

SCHEDULE “D”

TOWN OF PICTURE BUTTE



WATER RATIONING ACTION PLAN

Overview

Responding to Water Rationing

This Water Rationing Action plan is applicable to all users that are supplied water through the City of Lethbridge or Lethbridge Northern Irrigation District distribution systems. This includes Town of Picture Butte residents, industrial/commercial/ institutional customers, raw water users, regional customers (County of Lethbridge residents), and the Town of Picture Butte.

How to Prepare

Establish an emergency plan for water rationing in your home or business.

Some things to consider: Where can I reduce water use in an emergency? How will I reduce?

Prepare an Emergency Kit that includes provisions for water rationing.

Check out the City of Lethbridge website or Government of Alberta website for more details.

Understand when water rationing may be required.

Know the difference between water rationing and water conservation.

Engage in water education and awareness.

Don't be afraid to ask questions!

How to Respond

Implement your emergency plan and reduce water usage. Understand and follow any restrictions and prohibitions in this Water Rationing Plan.

How to Recover

Find out what happened during water rationing.

Refer to the City of Lethbridge website and social media feeds to find out why rationing was required and how your efforts helped.

Discover ways you can be more prepared for future water rationing.

Review your emergency plan with your family or employees and make any changes necessary. Keep your plan up to date and review it regularly.

Consider your water usage throughout the year.

Refer to the City of Lethbridge's Water Conservation Plan and the Water Conservation Strategy for ideas to increase water efficiency in your home and/or business.

Water Rationing Stages

Stage 1: Community Aware

Demand Reduction Target: 5%

TRIGGER: When the water level in the Oldman Reservoir drops below the 25th percentile (where only 25 per cent of historical data is lower) for more than one week, or at the discretion of the City of Lethbridge

Stage 2: Community Pressure

Demand Reduction Target: 10%

TRIGGER: When the water level in the Oldman Reservoir drops below the 20th percentile (where only 20 per cent of historical data is lower) for more than one week, or at the discretion of the City of Lethbridge.

Stage 3: Community Threat

Demand Reduction Target: 15%

TRIGGER: When the water level in the Oldman Reservoir drops below the 15th percentile (where only 15 per cent of historical data is lower) for more than one week, or at the discretion of the City of Lethbridge.

Stage 4: Community Crisis

Demand Reduction Target: 20%

TRIGGER: When the water level in the Oldman Reservoir drops below the 10th percentile (where only 10 per cent of historical data is lower) for more than one week, or at the discretion of the City of Lethbridge.

Emergency: Immediate Concern

Demand Reduction Target: Maximum effort

TRIGGER: Activation of Lethbridge's Emergency Coordination Centre (ECC) in accordance with the City of Lethbridge Municipal Emergency Management Plan, or at the discretion of the Engineer OR the Activation of the Town of Picture Butte Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) in accordance with the Town of Picture Butte's Municipal Emergency Management Plan.

STAGE 1: Community Aware

TRIGGER: When the water level in the Oldman Reservoir drops below the 25th percentile (where only 25 per cent of historical data is lower) for more than one week, or at the discretion of the City of Lethbridge

Outdoor Water Rationing Actions:

Prohibitions:

- Irrigating gardens and lawns other than on Monday and as detailed below:
 - Watering allowed only up to 2 HOURS before 10 a.m. or after 6 p.m.
- Watering that results in runoff, including to ditches, swales, storm drains, and gutters.
 - Including: Lawns, trees, shrubs, gardens and bedding plants, washing or hosing down sidewalks, driveways and streets.
- Washing vehicles at locations other than commercial car washes.
 - Washing vehicles in driveways, fundraising car washes
- Washing down outdoor surfaces.
 - Exterior buildings, sidewalks, driveways, walkways, outdoor furniture, patios and decks
- Filling of private in-ground or portable pools/spas/hot tubs larger than 3,000 litres.

The Town of Picture Butte will:

- Assess the situation and evaluate the risk, while considering the social need and public good.
- **Take part in all Stage 1 rationing, as well as the following:**
 - Turn off water to Town owned fountains.
 - The scheduled filling of outdoor pools will not be changed.
 - Prohibit hydrant flushing except for water quality purposes
 - Provide public updates if and when the situation changes.

Water Conservation Strategies

- Run dishwashers with FULL loads only.
- Limit washing machine to FULL loads of laundry.
- Limit water for lawns and ornamental container plants in favour of high value assets like trees, shrubs, and food producing gardens.

STAGE 2: Community Pressure

TRIGGER: When the water level in the Oldman Reservoir drops below the 20th percentile (where only 20 per cent of historical data is lower) for more than one week, or at the discretion of the City of Lethbridge.

Outdoor Water Rationing Actions:

Prohibitions:

- All Stage 1 actions plus:
- Irrigating gardens and lawns other than on Monday and as detailed below:
 - Watering allowed only up to 1 HOUR before 10 a.m. or after 6 p.m.
 - For sod, trees and shrubs that were laid or planted within 10 days of the restrictions coming into force or during the restriction period:
 - 2 HOURS per day is allowed for the first 10 days
 - Regular restrictions apply after the first 10 days
 - For laws seeded within 10 days of the restrictions coming into force or during the restriction period:
 - 2 HOURS per day is allowed for the first 20 days
 - Regular restrictions apply after the first 20 days

The Town of Picture Butte will:

- Assess the situation and evaluate the risk, while considering the social need and public good.
- **Take part in all Stage 1 and 2 rationing, as well as the following:**
 - Evaluate the need to reduce water use for arenas; adjust the schedule or close the outdoor pool.
 - Reduce the amount of times equipment and vehicles get washed at commercial car washes
- Provide public updates if and when the situation changes.

Water Conservation Strategies

- Run dishwashers with FULL loads only.
- Limit washing machine to FULL loads of laundry.
- Limit baths to half normal water, and limit showers to 5 minutes.
- Flush toilet only when needed. If its yellow let it mellow if its brown flush it down.

STAGE 3: Community Threat

TRIGGER: When the water level in the Oldman Reservoir drops below the 15th percentile (where only 15 per cent of historical data is lower) for more than one week, or at the discretion of the City of Lethbridge.

Outdoor Water Rationing Actions:

Prohibitions

- All Stage 1 and 2 actions plus:
- Use of outdoor irrigation sprinklers.
 - Outdoor watering only allowed using Handheld Containers only on Monday
 - For sod, trees and shrubs that were laid or planted within 5 days of the restrictions coming into force or during the restriction period:
 - 1 HOUR per day is allowed for the first 10 days
 - Regular restrictions apply after the first 10 days
 - For laws seeded within 5 days of the restrictions coming into force or during the restriction period:
 - 1 HOUR per day is allowed for the first 20 days
 - Regular restrictions apply after the first 20 days

The Town of Picture Butte will:

- Assess the situation and evaluate the risk, while considering the social need and public good.
- Take part in all Stage 1, 2, and 3 rationing, as well as the following:
 - Evaluate the need to reduce water use for arenas; adjust the schedule or close the outdoor pool.
 - Not wash any Town owned vehicles or equipment, unless it is absolutely necessary for safety or functionality purposes.
- Engage in regular communications with critical infrastructure and key stakeholders.
- Provide public updates if and when the situation changes.

Water Conservation Strategies

- Reduce the use of dishwasher and clothes washer.
- Flush toilet only when needed. If its yellow let it mellow if its brown flush it down.
- Shower instead of bathe; limit showers to a maximum of 5 minutes
- Washing vehicles at commercial car washing facilities that use treated water is discouraged.

STAGE 4: Community Crisis

TRIGGER: When the water level in the Oldman Reservoir drops below the 10th percentile (where only 10 per cent of historical data is lower) for more than one week, or at the discretion of the City of Lethbridge.

Outdoor Water Rationing Actions:

Prohibitions

- All Stage 1, 2 and 3 actions plus:
- No outdoor watering, including with handheld containers.
- Washing vehicles at commercial car washing facilities that use treated water.

Town of Picture Butte will:

- Assess the situation and evaluate the risk, while considering the social need and public good.
- Take part in all Stage 1, 2, 3 and 4 rationing, as well as the following:
 - Evaluate the need to reduce water use for arenas; adjust the schedule or close the outdoor pool.
 - Suspend use of water for construction purposes including grading, compaction, dust control etc.
- Provide public updates if and when the situation changes.

Water Conservation Strategies

- Restrict hand washing of dishes if and when possible.
- Limit dishwasher and clothes washer use to full loads.
- Flush toilet only when needed. If its yellow let it mellow if its brown flush it down.
- Reduce shower times to 3 to 5 minutes.

EMERGENCY: Immediate Concern

TRIGGER: Activation of Lethbridge's Emergency Coordination Centre (ECC) in accordance with the City of Lethbridge Municipal Emergency Management Plan, or at the discretion of the Engineer OR the Activation of the Town of Picture Butte Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) in accordance with the Town of Picture Butte's Municipal Emergency Management Plan.

Emergency water rationing may be required due to one or more of the following reasons or situations:

- Mechanical issues/failures
- Water quality concerns
- Infrastructure threats
- Environmental pressures

Prohibitions

- All stage 1, 2, 3, and 4 prohibitions

Town of Picture Butte will:

- Assess the situation and evaluate the risk, while considering the social need and public good.
- Inform the community of the situation and need for emergency water rationing.
- Strive for a 40%+ reduction in water usage until the situation and resolution are understood, at which time the reduction level target will be reevaluated and communicated to the public.
- Inform the public of the estimated timeline for emergency water rationing as information becomes available.

Water Conservation Strategies

- Take all actions possible to reduce water use.
- Do not run the tap unnecessarily.
- Reuse water where possible.
- Shower instead of bathe, keep showers to 3 to 5 minutes.
- Only use the dishwasher and clothes washer when necessary and only with full loads.
- Flush toilet only when needed. If its yellow let it mellow if its brown flush it down.

Water Rationing Stages Summary Chart

Watering Activity	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4
	Demand Reduction Target: 5%	Demand Reduction Target: 10%	Demand Reduction Target: 15%	Demand Reduction Target: 20%+
Runoff down sidewalks, driveways and streets	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed
Washing down outdoor surfaces	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed
Water for decorative features or fountains	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed
Irrigation sprinkling for Residential and Commercial lawns using treated water	MONDAYS ONLY		Not Allowed	Not Allowed
Irrigation sprinkling for Residential and Commercial lawns using raw water	TUESDAYS ONLY			
	Up to 2 hours Before 10 a.m. and after 6 p.m.	Up to 1 hour Before 10 a.m. and after 6 p.m.		
Hand watering for flower beds, gardens, trees, and shrubs	Allowed	Allowed	Hand Watering Only Monday only	Not Allowed
Newly planted grass trees and shrubs Note: if Stage 2 is reached, it is recommended that NO NEW planting occur	Allowed	Refer to Water Rationing Action Plan	Refer to Water Rationing Action Plan	Not Allowed
Water for pools, ponds and hot tubs	Allowed	Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed
Water for construction purposes	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Not Allowed
Washing vehicles at car washes	Allowed	Allowed	Discouraged	Not Allowed
Water Emergency: Demand Reduction Target: Maximum Effort Emergencies may be due to mechanical issues/failures, water quality concerns, infrastructure failures or environmental pressures. Emergency water rationing will require IMMEDIATE reduction in water use. Keep informed on areas affected and actions that are needed.				