How to water your lawn when water restrictions are in place

Water in moderation

A lawn only needs about one inch of water per week – use a rain gauge or a small container to measure.

Know when to water

Use a moisture meter, or put a screwdriver into the lawn – if the top two inches of the lawn is dry, then water.

What time to water

Morning is the best time to minimize water lost through evaporation and wind. Visit the City of Chilliwack's website for water restrictions and allowable watering times.

Water only the lawn

Check your sprinkler to ensure you are watering the lawn and not the road or sidewalk.

Don't over water

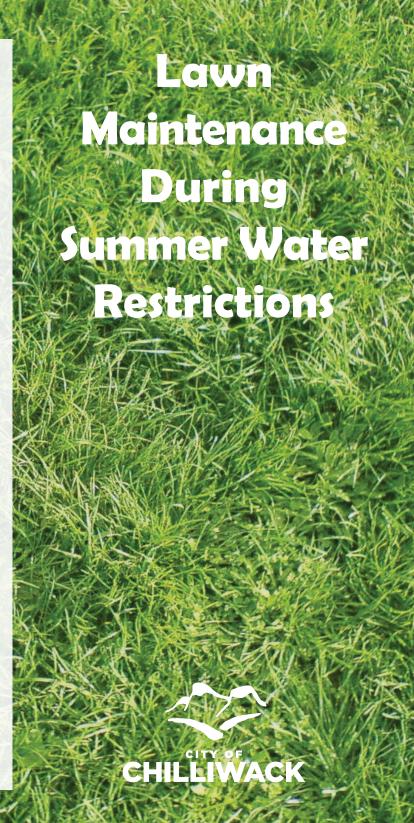
Too much water saturates the soil, leading to poor soil aeration and weakening of grass, making it vulnerable to damage and disease.

For more information, visit our website: chilliwack.com/water

Or contact us at:

Engineering Department City of Chilliwack 8550 Young Road Chilliwack, BC V2P 8A4 Telephone: 604.793.2907





Maintain your lawn, save water and money!

Start with a healthy lawn

Lawns fail during dry spells because they weren't healthy to begin with. The main problem is compacted soil.

Act before dry spells and water restrictions:

- De-thatch your lawn in the spring. Use a heavy rake or de-thatcher on your mower to get rid of dead grass and roots that prevent water, air and nutrients from getting to the roots.
- Aerate your lawn. Use an aerator to create holes in your lawn for better flow of water, air and nutrients to the roots.
- Spread 3/8 inches of sand on your lawn to improve aeration.
- Get soil tested for acidity and nutrients at local garden centres.
- Spread the appropriate amount of lime on your lawn to reduce acidity.
- Follow a fertilization program to encourage deep rooting and drought tolerance.

What to do during dry spells

- Let your lawn turn brown. It will recover in the fall when the regular rains resume.
- Mow your lawn when the grass is 6 8 cm (2.5 - 3 inches) high. This develops a deep, extensive root system and better retains moisture.
- Keep your mower blade sharp. A dull blade tears the grass, causing more moisture loss.
- Mow your lawn without the bag. Leaving lawn clippings on the lawn helps retain moisture.
- Avoid fertilization, as it causes your lawn to require more water unnecessarily during drought periods.
- Keep weeds out! Weeds soak up the water that nearby grass needs. Remove weeds throughout the summertime and overseed the bare spots in the fall or spring.

