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Water restrictions now in place for the City of Kelowna

It's the first day of summer and water restrictions are now in place for the City of Kelowna.

Under the current stage one restrictions, residents will only be allowed to water their yards and lawns on three specific days a week.



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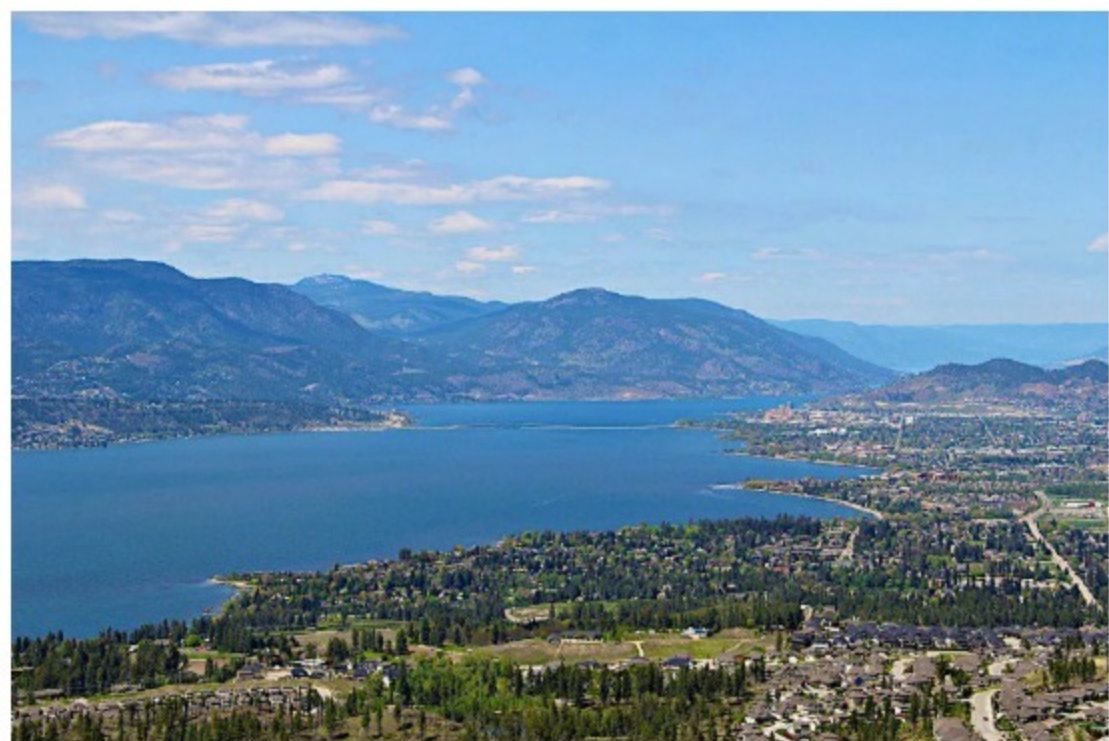
“Stage one conservation efforts require all water users to be mindful of the water they use in order to reduce overall demand by 10 per cent, said Kevin Van Vliet, utility services manager.

“All water consumers should ensure that timing of irrigation matches the assigned day watering schedule, fix leaking taps or pipes and reduce household water consumption by avoiding unnecessary use such as washing driveways.”

Residents with an odd number address will be allowed to water outdoors on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturday, while even number addresses get Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays.

Monday is a day off of watering for the entire city.

Residents are also encouraged to reduce watering whenever possible and to avoid it between 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.



A below average snowpack and minimal spring rainfall has led the province to move the Central Okanagan to drought level three this week.

Okanagan Lake is low for this time of year and McCulloch reservoir, which supplies the southeast Kelowna water system, did not fill this spring and is below normal capacity.

“Should the hot and dry weather and high water demand continue through the next few weeks, the City Utility will need to consider Stage two restrictions, which implements more drastic reduction in consumption,” said Van Vliet.

“As we head into July, we will be working directly with Okanagan Basin Water Board (OBWB), other local water purveyors and monitoring lake levels closely.”

Van Vliet says that taking action now and being more vigilant as a community can reduce the potential of moving to more severe stages of water restrictions.

For more information on watering restrictions and to find conservation tips, click this link.