



Water Restrictions Policy

Policy Statement

During periods when the water supply system has difficulty in coping with weather conditions and consumption rates, it is necessary to restrict water usage. This policy provides the conditions and restrictions to be imposed.

Related Legislation, Circulars or Guidelines (as amended)

- Local Government Act 1993
- Local Government (General) Regulation 2005
- Coffs Harbour Water - Drought Management Plan 2006
- Coffs Harbour Water - Demand Management Plan 2006

Does this Document Replace an Existing Policy, Procedure or Plan?

Yes, this document replaces Council's:

- Water Restrictions Policy 5/12/2002 and 15/12/2005

Related Council Policy or Procedure

- None

Application and Distribution

It is mandatory for all Council officials to comply with this Policy.

This Policy and Guidelines is available on Council's website under Council Policies.

Approved by:

Executive Team.....

[Meeting date]

Council

[Meeting date & Resolution No.]

24/09/2009 Resolution C52

Signature:

General Manager

Effective: 24/09/2009

Review Date:

| | |
|--|-----------------------|
| Distribution : | Record Number: |
| Responsible Council Department/Officer: Coffs Harbour Water | |
| Version History Table: | |

Key Responsibilities

| Position | Directorate | Responsibility |
|---|--------------------|---|
| Mayor | Council | To lead Councillors in their understanding of, and compliance with, this Policy and Guidelines. |
| General Manager | Executive | To lead staff (either directly or through delegated authority) in their understanding of, and compliance with, this Policy and Guidelines. To approve resources to develop, implement and review this Policy and Guidelines. |
| Executive Manager Operations | | To advise the General Manager with regard to current situation of the water supply storages and the impact of current droughts or drought forecasts. |
| Directors | All Directorates | To communicate, implement and comply with this Policy and related Guidelines. |
| Director of Corporate Services | Corporate Business | To ensure (directly or through delegation) the distribution and communication of the Policy and Guidelines to specified persons. To ensure (directly or through delegation) the approved Policy and Guidelines are available in hard copy and electronically on Council's website. |
| Executive Manager HR & Organisational Development | Corporate Business | Facilitate the provision of regular training to all Council officials on their role and responsibilities in relation to this Policy, Guidelines and related procedures. |
| Executive and Managers | All Directorates | To implement this Policy, Guidelines and related procedures. To lead staff in their understanding of, and compliance with, this Policy and Guidelines |
| Information Technology Manager | Corporate Business | To assist with the development of systems to support public access to this Policy, Guidelines and related information. |
| All Council officials | Council | To comply with this Policy, Guidelines and related procedures. |

Water Restrictions

Policy Guidelines

1. Introduction

The General Manager be delegated the authority to impose restrictions in accordance with the levels below.

The restriction level option imposed may be altered at the discretion of the General Manager, after consultation with Council, dependent on dam capacity, consumption rates, Orara and Nymboida River flows, weather conditions, long range forecast and the season.

| RESTRICTION | CONDITION | TARGET |
|-------------|---|--------------------------|
| LEVEL | | CONSUMPTION REDUCTION |
| LEVEL 1 | Sprinklers and fixed hoses may be used outside the hours of 8 am – 4 pm 17/6/04 - Council introduced PERMANENT Level One Water Restrictions for the Coffs Harbour Local Government Area | Awareness |
| LEVEL 2 | Sprinklers and fixed hoses are banned. Micro-sprays for 15 minutes and hand held hoses for 2 hours every second day, outside the hours of 8 am and 4 pm, on odd or even days matching house numbering system | 5% |
| LEVEL 3 | Sprinklers and fixed hoses banned. Micro-sprays for 15 minutes and hand held hoses for 1 hour every second day, outside the hours of 8 am and 4 pm, on odd or even days matching house numbering system | 10% |
| LEVEL 4 | Sprinklers and fixed hoses banned. Micro-sprays for 15 minutes and hand held hoses for ½ hour every second day, outside the hours of 8 am and 4 pm, on odd or even days matching house numbering system | 15% |
| LEVEL 5 | Use of Sprinklers, micro-sprays, fixed and hand held hoses banned. Gardens can be watered by buckets only. | 20% |
| LEVEL 6 | All external use of water banned. Gardens can be watered with grey water only. | 25% |
| LEVEL 7 | Emergency Water Supply Management - as directed by Council | 95 litres/ person/day |

2. Definitions

N/A

3. Objectives

The objective of Council's Water Restrictions Policy and Guidelines is to-

- Implement water restrictions when conditions call for it

4. Policy Statement

Council's Water Restrictions Policy and Guidelines is underpinned by the following principles-

4.1 Access

- Public access to information about Water Restrictions Policy will be through Council's website.
- Reasonable access assistance will be available to persons with special needs

4.2 Responsiveness and Accountability

- Where drought conditions occur and dependent on dam capacity, consumption rates, Orara and Nymboida River flows, weather conditions, long range forecast and the season, the General Manager has the authority to impose restrictions in accordance with the levels outlined in this policy.

4.3 Privacy and Confidentiality

- The principles of Council's Privacy Management Plan will be applied.

4.4 Integrity, Dignity and Respect

- Council treats all persons with courtesy and respect.
- Council will not tolerate rude or aggressive behaviour towards Council officials. In such circumstances, Council officials are entitled to terminate phone calls or meetings as appropriate. Wherever possible, Council officials will provide the person with initial warning that their conduct is inappropriate and that the meeting or conversation will be terminated.
- Council officials will demonstrate fair and consistent decision-making.