

How to water your lawn when water restrictions are in place

- **Water in moderation**
A lawn only needs about one inch of water per week – use a rain gauge or a small container to measure.
- **Know when to water**
Use a moisture meter, or put a screwdriver into the lawn – if the top two inches of the lawn is dry, then water.
- **What time to water**
Morning is the best time to minimize water lost through evaporation and wind. Visit the City of Chilliwack's website for water restrictions and allowable watering times.
- **Water only the lawn**
Check your sprinkler to ensure you are watering the lawn and not the road or sidewalk.
- **Don't over water**
Too much water saturates the soil, leading to poor soil aeration and weakening of grass, making it vulnerable to damage and disease.

For more information, visit our website:
chilliwack.com/water

Or contact us at:

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City of Chilliwack
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Chilliwack, BC V2P 8A4
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Lawn Maintenance During Summer Water Restrictions



Maintain your lawn, save water and money!

Start with a healthy lawn

Lawns fail during dry spells because they weren't healthy to begin with. The main problem is compacted soil.

Act before dry spells and water restrictions:

- De-thatch your lawn in the spring. Use a heavy rake or de-thatcher on your mower to get rid of dead grass and roots that prevent water, air and nutrients from getting to the roots.
- Aerate your lawn. Use an aerator to create holes in your lawn for better flow of water, air and nutrients to the roots.
- Spread 3/8 inches of sand on your lawn to improve aeration.
- Get soil tested for acidity and nutrients at local garden centres.
- Spread the appropriate amount of lime on your lawn to reduce acidity.
- Follow a fertilization program to encourage deep rooting and drought tolerance.

What to do during dry spells

- Let your lawn turn brown. It will recover in the fall when the regular rains resume.
- Mow your lawn when the grass is 6 – 8 cm (2.5 - 3 inches) high. This develops a deep, extensive root system and better retains moisture.
- Keep your mower blade sharp. A dull blade tears the grass, causing more moisture loss.
- Mow your lawn without the bag. Leaving lawn clippings on the lawn helps retain moisture.
- Avoid fertilization, as it causes your lawn to require more water unnecessarily during drought periods.
- Keep weeds out! Weeds soak up the water that nearby grass needs. Remove weeds throughout the summertime and overseed the bare spots in the fall or spring.



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