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Title	Water Conservation Management Policy	POLICY NO: WS-2
Purpose	To provide guidance to water consumers in the Village of Beiseker during times of drought, high usage seasons and emergency situations	
Policy: This policy establishes rules and expectations intended to conserve water in the Village when required.		

Definitions:

Within this Policy, the following definitions apply:

- a) *Alberta Emergency Alert* – a public warning system in Alberta that warns the public of impending or occurring emergencies affecting a specific area and instructions/actions pertaining to the emergency
- b) *Business* – refers to both Commercial and Industrial properties
- c) *CAO* – Chief Administrative Officer of the Village of Beiseker or their delegate
- d) *Drought* – a period of insufficient precipitation producing drier than normal conditions which may cause large-scale environmental impact on the ecosystems, agriculture and/or the economy of an area.
- e) *High Consumption Users* – refers to commercial and industrial businesses that routinely use or consume large volumes of water during operations. A list of these users has been established by the Village of Beiseker
- f) *Memorandum of Understanding for Aligned Water Restriction Measures* – refers to an agreement signed by all urban municipalities of the Aqua 7 Regional Water Commission to formalize their commitment to voluntarily implement coordinated water restrictions aimed at conserving water resources and promoting sustainable water use.
- g) *Outdoor Water Use* – outside water consumption such as, but not limited to washing cars, watering gardens and lawns, greenhouses and outdoor sprinklers
- h) *Peak Season* – refers to the months that have the highest water consumption on average, typically May to September
- i) *Potable* – means water that has been treated to be safe for human consumption
- j) *Residential* – areas occupied by private homes
- k) *Restriction* – a limit, control or measure of water usage
- l) *State of Local Emergency – SOLE* – The declaration of a State of Local Emergency by Village Council in order do everything necessary to prevent or limit loss of life and damage to property or the environment.
- m) *Village* – refers to the Village of Beiseker, elected officials and authorized representatives
- n) *Water Conservation* – means strategies used to limit or control water usage
- o) *Water Management Areas* – areas of the province usually defined by watersheds
- p) *Watershed* – a land area that channels rainfall and snowmelt to creeks, streams and rivers and eventually to outflow points such as reservoirs, bays and the ocean
- q) *Water Shortage Advisory* – refers to a precautionary control measure to notify users of water supplies of potential shortages in a given area.

General Information

- a) The Government of Alberta has published *Water Shortage Management Stages* in an effort to communicate plans that the provincial government will take to address drought conditions. If there are Water Management Areas under Water Shortage Advisories and continued insufficient precipitation in the province, the risk of a large-scale drought may occur.
- b) The Village of Beiseker receives potable water from the Aqua 7 Regional Water Commission. This water comes from the Red Deer River and is treated at the Drumheller Water Treatment Plant.

Responsibilities

- a) In accordance with the Authorities established by the *Memorandum of Understanding for Aligned Water Restriction Measures* for the urban municipalities using the Aqua 7 Water system, the Manager of the Aqua 7 Regional Water system will establish common criteria and trigger water restrictions based on the factors outlined in the MOU. The Manager of the Aqua 7 Regional Water System will inform respective CAO's of the Municipalities in writing of any change in water restriction levels.
- b) In accordance with (a), the CAO will keep record of all direction received from other authorities (Province/Aqua 7) to impose or change water restrictions.
- c) In the case of a local or provincial state of emergency, decisions will be made according to the direction of the province and/or local authorities.
- d) In the case of a water related emergency or circumstances occurring only in the Village of Beiseker, the CAO has the authority to determine and impose water restriction stages.

Education Resources

- a) The Village of Beiseker will make every effort to inform all water consumers of the potential risks and ways to conserve water as follows:
 - i. Utility Bill inserts (when reasonable to do so)
 - ii. Social Media posts
 - iii. Electronic Board messages
 - iv. Notices posted on bulletin boards throughout the Village
 - v. Newsletter notifications (when reasonable to do so)
 - vi. Alberta Emergency Alert – when applicable
- b) In accordance with the *Memorandum of Understanding for Aligned Water Restriction Measures*, the Village of Beiseker will make every effort to jointly develop and disseminate public information with the other urban municipalities.

Communication

The Village of Beiseker will make every effort to inform all water consumers when changes to *Water Usage and Restriction Changes* are made. The following will be accomplished by the end of the business day that the restriction or change is implemented:

- i. Notice provided by social media
- ii. Notices posted on electronic bulletin board
- iii. Notice provided by mass email (to all properties where the Village has email addresses) including all staff and council
- iv. Printed notices on all bulletin boards as soon as access can be obtained, preferably on the same or next business day
- v. On the Village of Beiseker website.
- vi. On the Alberta Emergency Alert application
- vii. Direct communication with High Consumption Users
- viii. **Stage 5 – Door to Door Information delivery**

All notifications will be updated/removed on the same business day that a water restriction is lifted entirely. (Note iv. – notices to be physically removed)

Procedure (See *Outdoor Water Usage and Restrictions Stages* document)

- a) It is the responsibility of all persons and organizations within the Village to exercise water conservation strategies throughout the year. Stage 1 restrictions are in effect year-round.
- b) When Stage 2 – 4 Water Restrictions are imposed, the “odd/even” street addresses will apply. Any properties that are defined by unit number or trailer parks for example, will follow the odd/even rule. Further, high consumption Commercial or Industrial businesses will be limited to a number of hours of use per day per the *Outdoor Water Usage and Restriction Stages* document.
- c) While the priority for this policy is to educate and encourage compliance to responsible water conservation and /or restrictions, the Beiseker Water/Wastewater Bylaw provides for enforcement and penalties when restrictions are not adhered to.
- d) Regular communication to the public advising of ways to conserve and use water responsibly will be provided Village.
- e) The Village of Beiseker will promote the use of water collection in rain barrels or other containers. These are not subject to any of the Restriction Stages.
- f) The Restriction Stages do not regulate water usage inside homes (bathing, cooking, cleaning, in-home dialysis, etc.), however all users are encouraged to always conserve water responsibly.
- g) Watering of food bearing plants is exempt from the Restriction Stages
- h) The Village of Beiseker maintains the right to use and restrict water for emergency situations including, but not limited to firefighting, water/wastewater maintenance/repairs, dangerous road conditions and other emergency situations.

i) Restriction Stages (OUTDOOR)

i. Stage 1

Residential – Recommended 1.5 to 2 hours per day, if required.

Business - Water based operations should conserve water appropriately

Municipal – **Potable watering includes** flowers/plants, wastewater and hydrant flushing, street sweeping, or any other water use required for providing service.

ii. Stage 2

Residential – Outdoor use is limited to 4 days per week for 1.5 hours between 8am to 12 pm or 6pm and 10pm on permitted days.

Even number addresses on Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.

Odd number addresses on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

Business – Water operations are limited to 12 hours per day for high consumption Users

Municipal – Potable watering limited to 4 days per week.

iii. Stage 3

Residential – Outdoor use is limited to 3 days per week for 1 hour between 8am and 12pm or 6pm to 10 pm on permitted days.

Even number addresses on Sunday, Wednesday and Friday

Odd number addresses on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday

Water tank/Hot Tub and Pool fills are not permitted

Business – Water operations are limited to 8 hours per day for high consumption Users

Municipal – Potable watering activities are limited to 3 days per week.

iv. Stage 4

Residential – Outdoor use is limited to 1 day per week for 0.5 hours between 8am to 10am or 6pm to 8pm on permitted days.

Water tank/Hot tub and Pool fills are not permitted

Business – Water operations are limited to 5 hours per day for high consumption Users – Monday to Friday only

Municipal – Potable watering limited to 1 day per week

v. Stage 5

Residential – Outdoor use is not permitted

Water tank/Hot Tub and Pool fills are not permitted

Business – Water operations are limited to 3 hours per day for high consumption Users

Municipal – Potable watering activities are not permitted.

Council – Consideration for SOLE and any other actions required.

	DATE	RESOLUTION NUMBER
Approved		

HIGH CONSUMPTION WATER USERS (AS OF JUNE 18 2024) – USED MORE THAN 100 CU METERS IN A BILLING PERIOD (FOR THE LAST TWO BILLING PERIODS)

- Beefsteak
- KOCA
- Rob Knight Truck Lines
- Beiseker Car Wash
- Rockyview School (only if in operation)
- Beiseker Arena (only if in operation)
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