



Government Gazette

of the State of

New South Wales

Number 349—Electricity and Water

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Each notice in the Government Gazette has a unique reference number that appears in parentheses at the end of the notice and can be used as a reference for that notice (for example, (n2019-14)).

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SYDNEY WATER ACT 1994 (NSW)

SYDNEY WATER REGULATION 2017 (NSW)

Notice of Water Restrictions

It being in the public interest and for the purpose of maintaining water supply, I give NOTICE in accordance with clause 24 of the *Sydney Water Regulation 2017* of the following water restrictions to take effect at 12.01 am on 2 December 2020.

The water restrictions listed below, known as Water Wise Guidelines (previously known as Water Wise Rules), remain in force until further notice; apply in the whole of the area of operations of Sydney Water Corporation; and apply to all users of drinking water supplied by Sydney Water Corporation or sourced from a water main owned by Sydney Water Corporation or supplied by a person licensed under the *Water Industry Competition Act 2006*.

All exemption permits in relation to previous water restrictions are hereby revoked, except in respect of an exemption for medical reasons.

Subject to the exclusions below, the following uses of drinking water are not permitted at any time:

- the use of sprinklers, watering systems or hoses;
- the hosing of paths, driveways, concrete or other paved areas;
- the use of hoses for cleaning of vehicles, vessels or building structures;
- the unattended running of hoses or taps;
- the use of firefighting hoses except for firefighting purposes or fire service testing; and
- water escaping by leaks, where there has been a failure to comply with a notice from Sydney Water to repair a water leak by a date nominated in that notice.

The following uses are excluded from the restrictions:

- watering of lawns and gardens before 10am or after 4pm on any day using a hand-held hose with an instant on-off mechanism (such as a trigger nozzle); sprinklers; or watering systems. Run-off or overspray onto hard surfaces such as pathways is not permitted;
- the use of smart watering systems or drip irrigation systems for watering lawns or gardens. Run-off or overspray onto hard surfaces such as pathways is not permitted;
- the use of a hand-held hose fitted with a trigger nozzle; sprinklers; or other watering systems at any time by commercial retail nurseries, commercial plant growers, market gardeners, landscapers, mobile garden contractors and persons responsible for the maintenance of community lawns or gardens, sports or racing surfaces. Run-off or overspray onto hard surfaces such as pathways is not permitted;
- the use of water for cooling people or animals, or for animal husbandry purposes;
- the use of water by commercial water slide operators (fixed or mobile); or commercial or municipal recreational facilities that use water as an integral part of operations (such as water play parks);
- the use of a hand-held hose fitted with a trigger nozzle; sprinklers; or watering systems at any time for the establishment of new turf or gardens for a period of 28 days from the installation date, according to the care instructions provided by the supplier, installer or care professional. Run-off or overspray onto hard surfaces such as pathways is not permitted;
- washing of building structures, including windows, walls, gutters and roofing using a hose fitted with a trigger nozzle or high-pressure water cleaning equipment;

- washing of vehicles or vessels of any type using bucket and sponge (or similar arrangement), hose fitted with a trigger nozzle or high-pressure water-cleaning equipment, or at a commercial washing facility;
- cleaning of paths, driveways, concrete or other paved areas when cleaning with water is necessary for reasons of safety, health, emergency, construction activity (including resurfacing) or surface contamination. For any use of water under this category any hose must be fitted with a trigger nozzle unless it is used to supply high-pressure water cleaning equipment;
- flushing inboard or outboard boat engines by means of a hose fitted with an appropriate flushing device. The water supply must be turned off immediately after flushing to manufacturer specifications is complete;
- use of a hose fitted with a trigger nozzle or high-pressure water cleaning equipment for cleaning bilges or essential safety components on boat trailers, including wheels and brakes;
- use of a hand-held hose to fill fixed water tanks or water-soluble chemical tanks in vehicles or vessels. Unattended filling of such tanks is not permitted;
- use of a hand-held hose with a trigger nozzle or high-pressure water cleaning equipment for rinsing a vessel at a public boat ramp or marina immediately after being used in salt water, for a maximum of 10 minutes per vessel.
- top-up of the water level in a pool or spa to replace water lost through normal use conditions including evaporation; or lost due to firefighting and related purposes. Over-filling of the pool or spa to a level where there is run-off is not permitted;
- filling a new or renovated pool or spa. Over-filling of the pool or spa to a level where there is run-off is not permitted;
- the use of drinking water for dust suppression but only where there is no alternative water source reasonably available in the situation. Where a dust incident involves hazardous dust (e.g. asbestos), use of water must comply with the applicable incident response guidelines for the specific hazardous substance involved;
- the use of drinking water for the normal and safe operation of pipe jetting, cutting, drilling and tunnelling equipment. Unattended use of water for these purposes is not permitted;
- the use of bore water, recycled water from non-potable pipework, or rainwater. This exclusion does not apply where any tank used for storage has also been supplied from Sydney Water's drinking water system;
- the use of water for public health, fire service testing, firefighting and related purposes, hazard reduction or other essential activities; or
- the use of water in accordance with the conditions of an exemption permit granted by Sydney Water.

The penalty notice offence prescribed for non-compliance with these restrictions is \$220 for an individual and \$550 for a corporation.

The Notice of Water Restrictions published in the Gazette on 28 February 2020 is revoked.

NOTE:

Sydney Water Corporation may determine definitions of words used in this Notice (such as equipment referred to) and make those definitions available publicly via the Sydney Water website.

Dated 1 December 2020

MELINDA JANE PAVEY, M.P.,
Minister for Water, Property and Housing