

Summer Outdoor Water Use Policy

Division:	Parks and Recreation	Approved by:	Council
Date Approved:	July 31, 2000 * Approval date is approximate	Source:	Parks and Recreation
		Category:	Parks, Forestry and Recreation
		Sub-cat:	Parks

Policy Statement

The Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services will issue an "Outdoor Water Use Advisory" when summer water consumption approaches the system's design capacity, requesting customers to eliminate lawn watering and curtail all other outdoor water use while it is in effect.

The Existing outdoor efficiency public education program will encourage resident to water their lawns no more than once a week and to water during off-peak hours.

All Landscape irrigation systems operated by the City, with the exception of those servicing specific critical areas (e.g. Golf courses, high-end turf areas and new tree planting sites), will not operate during the period when the "Outdoor Water Use Advisory" is in effect.

Outdoor Water Use Advisory

An Outdoor Water Use advisory will be issued when summer water consumption approaches the system's design capacity of 2200 million litres per day.

While an advisory is in effect Toronto residents and businesses will be asked to **voluntarily** stop lawn watering and limit other outdoor water uses.

Suspend non-essential outdoor water use

During an Outdoor Water Use Advisory the non-essential outdoor water use should be suspending including:

- Landscape irrigation (except specific critical areas)
- Washing exterior building surfaces, parking lots, driveways or sidewalks
- Routine Flushing of watermains, routine sewer cleaning
- Hydrant pressure and flow testing
- Street and vehicle washing
- Transit vehicle washing

Public Education

Residents can help the city avoid issuing an Advisory by watering their lawns no more than once a week and being sure to water during off-peak hours, between 11:00 PM and 8:00 AM.

More Information

Further information on water efficiency measures is available on the city web site at www.toronto.ca/water

