

<b>Policy No.:</b>	<b>146.20</b>	<b>Council Approval:</b> <b>Resolution No.: 233/20</b> <b>Date:</b> August 25, 2020
<b>Policy Title:</b>	<b>Potable Water Management Policy</b>	
<b>Department:</b>	Infrastructure and Property Services	
<b>Reviewed:</b>	N/A	
<b>Revised:</b>	N/A	
<b>Supersedes Policy/Bylaw:</b>	Water Conservation Policy and Water Restriction Policy	

## 1. Policy Statement

- 1.1 The Town of Blackfalds is committed to undertaking sustainability measures to ensure a healthy environment for current and future generations. The Town will integrate environmental stewardship strategies into Town operations, organizational culture, development conditions, and policies and procedures where applicable, to conserve, protect and enhance the environment in balance with social and economic needs.

## 2. Reason for Policy

- 2.1 This Policy will help the Town to lead environmental mandates relating to potable water usage for the protection, conservation and enhancement of the environment through our local, provincial and regional partnerships.
- 2.2 Further, this Policy along with associated Bylaws, will provide the Town, the development industry, and all other stakeholders with clear direction for the use and management of water for all municipal and private lands within the Town's impacted areas either in normal operation conditions or under emergency critical periods of water shortages due to specific circumstances.
- 2.3 Further, the Town has committed yearly resource funds to grow our community's environmental sustainability through the actions outlined under the Town's Environmental Stewardship Strategy (ESS), with a key focus area on water.
- 2.4 Lastly, this Potable Water Management Policy will guide the Water Services group towards conservation and provide a strategy to encourage a reduction in daily water usage and consumption by all water consumers in the Town of Blackfalds. This will be supported through a web focused initiative and other environmental educational programming relating to water conservation.
- 2.5 To institute a water restriction program that may be required due to a number of factors beyond the control of the Town. These potable water restrictions will be implemented in various levels and duration depending on the factors that have brought about the need for each restriction.

## 3. Related Information

- 3.1 Associated Bylaws and Provincial Regulations  
 3.2 Environmental Stewardship Strategy (ESS)

- 3.3 Town Design Guidelines Standards
- 3.4 Town of Blackfalds Safe Drinking Water Plan

#### **4. Definitions**

- 4.1 “Blackfalds” means the Municipality of Blackfalds.
- 4.2 “Development” means development as defined in Part 17 of the Municipal Government Act.
- 4.3 “Town” means the Town of Blackfalds.
- 4.4 Water Restriction Levels:

- 4.4.1 Level One

Residents are encouraged under normal weather conditions to consider outside watering of lawns, gardens and washing of cars and driveways on even calendar days for even numbered addresses and on odd numbered days for odd numbered addresses. This would assist the Town of Blackfalds in its water conservation efforts and under normal circumstances to help reduce the cost of water to the homeowner.

- 4.4.2 Level Two

Should the Town of Blackfalds experience dryer than normal conditions, we would encourage Town Residents to water only two days per week. Odd numbered addresses would be encouraged to water Tuesday and Saturday. Even numbered addresses would be encouraged to water on Wednesday and Sundays of each week. No outside watering would be encouraged the rest of the week. Newly laid sod or plantings and watering with a bucket or watering can are exempt. This level is suggested to assist the Town in water conservation efforts.

- 4.4.3 Level Three

Ban on all residential outside watering and ban all water use by Industrial Users and Commercial establishments such as Car Washes and other nonessential water services. This is in case of a severe shortage and would only be implemented if there was a severe and long hot spell of weather.

- 4.4.4 Level Four

Ban all outside water use except for essential services (fire fighting, hospital/medical).

Watering restrictions would be in response to request from the commission to restrict water usage, or due to prolonged dry weather, or failure of treatment or delivery system or any other unforeseen event which may limit supply or delivery. The level of restriction would be dependent upon the severity of the issue or concern.

## **5. Responsibilities**

### 5.1 Municipal Council to:

- 5.1.1 Approve by resolution this policy and any amendments.
- 5.1.2 Consider the allocation of resources for successful implementation of this policy in the annual budget process.

### 5.2 Chief Administrative Officer to:

- 5.2.1 Implement this policy and approve procedures.
- 5.2.2 Ensure policy and procedure reviews occur and verify the implementation of policies and procedures.

### 5.3 Director of the Department to:

- 5.3.1 Ensure implementation of this policy and procedure.
- 5.3.2 Ensure that this policy and procedure is reviewed every three years.
- 5.3.3 Make recommendations to the Chief Administrative Officer of necessary policy or procedure amendments.

### 5.4 Manager to:

- 5.4.1 Understand and adhere to this policy and procedure.
- 5.4.2 Ensure employees are aware of this policy and procedure.

### 5.5 All Employees to:

- 5.5.1 Understand and adhere to this policy and procedure.

## **6. Exclusions**

- 6.1 None

## **7. Special Situations**

- 7.1 None

## **8. Appendix**

- 8.1 None

## **9. End of Policy**

<b>PROCEDURE</b>	<b>Policy No.:</b> 146.20 <b>Policy Title:</b> Potable Water Management Policy <b>Department:</b> Infrastructure and Property Services
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## 1. Preamble

- 1.1 The Town of Blackfalds is committed to undertaking sustainability measures to ensure a healthy environment for current and future generations. Council will integrate environmental stewardship strategies into Town operations, organizational culture, development conditions, and policies and procedures where applicable, to conserve, protect and enhance the environment in balance with social and economic needs.

## 2. General

- 2.1 The Town will include all Objectives and Strategies identified under the related documents into all Department Director Workplans.
- 2.2 The Town will integrate applicable environmental principles and performance objectives under the ESS into relevant decision-making processes. Through Council reporting, meeting discussions and planning, these objectives will be integrated across all departments.
- 2.3 The Town will integrate environmental stewardship strategies into staff planning, capital project planning, budgetary planning, development planning and other cultural and organizational planning to conserve, protect and enhance our environment.
- 2.4 The Town will allocate resources to continually track and improve on the environmental principles, strategies, programs, and performance objectives set out in the ESS.
- 2.5 The Town will ensure all operations and capital projects, including the work of contractors, comply with environmental legislation, Town Design Guidelines Standards and other environmental requirements.
- 2.6 The Town will highlight environmental educational communication and programs across the organization and work with applicable Government Funded Organization partners to inspire values of conservation, protection, and improvement of our lived environment.
- 2.7 The Town will encourage regional, local and other funded partnerships, as water stewardship is a shared responsibility for all.
- 2.8 The Town will provide a timely report to the Public on the Environmental Metrics determined to be tracked through the ESS.
- 2.9 When a limited supply of water, dry weather conditions and unusually high-water demands make it necessary, the Town will limit the supply of potable water based on the level of water restriction implemented as defined above, levels 1-4. The Town will communicate such restriction level with the timely, appropriate communication to the public as determined by the Director.



**3. End of Procedure**

**Approval**

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Chief Administrative Officer

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Date

*Aug 26, 2020*

