

**BYLAW 3378-25
OF THE CITY OF CAMROSE
PROVINCE OF ALBERTA**

A Bylaw to govern water restriction measures during times of water shortage and to encourage water conservation.

WHEREAS the City of Camrose deems it advisable and necessary to make provisions for the restriction of the use of water and for the protection of the supply of water;

AND WHEREAS pursuant to the *Municipal Government Act*, R.S.A. 2000, Chapter M-26, as amended, a municipality is authorized to pass bylaws for municipal purposes respecting services provided by or on behalf of the municipality, as well as to enforce those bylaws.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the City of Camrose, duly assembled, **ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:**

1. This Bylaw is called the "Water Restrictions Bylaw".

2. Definitions

2.1. "City" means the City of Camrose.

2.2. "Council" means the Mayor and Councillors of the City, both together and individually.

2.3. "City Manager" means the individual appointed by the Council to the position of Chief Administrative Officer as per the *Municipal Government Act* or designate.

2.4. "Customer" means any individual, business or organization that receives Potable water from the City.

2.5. "Non-Potable" means water that is not safe for human consumption.

2.6. "Peace Officer" means a member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, a member of the Camrose Police Service, or a special constable.

2.7. "Potable" means water that is safe for human consumption.

2.8. "Regional Customer" means a Customer that is not located within the municipal boundaries of the City, but which receives Potable or Non-Potable water from the City.

2.9. "Stage" means the Stages 0, 1, 2, 3, and as prescribed in Schedule "B" of this Bylaw.

2.10. "Violation Ticket" means a ticket issued under Part 2 of the *Provincial Offences Procedure Act*, RSA 2000, c. P-34.

2.11. "Water Use Restrictions" means the restrictions prescribed in Schedule "B" of this Bylaw.

3. Purpose and Application

3.1. A reference in this Bylaw to a bylaw, statute or regulation means the statute or regulation as amended, replaced or in effect from time to time.

- 3.2. In this Bylaw, words used in the singular shall include the plural and the plural the singular, except where the context requires otherwise.
- 3.3. Words in this Bylaw have the same meaning as those set out in the *Municipal Government Act*, except for the definition defined in this Bylaw.
- 3.4. The headings in this Bylaw are for convenience only and must not be construed as defining or in away limiting the scope or intent of the provisions of this Bylaw.

4. Restricting Water Supplies

- 4.1. Where the *City Manager* determines it necessary to impose restrictions on the amount of water used within the *City*, the *City Manager* may declare a “state of water shortage”.
- 4.2. When the *City Manager* has declared a state of water shortage:
 - 4.2.1. the *City Manager* may impose a water restriction stage, as set out in Schedule “B” of this Bylaw.
 - 4.2.2. The *City Manager* shall not be required to impose levels of restriction in successive stages but may proceed to impose any level of restriction the *City Manager* has determined is warranted due to the prevailing condition of the water supply.
- 4.3. When the *City Manager* has declared a state of water shortage, residential, commercial, industrial, or institutional water users may only use *City*-supplied water in a manner consistent with the Bylaw. This shall apply equally to all *Regional Customers* outside the *City* limits, unless alternative arrangements are made between the regional customer and the *City*.
- 4.4. The “state of water shortage” shall remain in effect until the *City Manager* declares that the risk to the overall water supply has dropped below an acceptable level, at the discretion of the *City Manager*.
- 4.5. The *Water Use Restrictions* applicable to each *Stage*, as set out in Schedule 'B' of this Bylaw, shall be complied with during the time that the respective *Stage* is in effect pursuant to this Bylaw.

5. Water Conservation Strategies

- 5.1. The *City* provides water to all *Customers* through the *City*'s distribution system for potable water, through a bulk water station, or through a regional water line.
- 5.2. At times when the overall water supply is at risk, the *City* will undertake the following:
 - 5.2.1. assist all *Customers* in conserving water by providing information that will encourage water conservation;
 - 5.2.2. encourage commercial, industrial, and institutional *Customers* to implement measures to conserve water; and
 - 5.2.3. manage the overall supply of water in the *City* in order to comply with the requirements of all water storage facilities and of all consumers in the region

through regulation, restriction, and/or prohibiting the use of water, as set out in this Bylaw.

6. Exemptions

- 6.1. Exemptions and special cases to the regulations in this Bylaw are prescribed in Schedules “B” and “D”.

7. Contravention

- 7.1. Where the *City* has reasonable grounds to believe a contravention of this Bylaw has occurred, a *Peace Officer* may:
 - 7.1.1. issue a verbal and/or written warning to the person violating this Bylaw;
 - 7.1.2. issue a *Violation Ticket* to the person violating this Bylaw.
- 7.2. A *Violation Ticket* issued pursuant to this Bylaw shall be served by the following means:
 - 7.2.1. delivery (by hand or by mail) of the *Violation Ticket* to the residence of the person violating this Bylaw; or
 - 7.2.2. to the registered owner of the property which is in violation of this Bylaw.
- 7.3. If a *Violation Ticket* is issued in respect of an offence, the *Violation Ticket* may:
 - 7.3.1. specify the fine amount established by this Bylaw for the offence; or
 - 7.3.2. require a person to appear in court without the alternative of making a voluntary payment.
- 7.4. A person who commits an offence may make a voluntary payment equal to the specified fine, if:
 - 7.4.1. a *Violation Ticket* is issued in respect of the offence; and
 - 7.4.2. the *Violation Ticket* specifies the fine amount established by this Bylaw for the offence.
- 7.5. For the purposes of this Bylaw, a subsequent conviction means a conviction for an offence for which the offence occurs after the date of conviction of an earlier offence under this Bylaw.

8. Right of Entry and Inspections

- 8.1. The *City Manager* may enter into or upon any *Property* within the *City*, pursuant to authority set out in the *Municipal Government Act*, for the purpose of ensuring compliance with this Bylaw.

9. Violation Tickets and Penalties

- 9.1. Where a *Peace Officer* believes that a person has contravened any provision of this Bylaw, they may commence proceedings by issuing a *Violation Ticket* in accordance with *Provincial Offences Procedure Act*, RSA 2000, C P-34.

- 9.2. A *Peace Officer* may issue, by personal service, a *Violation Ticket*, in a form as approved by the *City*, to any person alleged to have contravened any provision of this Bylaw.
- 9.3. The penalty in lieu of prosecution payable in respect of a contravention of this Bylaw, to be indicated on any such *Violation Ticket* issued, is the amount specified in Schedules “D” and “E” of this Bylaw.
- 9.4. The specified penalties payable in respect of a contravention of a provision of this Bylaw are the amounts shown on Schedules “D” and “E” of this Bylaw in respect of that provision. Notwithstanding Schedules “D” and “E”, a contravention of a provision of this Bylaw will attract a minimum penalty of \$250 and a maximum penalty of \$10,000.
- 9.5. Nothing in this Bylaw shall prevent a *Peace Officer* from issuing a *Violation Ticket* for the mandatory Court appearance of any person who contravenes any provision of this Bylaw.

10. Offence

- 10.1. A person who contravenes any provision of this Bylaw is guilty of an offence.

11. Continuing Offence

- 11.1. In the case of an offence that is of a continuing nature, a contravention constitutes a separate offence in respect of each day, or part of a day, on which the offence continues.

12. Enforcement

- 12.1. In addition to the fines, which may be issued under this Bylaw, the *City* may seek an Order of Court granting an injunction or any other order necessary to enforce compliance. The *City* may seek full recovery of such legal costs either through the court system or by placing the costs of such action to the customer’s utility bill.

13. Corporations and Partnerships

- 13.1. When a corporation commits an offence under this Bylaw, every principal director, manager, employee, or agent of the corporation who authorized the act or omission that constitutes an offence or assented to or acquiesced or participated in the act or omission that constitutes the offence is guilty of the offence whether or not the corporation has been prosecuted for the offence.
- 13.2. If a partner in a partnership is guilty of an offence under this Bylaw, each partner in that partnership who authorized the act or omission that constitutes the offence or assented to or acquiesced or participated in the act or omission that constitutes an offence is guilty of the offence.

14. Obstruction

- 14.1. A person shall not obstruct or hinder any person in the exercise or performance of the persons’ powers or duties pursuant to this Bylaw.

- 14.2. It shall be considered an offence under this Bylaw to interfere, obstruct or hinder any person authorized by the *City Manager* in the exercise or performance of the person's powers pursuant to this Bylaw.

15. Powers of the City Manager

- 15.1. Without restricting any other power, duty, or function granted by this Bylaw, the *City Manager* may:
- 15.1.1. carry out any inspections to determine compliance with this Bylaw;
 - 15.1.2. take any steps or carry out any actions required to enforce this Bylaw;
 - 15.1.3. establish investigation and enforcement procedures with respect to the residential, commercial, industrial, or other types of property that may differ depend on the type of property;
 - 15.1.4. establish areas where activities restricted by this Bylaw are permitted;
 - 15.1.5. establish forms for the purpose of this Bylaw;
 - 15.1.6. issue *Permits* with such terms and conditions as are deemed appropriate;
 - 15.1.7. establish the criteria to be met for a *Permit* pursuant to this Bylaw; and
 - 15.1.8. delegate any powers, duties, or functions under this Bylaw to an employee of the *City*.

16. Severability

- 16.1. Every provision of this Bylaw is independent of all other provisions and if any provision of this Bylaw is declared invalid for any reason by a Court of competent jurisdiction, all other provisions of this Bylaw shall remain valid and enforceable.

17. Repeal

- 17.1. Bylaw #2494/06 and any amendments thereto are hereby repealed upon passage of Bylaw 3378-25.

18. Effective Date

- 18.1. This Bylaw shall come into force upon third and final reading.

READ a FIRST time in COUNCIL this 7th day of July, A.D. 2025.

READ a SECOND time in COUNCIL this 7th day of July, A.D. 2025.

READ a THIRD time in COUNCIL this 7th day of July, A.D. 2025.

Original Signed by Mayor Stasko

MAYOR

Original Signed by B. Hillson

GENERAL MANAGER, CORPORATE
SERVICES

SCHEDULE "A"

Water Shortage Stages

Trigger Point: Reservoir Storage (Days until "Available Storage" reaches zero)	Water Shortage Stage	Response Target: Water Use Reduction Goal (as % of normal water use)
> 120 days	Stage 0 – Watch	0 to 5%
60 – 120 days	Stage 1 – Warning	5 to 15%
30 – 60 days	Stage 2 – Critical	15 to 25%
< 30 days*	Stage 3 – Emergency Measures	25 to 33%, or more

*Note: Once the amount of "available storage" reaches zero (0) days, the Province of Alberta may impose mandatory restrictions on the City's diversion of water from Driedmeat Lake. As such, the purpose of the various Water Restriction Stages is to reduce City water use to delay the timing of when the Province might impose those restrictions on the City for as long as possible. Whether the City's diversion from the lake is actually restricted will depend primarily on the flow within the Battle River, as measured at the Water Survey of Canada Station #05FA011, as outlined further in the City's Water Shortage Response Plan.

SCHEDULE "B"

Water Shortage Stage Restrictions

Stage 0 Water Shortage - Watch

Restrictions Imposed:

- None at this stage.

Stage 1 Water Shortage – Warning

Restrictions Imposed:

- Watering of lawns
 - Odd numbered addresses may water lawns on odd numbered days.
 - Even numbered addresses may water lawns on even numbered days.
 - Notwithstanding the above, watering may occur only between the hours of 6:00am and 9:00am, or between the hours of 7:00pm and 11:00pm.
- Flowerbeds and gardens may be watered manually at any time, provided that the watering is done using a watering can, or with a hose with a nozzle with a trigger shut off to restrict water flow.
- Sprinklers and water toys may be used for recreational purposes by children as long as children are actively playing, including a pool with a capacity not more than 1,000 litres.
- Decorative outdoor water features must be turned off.
- The City will work directly with *Regional Customers* to impose water restrictions consistent with the Response Targets outlined in Schedule "A", in accordance with the terms of the respective water services agreements between the City and that *Regional Customer*.

Exemptions:

- These restrictions do not apply to the use of water that has been drawn from a rain barrel or other storage device which has been filled solely from rainwater, or Non-Potable water that has been recycled (e.g. commercial car washes).
- Exemptions for newly laid sod are outlined in Schedule "C".
- Stage 1 water restrictions for City of Camrose municipal operations will apply, as outlined in the Water Restrictions Administrative Policy.

Stage 2 Water Shortage – Critical

Restrictions Imposed:

- All non-essential outdoor Potable water use is prohibited. This includes but is not limited to the use of Potable water for the following activities:
 - Watering of lawns
 - Washing cars
 - Washing sidewalks or driveway pads
 - Washing fences or the exteriors of buildings

- The recreational use of sprinklers and water toys
- The filling or re-filling of outdoor swimming pools
- Flowerbeds and gardens may be watered manually, at any time using a watering can or a hose with a nozzle with a trigger shut off to restrict water flow.
- The City will work directly with *Regional Customers* to impose water restrictions consistent with the Response Targets outlined in Schedule “A”, in accordance with the terms of the respective water services agreements between the City and that *Regional Customer*.

Exemptions:

- These restrictions do not apply to the use of water that has been drawn from a rain barrel or other storage device which has been filled solely from rainwater, or Non-Potable water that has been recycled (e.g. commercial car washes).
- Exemptions for newly laid sod are outlined in Schedule “C”.
- Stage 2 water restrictions for City of Camrose municipal operations will apply, as outlined in the Water Restrictions Administrative Policy.

Stage 3 Water Shortage – Emergency Measures

Restrictions Imposed:

- All outdoor Potable water use is prohibited.
- Bulk water sales are suspended.
- The City will work directly with *Regional Customers* to impose water restrictions consistent with the Response Targets outlined in Schedule “A”, in accordance with the terms of the respective water services agreements between the City and that *Regional Customer*.

Exemptions:

- These restrictions do not apply to the use of water that has been drawn from a rain barrel or other storage device which has been filled solely from rainwater, or non-potable water that has been recycled (e.g. commercial car washes).
- Stage 3 water restrictions for City of Camrose municipal operations will apply, as outlined in the Water Restrictions Administrative Policy.

SCHEDULE "C"

Exemptions for Newly Laid Sod

1. In relation to this Bylaw, there are exemptions to the water restriction stages which include new sod.
2. Residents will be able to water their newly laid sod for all stages up to and including Stage 2 in this Bylaw. If Stage 3 occurs, any new sod may not be watered since the emergency water use stage has been implemented.
3. New Sod Care Watering Instructions (not applicable for Stage 3 water restrictions)
 - 3.1. Water the soil approximately twenty-four (24) hours before the sod arrives. This will create moisture reserves in the soil. Water well enough in advance so that the soil surface will not be wet and soggy when the sod does arrive.
 - 3.2. On the day the sod is laid, water in the evening between 7:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m.
 - 3.3. Water the sod just to the run-off point; do not leave the sprinkler running. Sod needs frequent, light watering to get established.
 - 3.4. For the next few days, watering once a day should be enough and the sod should have achieved a knit (root growth).
 - 3.5. For the next two weeks, water once per day for two or three days per week, depending on the weather. No additional watering of the sod is needed when the sod is naturally watered as a result of precipitation.
 - 3.6. After three weeks, the sod should be established, and watering once per week would be sufficient (to a maximum of 1 to 2 inches of water per watering).

SCHEDULE "D"

Residential Premises Penalties

Section	Offence	Specified Penalty (First Offence)	Specified Penalty (Subsequent Offence)
4.5	Contravening Stage 1 <i>Water Use Restrictions</i>	\$250.00	\$500.00
4.5	Contravening Stage 2 <i>Water Use Restrictions</i>	\$500.00	\$1,000.00
4.5	Contravening Stage 3 <i>Water Use Restrictions</i>	\$1,000.00	\$2,000.00

SCHEDULE "E"

Commercial, Industrial, or Institutional Premises Penalties

Section	Offence	Specified Penalty (First Offence)	Specified Penalty (Subsequent Offence)
4.5	Contravening Stage 1 <i>Water Use Restrictions</i>	\$1,000.00	\$2,000.00
4.5	Contravening Stage 2 <i>Water Use Restrictions</i>	\$5,000.00	\$10,000.00
4.5	Contravening Stage 3 <i>Water Use Restrictions</i>	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00