



Water Restriction Policy

Date policy was adopted by Council:	23 November 2011
Resolution number:	329/11
Previous Policy review date:	November 2013
Next Policy review date:	March 2016
Reference number:	C11103553

1 OUTCOMES:

To meet Council's obligations under the Contract for Potable Water Supply from ACTEW in relation t water restrictions.

2 POLICY:

That when Council is advised by ACTEW that the available stored water in the water supply system, or the available capacity of supply from that system, to be insufficient to allow the unrestricted consumption of water for purposes other than domestic purposes to restrict:

- a) The purpose of which the water can be used, or
- b) The times when the water can be used, or
- c) The methods by which the water can be used, or
- d) The quantities of the water that can be used

3 DEFINITIONS

Nil

4 LEGISLATIVE OBLIGATIONS AND/OR RELEVANT STANDARDS

Regulation 12, Utilities (Water Conservation) Regulation 2006.

Contract for supply for Potable Water between Queanbeyan City Council and ACTEW Corporation Limited.

5 CONTENT:

Application:

This scheme applies to water drawn from Council's potable water supply system only.

Staged Restrictions:

The restrictions shall be introduced in stages in accordance with Table 1.

Public Notice:

Restrictions will be imposed by a notice published in either the Queanbeyan Age or The Chronicle. In addition, at the commencement of each stage of water restrictions, issue a notice to all residents via a letter box drop advising them as to the stage and the restrictions.

Emergency Provisions:

The ACT Government may declare a State of Emergency under the Emergency Management Act under which supply and/or use of water may be restricted to Emergency Use Only, at any time. If the ACT Government declares a State of Emergency water will be restricted for Emergency Use Only.

At any time, the ACT Government retains discretion to declare a State of Emergency under the *Emergencies Act 2004* under which supply and/or use of water may be restricted to Emergency Use Only.

Table 1

	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4
Target Annual Reduction Relative to Water Conservation Measures	10%	25%	35%	55%
	<u>Restrictions on Use</u>	<u>Restrictions on Use</u>	<u>Restrictions on Use</u>	<u>Restrictions on Use</u>
1. Private gardens and lawns; commercial nurseries, market gardens and turf-growing businesses	<p>Sprinkler and other irrigation systems can be used to water lawns and plants only between 7am and 10am and between 7pm and 10pm on alternate days as per the “odds and evens” system.</p> <p>A hand-held hose fitted with a trigger nozzle, a bucket or a watering can may be used at any time.</p> <p>At all times gardens and lawns may only be watered without causing pooling or runoff.</p>	<p>No sprinkler or other irrigation system, other than a dripper system, may be used.</p> <p>A hand-held hose fitted with a trigger nozzle, a bucket, a watering can or a dripper system may be used to water lawns and plants between 7am and 10am and between 7pm and 10pm on alternate days as per the “odds and evens” system.</p> <p>At all times gardens and lawns may only be watered without causing pooling or runoff.</p>	<p>No sprinkler or other irrigation system may be used.</p> <p>Watering of lawns not permitted.</p> <p>A hand-held hose fitted with a trigger nozzle, a bucket or a watering can may be used to water plants between 7am and 10am and between 7pm and 10pm on alternate days as per the “odds and evens” system.</p> <p>At all times gardens may only be watered without causing pooling or runoff.</p>	<p>External watering of lawns and plants only permitted using non-potable water.</p>
2. Lawns and plants at parks, sports amenities, golf courses and public gardens	<p>The target of a 10% reduction in water use should be met.</p> <p>At all times lawns and plants may only be watered without causing pooling or runoff.</p>	<p>The target of a 25% reduction in water use should be met.</p> <p>At all times lawns and plants may only be watered without causing pooling or runoff.</p>	<p>The target of a 35% reduction in water use should be met.</p> <p>At all times lawns and plants may only be watered without causing pooling or runoff.</p>	<p>External watering of lawns and plants only permitted using non-potable water.</p>
3. Paved areas	<p>Water must not be used to clean paved areas unless necessary as a result of accident, fire, health hazard or other emergency.</p>	<p>Water must not be used to clean paved areas unless necessary as a result of accident, fire, health hazard or other emergency.</p>	<p>Water must not be used to clean paved areas unless necessary as a result of accident, fire, health hazard or other emergency.</p>	<p>Water must not be used to clean paved areas unless necessary as a result of accident, fire, health hazard or other emergency.</p>
4. Private ponds and fountains	<p>Only fountains that recirculate water may be operated and they may be topped up only by using a hand-held hose fitted with a trigger nozzle, a bucket or a watering can.</p> <p>Ponds may only be topped up using a hand-held hose fitted with a trigger nozzle, a bucket or a watering can.</p>	<p>Fountains must be switched off.</p> <p>Ponds may only be topped up using a hand-held hose fitted with a trigger nozzle, a bucket or a watering can.</p>	<p>Fountains must be switched off.</p> <p>Only ponds that support fish may be topped up, and then only using a hand-held hose fitted with a trigger nozzle, a bucket or a watering can.</p>	<p>Fountains must be switched off.</p> <p>Only ponds that support fish may be topped up, and then only using a hand-held hose fitted with a trigger nozzle, a bucket or a watering can.</p>

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All Divisions**

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	<i>Stage 1</i>	<i>Stage 2</i>	<i>Stage 3</i>	<i>Stage 4</i>
Target Annual Reduction Relative to Water Conservation Measures	10%	25%	35%	55%
5. Public ponds and fountains	Existing ponds must not be filled or topped up other than with non-potable water. Only existing fountains that recirculate water may be operated and they may be topped up only with non-potable water. New ponds and fountains may not be filled with any water or used.	Existing ponds must not be filled or topped up other than with non-potable water. Only existing fountains that recirculate water may be operated and they may be topped up only with non-potable water. New ponds and fountains may not be filled with any water or used.	Existing ponds must not be filled or topped up other than with non-potable water. New ponds may not be filled with any water. No fountains may be operated or filled or topped up with any water	Ponds must not be filled or topped up with any water. No fountains may be operated or filled or topped up with any water.
6. Private swimming pools	Existing pools must not be either emptied or refilled without written exemption. Any pool not previously filled must not be filled without written exemption. Previously filled pools may be topped up using a hand-held hose.	Existing pools must not be either emptied or refilled without written exemption. Previously filled pools must not be topped up without a written exemption unless: (a) the pool is covered when not in use; and (b) topping up is undertaken with a hand-held hose only between 7 am to 10 am or 7 pm to 10 pm on alternate days as per the “odds and evens” system.	Pools must not be emptied, filled or topped up without written exemption.	Pools must not be emptied, filled or topped up without written exemption.
7. Public swimming pools	Existing pools must not be either emptied or refilled without written exemption but may be topped up. Any pool not previously filled must not be filled without written exemption.	Existing pools must not be either emptied or refilled without written exemption but may be topped up. Any pool not previously filled must not be filled without written exemption.	Pools may not be emptied, filled or topped up without written exemption.	Pools may not be emptied, filled or topped up without written exemption.
8. Water storage tanks, dams, and lakes.	Must not be filled or topped up other than with non-potable water.	Must not be filled or topped up other than with non-potable water.	Must not be filled or topped up other than with non-potable water.	Must not be filled or topped up other than with non-potable water.

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	<i>Stage 1</i>	<i>Stage 2</i>	<i>Stage 3</i>	<i>Stage 4</i>
Target Annual Reduction Relative to Water Conservation Measures	10%	25%	35%	55%
9. Vehicles	<p>If not washed at a commercial car wash, any vehicle should be washed on a lawn or other porous surface wherever practicable and then may only be washed, not more than once per week, by using:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) a bucket or watering can; (ii) a high-pressure low-volume cleaner; or (iii) a hand-held hose fitted with a trigger nozzle. <p>No restriction on commercial car wash operations. Boat motors may be flushed or rinsed after use.</p>	<p>If not washed at a commercial car wash, any vehicle should be washed on a lawn or other porous surface wherever practicable and then may only be used, not more than once per month, by using:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) a bucket or watering can; (ii) a high-pressure low-volume cleaner; or (iii) a hand-held hose fitted with a trigger nozzle. <p>Any vehicle may be washed at a commercial car wash only if it recycles water and holds an exemption allowing use of potable water. Boat motors may be flushed or rinsed after use.</p>	<p>No washing of any vehicle except at a commercial car wash that recycles water and holds an exemption allowing use of potable water. Boat motors may be flushed or rinsed after use.</p>	<p>No vehicle washing. Boat motors may be flushed or rinsed after use.</p>
10. Windows and buildings	<p>Windows and buildings can be washed at any time but only with a bucket and mop, squeegee or brush or with a high-pressure low-volume cleaner. Otherwise, water must not be used unless necessary as a result of accident, fire, health hazard or other emergency. Building Gutters may be cleaned at any time</p>	<p>No washing unless necessary as a result of accident, fire, health hazard or other emergency, provided that building gutters may be cleaned at any time</p>	<p>No washing unless necessary as a result of accident, fire, health hazard or other emergency, provided that building gutters may be cleaned at any time</p>	<p>No washing unless necessary as a result of accident, fire, health hazard or other emergency, provided that building gutters may be cleaned at any time</p>
11. Construction and related activities	<p>Water can only be used for dust or other pollutant suppression by means of a hand-held hose fitted with a flow cut-off device, or a vehicle fitted with sprinklers. Unless impractical, water may only otherwise be used by means of a hose fitted with a flow cut-off device. Wherever practicable non-potable water should be used.</p>	<p>Unless impractical, water may only be used by means of a hose fitted with a flow cut-off device. Wherever practicable non-potable water should be used.</p>	<p>Unless impractical, water may only be used by means of a hose fitted with a flow cut-off device. Wherever practicable non-potable water should be used.</p>	<p>Only non-potable water should be used unless otherwise exempted in writing.</p>

Notes:

1. "Commercial Nurseries" and "Market Gardens" include any land primarily used to propagate, grow or display plants of any description for the purpose of the sale or other distribution for profit of those plants or the produce of them. "Turf growing" means the propagation, growth and harvesting of lawn turf sale.
2. "Dripper system" means a system that releases water in drips through use of low-pressure drip devices placed on or below the ground in close proximity to the root zones of plants.
3. "High-pressure low-volume cleaner" means a machine which has a pump to increase the pressure and reduce the flow of water delivered from a trigger nozzle.
4. "Pooling or runoff" means water that either puddles on, or runs off, the surface of the soil when it is saturated.
5. "Paved Area" means an outside area with a concrete, asphalt, brick, tile, bitumen, timber or similar impervious surface (whether or not it is covered by a roof, pergola or other structure), such as a courtyard, decking, footpath, driveway or street.
6. "Private" means residential, business and non-Government premises.
7. "Public" means government places and private places operated for public use.
8. "Sprinkler" and "Irrigation System" means a device or system designed to distribute water, whether by sprinkling, spraying, dripping, weeping or otherwise.
9. "Trigger nozzle" means a nozzle, attached to a hand-held hose, which is controlled by (a) trigger which must be depressed continuously or locked open by hand for water to flow: or (b) a discrete switch or button which can be turned on or off by hand with a single or limited movement.
10. The "odds and evens" system means that, if a street number ends in an odd number (i.e. 1,3, 5, 7 or 9), water use on days when the date also ends in an odd number. Similarly, if a street number ends in an even number (i.e. 0, 2, 4, 6 or 8) then water can only be used for a restricted use on days when the date also ends in an even number or on the 31st day of any month.

6 PERFORMANCE INDICATOR


That council meets its obligations under the supply of Potable Water Contract with ACTEW in relation to water restrictions.

7 RELATED DOCUMENTS

Enforcement Policy

POLICY:-	
Policy No:	
Policy Title:	Water Restriction Policy
Date Policy was adopted by Council:	23 November 2011
Resolution Number:	329/11
Previous Policy Review Date:	November 2013
Next Policy Review Date:	March 2016
PROCEDURES/GUIDELINES:-	
Date Procedure/Guideline (if any) was developed:	Nil
RECORDS:-	
Container Reference in TRIM: Policy	SF080616
Container Reference in TRIM: Procedure	Nil
Other locations of Policy:	Intranet (linked to TRIM Container)
Other locations of Procedures/Guidelines:	Nil
DELEGATION (if any):-	
	Nil
RESPONSIBILITY:-	
Draft Policy developed by:	General Manager
Committees (if any) consulted in the development of the Draft Policy:	Nil
Responsibility for Implementation:	Group Manager – Infrastructure
Responsibility for Review of Policy:	Manager – Water and Sewer

INTEGRATED PLANNING FRAMEWORK:	
Community Strategic Plan:	Strategic Priority No. 4
Delivery Program Title:	Infrastructure, Access and Transport – Water Supply
Operational Plan:	Program No. 250

Senior Authorising Officer	Position General Manager	Signature/Date  24 November 2011
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ACTION	COUNCIL MEETING DATE	RESOLUTION NUMBER	REPORT ITEM NUMBER
NEW/RECONFIRMED/ AMENDED			
New	18 December 2002	815	Mayoral Minute
Reconfirmed	25 March 2009	101/09	Item 16/37
Reconfirmed	23 November 2011	329/11	Item 12

DATE REVIEWED	REVIEWER POSITION	REVIEWER NAME
9 November 2011	Manager: Water and Sewer	André Pretorius
November 2013	Manager: Water and Sewer	André Pretorius