



MEDIA RELEASE

October 16, 2013

WATER CONSUMPTION 2013

The District of Lillooet would like to inform residents serviced by potable water, about water consumption, leaks and sprinkling regulations over this past summer.

We would like to thank those notified of potable water leaking on their properties for making the necessary repairs to stop leaks and also to those who followed stage 1 sprinkling regulations.

By repairing leaks and following sprinkling regulations, water levels in District reservoirs remained above the required level needed for fire prevention. Because of this, the District avoided the move to stage 2 sprinkling regulations which do not permit sprinkling.

In addition to keeping our water reservoirs at acceptable levels, we have seen an overall decrease in the annual total water consumption for the District as compared to past years. Unfortunately, even with this decrease, water consumption is still too high.

From June-Sept 2013, over a period of 88 days, the District of Lillooet conducted bimonthly remote water meter readings on all water meters installed within the District of Lillooet. After collecting and analysing data, the District found that water consumption in the District of Lillooet is above the Canadian average. This is most likely due to leaks on residential property and to residents disregarding stage 1 sprinkling regulations.

The quarterly Canadian average water consumption for a single residential dwelling is 87-100 cubic meters. Close to home, Kelowna shows a high quarterly average of 150 cubic meters per residence. The District of Lillooet's average quarterly water consumption from June 17, 2013 to September 13, 2013 is 315 cubic meters per residence, and is over double the Canadian average high. During this time, there were certain households with water meter readings that ranged from a high quarterly consumption of 3155 cubic meters to a low quarterly consumption of only 1 cubic meter for single resident dwellings.

The District is willing to work with home owners to better understand water conservation and to detect possible leaks. One way the District would like to work with residents is to notify property owners if their water meter is showing high water consumption. The District will also continue to monitor water consumption and investigate any possible leaks on a quarterly basis.

Some owners of properties with exceptionally high water consumption and/or properties where leaks were detected have already been notified.

Before billing on water meters takes effect, the District is hoping to work with residents on methods to conserve potable water and lower water consumption. This will result in lower utility fees once billing on a consumption basis begins.

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For further information, please contact Erik Davidson at the District of Lillooet office
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Consumption Facts

- One cubic meter of water equals 219.9 Imperial gallons or 1000 liters
- North Lillooet contains 221 water meters.
 - The total potable water consumption from June 17, 2013 to September 13, 2013 reached 120 024 cubic meters.
- Central Lillooet contains 703 installed water meters.
 - The total potable water consumption from June 17, 2013 to September 13, 2013 reached 171 736 cubic meters.
- The total number of all water metres installed within the district is 924.
 - The total combined water consumption from June 17, 2013, to September 13, 2013, for all 924 water meters installed within the district, reached a total of 291 760 cubic meters or over 64 million Imperial gallons.

Leak Facts

- Ten percent of homes have leaks that waste 340 Liters of water or more per day.
 - Common types of leaks found in the home include leaking toilet flappers, dripping faucets, and other leaking valves. All are easily correctable.
 - A leaky faucet that drips at the rate of one drip per second can waste more than 11 cubic meters of water per year.
 - A showerhead leaking at 10 drips per minute wastes more than 1.8 cubic meters of water per year. That's enough water to wash 60 loads of dishes in your dishwasher.
 - If your toilet is running constantly, you could be wasting 750 Liters of water or more every day.
 - An irrigation system with pressure set at 60 pounds per square inch that has a leak that is 1 millimeter in diameter (about the thickness of a dime) can waste about 23 cubic meters of water per month.

Irrigation Facts

- The typical single-family suburban household uses at least 30 percent of their water outdoors for irrigation. Some experts estimate that more than 50 percent of landscape water use goes to waste due to evaporation or runoff caused by overwatering.
- Micro drip irrigation systems use between 20 to 50 percent less water than conventional in-ground sprinkler systems. They are also much more efficient than conventional sprinklers because no water is lost to wind, runoff, and evaporation.