
NEWS RELEASE

Abbotsford and Mission Issue Stage Three Watering Ban Effective July 3

ABBOTSFORD June 29, 2015 - The City of Abbotsford and District of Mission are moving to Stage Three of the Water Shortage Response Plan as of Friday, July 3, announced Abbotsford Mayor Henry Braun and Mission Mayor, Randy Hawes today.

“The unseasonably warm temperatures and lack of rainfall this spring, combined with our significantly reduced snowpack have contributed to the lowering of the Dickson Lake water source levels faster than we expected,” said Braun.

Stage 3 brings a complete ban on all lawn sprinkling; no new lawn sprinkling permits will be issued; and non-re-circulating fountains will be prohibited. Residents will still be able to hand water flower and vegetable gardens. All watering restrictions will be stringently enforced in both Abbotsford and Mission for the duration of the Stage Three ban.

“We are concerned about the ability of Dickson Lake to refill if we draw the level down too far this year and experience below average rainfall in the winter and spring. The lake is at a historically low level and with the hot weather, average day demand has gone up by 25% for the month of June compared to last year. We are thinking ahead and asking our residents to be pro-active so we can effectively manage this resource,” added Hawes

“Parks staff in both communities will not be watering passive areas in City parks, but will continue to water sand-based sports fields in order to maintain their playability in the fall and winter. Fields are an expensive investment and are costly to replace,” added Braun.

“The region has come a long way with conservation, but there is still room for improvement. With water levels this low, this early in the season, we all need to work together to conserve. Our departments are working together to continue to reduce water use, and we ask that our residents do the same,” said Hawes.

For more information on water conservation practices in Abbotsford and Mission visit www.ourwatermatters.ca or call 604-557-4423.

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