

WATER RESTRICTIONS POLICY

Introduction

The water supplies in the Ashburton District have historically come under pressure during the summer months and some schemes were never designed to accommodate watering of lawns and gardens (irrigation).

To manage these issues, water (hosing) restrictions in some form or other have been implemented during the summer months or during emergencies to manage the demand on the various schemes to acceptable levels. These restrictions have in the past been implemented in an ad-hoc fashion and have never been formalised in Council policy.

This policy sets to address concerns relating to demand management by ensuring that the time periods when watering is permitted (Levels 2 & 3), is moved away from the generally expected peak demand for normal domestic use.

It is also intended to give consumers an indication of permissible practices which are allowed during each level of restriction, thereby making compliance and enforcement easier.

And finally, it is intended to give a clear definition of how breaches of the restrictions will be dealt with (enforcement).

Policy Statements

1. Hosing is not permitted at any time on the Fairton, Dromore & Winchmore water supplies and the Methven Springfield & Montalto piped stockwater schemes.
2. On the Ashburton, Methven, Rakaia, Hakatere, Hinds, [Lake Hood¹](#), Mayfield, Mount Somers & Chertsey water supplies, water restrictions may be implemented when environmental, operational and/or emergency conditions require, at the discretion of the Operations Manager.
3. Restrictions shall comprise 5 levels as follows:

Level 1 – Alternate Days Hosing		
Schemes	Restriction	Permitted Activities
Ashburton Lake Hood Methven Rakaia Hakatere	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Even numbered properties may hose on even dates• Odd numbered properties may hose on odd dates	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Any activity</u> requiring water from a hose connected to the scheme supply.• Operation of micro-spray irrigation systems.• Operation of automatic irrigation systems.
Hinds	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Properties located on the southeast side of the SIMT Railway may hose on even dates• Properties located on the northwest side of the SIMT Railway may hose on odd dates.	
Mayfield	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Properties located on the southeast side of Arundel Rakaia Gorge Road may hose on even dates• Properties located on the northwest side of Arundel Rakaia Gorge Road may hose on odd dates	

¹ Lake Hood – included by Council resolution 17/12/09

Mount Somers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Properties which have frontage to Pattons Road may hose on even dates Properties which do not have frontage to Pattons Road may hose on odd dates 	
Chertsey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Properties located on the southeast side of Maldon Street may hose on even dates Properties located on the northwest side of Maldon Street may hose on odd dates 	

Level 2 – Time Restricted Alternate Days Hosing		
Schemes	Restriction	Permitted Activities
Ashburton Methven Rakaia Hinds Lake Hood Hakatere Mayfield Mount Somers Chertsey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Same restrictions as per Level 1, and Hosing is only permitted between the hours of 6.00pm and midnight. <i>[amended 18/11/04]</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>All activities</u> requiring water from a hose connected to the scheme supply. Operation of micro-spray irrigation systems. Operation of automatic irrigation systems.

Level 3 – Hand Held Hosing		
Schemes	Restriction	Permitted Activities
Ashburton Methven Rakaia Hinds Lake Hood Hakatere Mayfield Mount Somers Chertsey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Same restrictions as per Level 2, and Hosing may only be carried out by hand 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Garden watering from a hose connected to the scheme supply. Washing vehicles and building exteriors using buckets only. <p>Note-: The following activities are not permitted during Level 3 restrictions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Irrigation using micro-spray and automatic systems. Washing vehicles, building exteriors & paved areas using hoses.

Level 4 – Hosing Ban		
Schemes	Restriction	Permitted Activities
Ashburton Methven Rakaia Hinds Lake Hood Hakatere Mayfield Mount Somers Chertsey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No hosing is permitted at any time during this restriction. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Watering essential to keep plants alive may be applied via bucket / watering can.

Level 5 – Water Conservation Notice (Emergency Management)		
Schemes	Restriction	Permitted Activities
All schemes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No non-essential water use is permitted at any time during this restriction. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Essential domestic, commercial and industrial use only.

4. When imposed, water restrictions shall apply to **all residential, commercial and industrial** properties connected to water supplies managed by the Ashburton District Council.
5. The restriction level shall be advertised within the local media (newspapers & radio) and shall be effective from the date of the first advertisement.
7. *Property owners/occupiers identified as in breach of this policy will be sent a standard letter advising them of the requirement to comply, **or if the breach is considered serious, be issued with an infringement fine in accordance with the Ashburton District Council Bylaw.***²
8. *Property owners/occupiers identified as repeat offenders of this policy may be **issued with an infringement fine or** prosecuted in accordance with the Ashburton District Council Bylaw.*
9. Authority to prosecute repeat offenders is delegated to the Operations Manager or the Chief Executive Officer.

15 November 2001

² Application of infringement fines – by Council resolution 17/12/09