

WATERnews

NANOOSE BAY PENINSULA WATER SERVICE AREA UPDATE

Watering Restrictions

As of Friday, July 20 the Nanoose Bay Peninsula Water Service Area moved to Regional District of Nanaimo Water Conservation Level 3 as a necessary precaution to deal with erosion of clay banks along the Englishman River over the summer.

Prior to the RDN's shift to Water Conservation Level 3, a clay bank erosion event resulted in the shutdown of the City of Parksville intake located in the lower section of the Englishman River. Without a surface water supply from the river, the City has to rely on groundwater alone until turbidity in the river is reduced to the level where it is safe to use once again for drinking water. For this reason, the City moved from Stage 2 sprinkling regulations to Stage 3 to reduce demand.

The NBPWSA relies on the Englishman River water supply, through an agreement with the City of Parksville, for approximately 40 per cent of its



water supply during the summer months. Moving to Water Conservation Level 3 allows the RDN to maintain adequate storage in the system for distribution and fire-fighting purposes while only

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RDN WATER CONSERVATION LEVELS

Water Conservation Level	1	2	3	4
Effective Date	April, September & October	May, June, July & August	As Required	As Required
Frequency	Every other day	Every other day	Every other day	Comprehensive Watering Ban
Watering Times	6-10AM & 6-10PM for a max of 3 hrs only	6-10AM & 6-10PM for a max of 2 hrs only	6-10AM & 6-10PM for a max of 1 hr only	
Even Numbered Houses	Even Days	Even Days	Even Days	
Odd Numbered Houses	Odd Days	Odd Days	Odd Days	

For more information, contact the Regional District of Nanaimo at 250-390-6560 / 250-954-3792 or visit www.rdn.bc.ca



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using ground water supply available to the NBPWSA system.

Supply from the Englishman River has now been restored; however, the increased City of Parksville and RDN restrictions will remain in place until further notice, due to the unpredictable nature of the clay bank erosion and the possibility of further significant slope failures.

Nanose Bay Peninsula Water Service Area Treatment Plant

The clay bank erosion on the Englishman River has had a direct impact on the commissioning of the RDN's NBPWSA Water Treatment Plant. The plant

is essentially complete, with commissioning, the final phase of the facility's start-up process, yet to be completed. Commissioning involves a program spanning approximately 12 days with significant water use from the NBPWSA groundwater wells. The water used as part of the plant's commissioning cannot be used in the distribution system until the end of the process when bacteriological testing is complete.

Commissioning was originally slated to begin on July 30; however it is not advisable to proceed with commissioning at this time due to the current uncertainty of water supply on the Englishman River and the watering restrictions in place for the NBPWSA.

A new commissioning date for the plant is being determined with an estimated completion date of late October 2012.



Questions?

If you have any questions please contact Water & Utility Services at 1-877-607-4111, rcu@rdn.bc.ca or visit the 'WaterSmart' website at www.rdn.bc.ca

