

Media Release

For Immediate Release DATE: October 14, 2025

Summerland Moves to Drought Level 3 as Very Dry Conditions Persist

SUMMERLAND – The District of Summerland has elevated its water drought status to Level 3 due to ongoing dry weather and significantly reduced streamflow and reservoir levels. Monitoring indicators show that water supplies are under increasing stress and that proactive conservation is required to protect the community's water resources and local ecosystems.

Why we are moving to Level 3

Low precipitation over the summer and early fall months has created very dry conditions. Reservoir level data indicate that both domestic and agricultural supplies may be impacted in 2026. Moving to Level 3 helps the District stabilize the water supply while supporting essential needs for residents, businesses, and farms.

What This Means for Water Users

Residential

Under the Water Utilities Bylaw, Stage 3 watering restrictions are now in effect.

- Even numbered addresses may water lawns, trees, and shrubs only before 9 a.m. or after 6 p.m. on Sunday.
- Odd numbered addresses may water lawns, trees, and shrubs only before 9 a.m. or after 6 p.m. on Saturday.
- Micro-irrigation, drip irrigation, or a hose with a shut-off nozzle may be used to water trees, shrubs, or vegetables on any day at any time.
- Residents may **not** use a hose to wash vehicles, sidewalks, or driveways, except with a hand-held container or hose with a shut-off device.

Community Call to Action

Mayor and Council urge all residents and business owners to conserve water where possible. Simple actions such as reducing lawn watering, fixing leaks, and turning off hoses when not in use can make a significant difference in preserving our community's water supply for essential needs and fire protection.

Stay Informed

Updates on drought conditions and restrictions will be posted regularly at www.summerland.ca and through District social media channels.

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Contact:

Graham Statt Chief Administrative Officer 250 486 6011 gstatt@summerland.ca