLY**.

All sprinkling of lawns and boulevards is hereby suspended

For further information, please contact the Engineering Services Department at (250) 746-2530. Your full co-operation is expected and appreciated. Failure to comply with these restrictions may result in fines.

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| Stage 3 Watering Information | |
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| Hand-watering (1 hour) of new or existing trees, shrubs, flower/vegetable gardens with hose or hand-held container during hours (s) noted. | Yes |
| Sprinkler watering of new or existing lawns | No |
| Sprinkler watering of existing trees, shrubs, flower/vegetable gardens during hour(s) noted. | No |
| Watering new sod or seeded lawns daily between hours noted with permit only. Contact CVRD Engineering Services for permits. | -- |
| Filling pools or hot tubs | No |
| Washing of vehicles, recreational vehicles/boats, homes and driveways with handheld hose or pressure washer. | No |

COWICHAN & KOKSILAH WATERSHEDS THREATENED BY DROUGHT!

The east coast of the Cowichan region, in particular the Cowichan and Koksilah watersheds, are facing what may potentially be the lowest water levels on record. Little rainfall this spring combined with a low snowpack has led to the water levels in Cowichan Lake being at about 60% of what is needed to maintain regular river flows to the end of the dry season. In an effort to ensure a sufficient flow of water in the Cowichan River until fall rains come, Cowichan River flows have been reduced as of July 3rd.



While wells drawing from the lower Cowichan aquifer are not currently threatened, the impacts of low flows on the Cowichan River are serious. Low summer water levels put salmon, trout, and steelhead populations at imminent and serious risk. These low levels also mean less water reaching the aquifer that supplies Duncan, North Cowichan and other communities in the Cowichan Basin, and less water to dilute treated sewage discharges in the river from both the Town of Lake Cowichan and Duncan-North Cowichan Joint Utility Board sewage lagoons.

Regional partners are preparing to move to emergency measures to trap and truck returning important chinook stock, however water temperatures and lack of water may make this action challenging.

For further information please refer to the CVRD's website www.cvrld.bc.ca for updates to the situation as well as for additional background information.