

February 26, 2024

File No. 5600-10

CVRD Water Committee
770 Harmston Ave
Courtenay, BC V9N 2X6

Dear Director Morin,

RE: Bylaw No. 2010 Amendment – Stage 1 and Stage 2 Restrictions

The City of Courtenay is requesting a reduction in allowable lawn watering hours under the Stage 1 and Stage 2 restrictions as defined in Schedule A of the CVRD Comox Valley Water Conservation Bylaw No. 2010.

Currently, under Stage 1 restrictions residents have the ability to water their lawns eighteen hours per week and under Stage 2, eight hours per week. Comparatively, in Metro Vancouver under Stage 1 restrictions lawn watering for automatic systems is limited to two hours on Saturdays (even-numbered addresses) and two hours on Sundays (odd-numbered addresses), with lawn watering not permitted under Stage 2. In the Cowichan Valley Regional District, under Stage 1 restrictions lawn watering is limited to two hours per day, two days a week (four hours total) and under Stage 2 restrictions two hours a day, one day a week.

The City is recommending an initial reduction in lawn watering hours of a third for both Stage 1 and Stage 2 in 2025, followed by further reductions in 2026 based on the findings of the CVRD Water Master Plan.

By reducing the hours of allowable lawn watering we will be creating a positive behaviour change while also proactively preparing for the expected shift in local climatic conditions to hotter, drier summers and lower winter snowpack levels.

If you have any questions, please contact Geoff Garbutt, Chief Administrative Officer at 250-334-4441.

Sincerely,

Bob Wells
Mayor, City of Courtenay

CC: City of Courtenay Council
Geoff Garbutt, Chief Administrative Officer
Kyle Shaw, Director of Operational Services