

Water Supply Restrictions

Purpose

- The design of water supply systems generally is such that water supply head-works should be sized so that water restrictions are only necessary on average once every (10) years, and when applied, should not be needed on average for longer than six months.
- This is in recognition of the fact that:
- It is neither practical, economic nor environmentally responsible to provide “restriction free” water supply systems; and
- A trade-off is necessary between the security of supply i.e. the relative severity of restrictions, and the associated capital and operating costs.
- Council’s water supply system is designed in accordance with these parameters, and therefore Council may need to implement water restrictions to secure supply during drought periods.
- There may also be times when, due to operational faults, the available stored water or the available capacity of supply to an area of the water supply system is so limited that restrictions are necessary in the water supply system.

Objective

- Take such steps as are necessary to ensure the continued supply of potable water to consumers.
- Promote an integrated framework for dealing with water restrictions.
- Ensure consistency and fairness in the manner in which the Council deals with potable water consumers.
- Ensure compliance with legislative requirements under the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*.
- Make the Council's policies and requirements for water restrictions accessible to the public.

Scope

This Policy applies to areas of the LGA serviced by the Yass Water Supply network or the Murrumbateman Water Supply network.

Definitions

Term	Meaning
LGA	Local Government Area
Water supply system.	The network of pipes and other infrastructure constructed by on or behalf of Council to convey potable water to households in the LGA.
Yass Water Supply network	Properties serviced by the Yass Water Treatment Plant.
Murrumbateman Water Supply network	Properties serviced by the Murrumbateman bore.
Water Restrictions	Actions and levels as detailed in Table 1 of this Policy.
Dam	Refers to the level of the Yass Dam, percentage full.
Bore	Refers to the yield of the Murrumbateman Bore.
Elderly	Refers to persons over the age of 65.
Daylight Saving:	Refers to the period to which daylight savings applies in NSW (Australian Eastern Daylight Savings Time or AEDST).
Non daylight saving:	Refers to the period to which daylight savings does not apply in NSW (Australian Eastern Savings Tim or AEST).

Policy Provisions

Clause 137 *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005* allows for restrictions to be imposed.

The General Manager or Director Infrastructure & Assets may authorise water restrictions in areas of the water supply system if, due to operational faults, the available stored water or the available capacity of supply is so limited that restrictions are necessary. Water restrictions introduced shall be at a level considered necessary to achieve the required reduction in demand.

Customers may apply for exemptions to this policy. The General Manager or Director Infrastructure & Assets may authorise exemptions from water restriction on completion of an application and payment of the appropriate fee published in the Council's Fees and Charge. Exemptions will be considered on the individual circumstances taking into account any water saving measures that have been installed by the applicant.

As soon as practicable following water restrictions being applied due to operational issues, a report detailing the reasons for the water restrictions, the duration or intended duration of restrictions and the numbers of consumers affected shall be reported to the Council.

During Level 4 and 5 Water Restrictions, Council's Stand Pipe Supply will be restricted to residential requirements only within the LGA.

Council's Rangers are delegated to issue penalties for non-compliance with water restrictions under s37 *Local Government Act 1993*.

Responsibilities & Review

The Director Infrastructure and Assets shall:

- Provide all necessary administrative support for the operation of this policy
- Develop and document any procedures for the effective implementation of this policy
- Keep sufficient records to enable monitoring of compliance with this policy and provide information required for Integrated Planning and Reporting purposes and internal organisational performance measurement.
- The review of this policy will incorporate relevant legislation, documentation released from relevant state agencies and best practice guidelines.
- This policy will be reviewed every two years from the adoption date. The next review date is 25 March 2022.

References

This policy is to be read in conjunction with the following:

Legislation Policies and procedures	Water Supply Policy
	Section 637 <i>Local Government Act 1993</i>
	Clause 137 <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2005</i>

Approval History

Stage	Date	Comment	MagiQ Reference
Review	27/11/2019	Adopted at Council meeting 25/3/2020	361903

Ownership and Approval

Responsibility	Role
Author	Direct Infrastructure and Assets
Owner	Director Infrastructure and Assets
Endorser	EMT
Approver	Council

Table 1 - WATER RESTRICTIONS STAGES

Waterwise Measures

	Private	Commercial	Public
Waterwise Measures	Sprinklers (include pop-ups and micro sprays) or hand held hoses or drippers that does not cause pooling or runoff.	Same as private usage.	Parks, ovals and gardens watered at minimum level for sustainability.
	Vehicle washing on grassed rather than paved surfaces, no more than once per week using: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A bucket or watering can; • A hand held hose fitted with a trigger nozzle. 	No restrictions on commercial vehicle wash operations.	Same as private usage.
	Private swimming pools:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Filling and topping up with a hand held hose only. • Pool covers are encouraged. 	Same as private usage.	Same as private usage.
	Buckets and watering cans can be used anytime for essential garden watering only that does not cause pooling or runoff	Same as private usage.	Same as private usage.
	No hosing of hard surfaces unless cleaning is required as the result of an accident, fire, health hazard or other emergency.	Same as private usage.	Same as private usage.

Level 1 Restrictions

Level	Private	Commercial	Public
Dam 81%	Sprinklers (these include pop-ups and micro-sprays) or hand held hoses or drippers in accordance with the following schedule:	Same as private usage.	Parks, ovals and gardens watered at minimum level for sustainability.
Bore 1.59 L/s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Odd street numbered houses 6.00 pm. to 9.00 pm. in the daylight saving months and 4.00 pm. to 7.00 pm. in the non-daylight saving months , on odd numbered days; • Even street numbered houses, 6.00 pm. to 9.00 pm. in the daylight saving months and 4.00 pm. to 7.00 pm. in the non-daylight saving months, on even numbered days. • Houses only with elderly people are allowed to water between 7.00am and 10.00am on alternative days. 		
	Vehicle washing on grassed rather than paved surfaces, no more than once per week using: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A bucket or watering can; • A hand held hose fitted with a trigger nozzle. • A high pressure/low volume cleaner. 	No restrictions on commercial vehicle wash facilities.	Same as private usage.
	Private swimming pools:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Filling and topping up with a hand held hose only. • Pool covers are encouraged. 	Same as private usage.	Same as private usage.
	Buckets and watering cans can be used anytime for essential garden watering only that does not cause pooling or runoff.	Same as private usage.	Same as private usage.
	No hosing of hard surfaces unless cleaning is required as the result of an accident, fire, health hazard or other emergency.	Same as private usage.	Same as private usage.

Level 2 Restrictions

Level	Private	Commercial	Public
Dam 74% Bore 1.53 L/s	Sprinklers (these include pop-ups and micro-sprays) or hand held hoses or drippers in accordance with the following schedule: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Odd street numbered houses 7.00 p.m. to 9.00 pm. in the daylight savings months and 4.00 pm. to 6.00 pm. in the non-daylight savings months, on odd numbered days; • Even street numbered houses, 7.00 pm. to 9.00 pm. in the daylight savings months and 4.00 pm. to 6.00 pm. in the non daylight savings months, on even numbered days. • Houses only with elderly people are allowed to water for two hours only between 7.00am and 10.00am on alternative days. 	Same as private usage.	Parks, ovals and gardens watered at minimum level for sustainability.
	Vehicle washing on grassed rather than paved surfaces, no more than once per fortnight using: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A bucket or watering can; • A hand held hose fitted with a trigger nozzle. 	No restrictions on commercial vehicle wash facilities	Same as private usage.
	Private swimming pools:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No emptying of pools without prior written approval. • Refilling or topping up of pools are permitted without prior written approval if the pool is covered when not in use. • Only topping up with a hand held hose only. • Pool covers are encouraged. 	Same as private usage.	Same as private usage.
	Buckets and watering cans can be used anytime for essential garden watering only that does not cause pooling or runoff.	Same as private usage.	Same as private usage.
	No hosing of hard surfaces unless cleaning is required as the result of an accident, fire, health hazard or other emergency.	Same as private usage.	Same as private usage.

Level 3 Restrictions

Level	Private	Commercial	Public
Dam 63% Bore 1.47 L/s	Sprinklers (these include pop-ups and micro-sprays) or hand held hoses or drippers for one hour only in accordance with the following schedule: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Odd street numbered houses between 7.00 p.m. to 9.00 pm. in the daylight savings months and between 4.00 pm. to 6.00 pm. in the non-daylight savings months, on odd numbered days; • Even street numbered houses, between 7.00 pm. to 9.00 pm. in the daylight savings months and between 4.00 pm. to 6.00 pm. in the non-daylight savings months, on even numbered days. • Houses only with elderly people are allowed to water for one hour only between 7.00am and 10.00am on alternative days. 	Same as private usage.	Parks, ovals and gardens watered at minimum level for sustainability.
	Vehicle washing on grassed rather than paved surfaces, no more than once per fortnight using: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A bucket or watering can; • A hand held hose fitted with a trigger nozzle. 	No restrictions on commercial vehicle wash operations.	Same as private usage.

Level	Private	Commercial	Public
Dam 63% Bore 1.47 L/s	Private swimming pools:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No emptying or refilling of pools without prior written approval. No topping up of pools without written approval and only if the pool is covered when not in use. Pool covers are required. 	Same as private usage.	Same as private usage.
	Buckets and watering cans can be used anytime for essential garden watering only that does not cause pooling or runoff.	Same as private usage.	Same as private usage.
	No hosing of hard surfaces unless cleaning is required as the result of an accident, fire, health hazard or other emergency.	Same as private usage.	Same as private usage.

Level 4 Restrictions

Level	Private	Commercial	Public
Dam 53% Bore 1.42 L/s	Sprinklers (these include pop-ups and micro-sprays) or hand held hoses or drippers for half an hour only in accordance with the following schedule: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Odd street numbered houses between 7.00 p.m. to 9.00 pm. in the daylight savings months and between 4.00 pm. to 6.00 pm. in the non-daylight savings months, on odd numbered days; • Even street numbered houses, between 7.00 pm. to 9.00 pm. in the daylight savings months and between 4.00 pm. to 6.00 pm. in the non-daylight savings months, on even numbered days. • Houses only with elderly people are allowed to water for half an hour only between 7.00am and 10.00am on alternative days 	Same as private usage.	Parks, ovals and gardens watering is restricted and permitted on prior written approval.
	Vehicle washing is not permitted.	Vehicle wash is permitted only at commercial car wash facility which holds an exemption allowing use of potable water	Same as private usage.
	Private swimming pools:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emptying, refilling or topping up of pools is not permitted. • Pool covers are required. 	No topping up of pools without prior written approval and only given if the pool is covered when not in use.	Same as private usage.
	Buckets and watering cans can be used anytime for essential garden watering only that does not cause pooling or runoff.	Same as private usage.	Same as usage. private
	No hosing of hard surfaces unless cleaning is required as the result of an accident, fire, health hazard or other emergency.	Same as private usage.	Same as usage. private

Level 5 Restrictions

Level	Private	Commercial	Public
Dam 46% Bore 1.42 L/s	All external use of town water is banned.	Same as private usage.	Same as private usage.
	Vehicle washing is not permitted.	Same as private usage.	Same as private usage.
	Private swimming pools: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pool covers are required. All external use of town water is banned. 	Same as private usage.	Same as private usage.
	No hosing of hard surfaces unless cleaning is required as the result of an accident, fire, health hazard or other emergency.	Same as private usage.	Same as private usage.

- N.B.
- “**Dam**” refers to the level of the Yass Dam, percentage full.
 - “**Bore**” refers to the yield of the Murrumbateman Bore.
 - “**Elderly**” refers to persons over the age of 65.
 - “**Daylight Savings Time**” refers to the period to which daylight savings applies in NSW (Australian Eastern Daylight Savings Time or AEDST)
 - “**Non Daylight Savings Time**” refers to the period to which daylight savings does not apply in NSW (Australian Eastern Savings Time or AEST)