

# WATER RESTRICTIONS POLICY

## SCOPE

---

This policy applies to all of Council's Water Supply Schemes (Banana, Baralaba, Biloela, Callide Dam, Cracow, Goovigen, Taroom, Thangool, Theodore and Wowan).

## LEGISLATION

---

Section 41 of the Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008.

## OBJECTIVE

---

To provide an operational framework to manage the sustainability and the risk of failure of Council water supply schemes in circumstances where low rainfall, system failures, or water quality, restrict or limit the ability to supply water.

## DEFINITIONS

---

N/A

## POLICY

---

### Applications

This policy applies to all Council Water Supply Schemes and all types of customers connected to Banana Shire Council water supply systems and all users of the water obtained from these systems.

### Legislation

Section 41 of the *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008* lists the conditions under which Banana Shire Council as a water service provider may restrict supply or vary the conditions under which a customer may use water from a Banana Shire Council water supply.

### Public Information

In accordance with Section 43 of the *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008* Banana Shire Council will as a minimum notify the public of any changes to the water restrictions by any of, or a combination of, the following:

- the placement of a public notice in a newspaper
- the placement of a notice on Council website
- by electronic means (eg email, SMS, etc)
- social media

- mail out or leaflet drop to all households and public notices erected in local shopfronts/businesses
- Roadside notice in prominent location (eg trailer mounted electronic signage)
- Change restriction level on permanent water restriction signage at town entrances (where present)

## **Infringement Notice**

Where a person is found to be in breach of a water restriction, Banana Shire Council may issue an infringement notice.

Any infringement notice issued shall comply with:

1. Sub section (3) of section 43 of the *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008* which establishes the maximum penalty as:
  - a. for a non-residential customer—1665 penalty units; or
  - b. for any other person—200 penalty units
2. Section 8A of the *State Penalties Enforcement Regulation 2000* nominates the local government as the administering authority for an infringement notice for offences against the *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008*, section 43 (3).
3. Schedule 5 of the *State Penalties Enforcement Regulation 2000* sets the infringement notice fine against section 43 (5) of the *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008* at one (1) penalty unit.

## **Level of Water Restrictions**

The level of water restrictions shall be primarily based on the available storage volumes, announced allocations, allocation priority, available surface storage volume, available bore yields and available infrastructure capacity.

The Water Restriction Procedure shall be used to determine the appropriate water restriction to apply to a particular supply scheme/system at a particular time, or water restriction level may be changed by Council Resolution.

During emergency situations where the supply is in imminent danger of failing, or there is a reduction in water supply capacity as a result of water treatment/water infrastructure issues the Chief Executive Officer may authorise the necessary change to restriction levels.

## **Variations to Water Restrictions**

Applications for exemptions from water restrictions or variations to water restrictions must be made in writing using the designated application form. Application forms are available at Council Customer Service Centres.

The Director Council Services or delegate is authorised to decide applications made for variations to the water restrictions. Details of such decisions shall be provided in writing to the applicant.

## **Transport of Water**

Regardless of the water restriction level in place, the taking of water from a Council water supply system, including water taken via a private connection to Council's water supply system, and

transporting/transferring the water to another property or location is prohibited unless the water is obtained from an approved Council standpipe/tanker fill point, or specific approval has been granted in writing by the Council.

An infringement notice may be issued to both the person transporting the water and also the owner of the property from where the water was obtained.

## PROCEDURE

---

Procedures as approved and issued by the Chief Executive Officer, and subject to further revision, amendment and issue under the authority of the Chief Executive Officer.

## CERTIFICATION

---



.....  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
BANANA SHIRE COUNCIL**



.....  
**DATE**

WATER RESTRICTION LEVELS					
PURPOSE	METHOD	LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3	LEVEL 4
All outside water use including for example: - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Watering lawn/garden</li> <li>Sports grounds / school ovals</li> <li>Bowling green / cricket wicket</li> <li>Filling / topping up swimming pools, garden pond, fountain, etc.</li> <li>Car washing (excludes recycled water facilities)</li> <li>Cleaning exterior house /windows</li> <li>Council parks &amp; gardens</li> <li>Commercial plant and nursery</li> </ul>	Sprinklers (including micro-sprays)	Watering permitted, but restricted as follows:-  <b>Watering not permitted between</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>October to March (inclusive) 9am and 3pm</li> <li>April to September (inclusive) - 10am and 3pm</li> </ul> Anytime	Watering permitted, but restricted as follows:-  <b>Watering permitted between</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>October to March (inclusive) 6am to 8am and 5pm to 7pm</li> <li>April to September (inclusive) – 7am to 9am and 4pm to 6pm</li> </ul> Anytime	Prohibited	Prohibited – total ban on all outdoor water use
	Hand held hose and drip irrigation (and approved sub-surface irrigation utilised for sporting fields / ovals)	Watering permitted, but restricted as follows:-  <b>Watering permitted between</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>October to March (inclusive) 6am to 8am and 5pm to 7pm</li> <li>April to September (inclusive) – 7am to 9am and 4pm to 6pm</li> </ul> Anytime	Watering permitted, but restricted as follows:-  <b>Watering permitted between</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>October to March (inclusive) 6am to 8am and 5pm to 7pm</li> <li>April to September (inclusive) – 7am to 9am and 4pm to 6pm</li> </ul> Anytime	Watering permitted, but restricted as follows:-  <b>Watering permitted between</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>October to March (inclusive) 6am to 8am and 5pm to 7pm</li> <li>April to September (inclusive) – 7am to 9am and 4pm to 6pm</li> </ul> Anytime	Prohibited  Watering permitted, but restricted as follows:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>October to March (inclusive) 6am to 8am and 5pm to 7pm</li> <li>April to September (inclusive) – 7am to 9am and 4pm to 6pm</li> </ul> Anytime
Buckets or watering cans (<20 litre) filled directly from taps	Anytime	Anytime	Anytime	Anytime	Prohibited – total ban on all outdoor water use

**Notes:**

- Non-compliance** - Non-compliance with Banana Shire Council's water restriction provisions shall be an offence and subject to the penalty provision of the water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008. Infingement notices shall apply for a first offence, and each subsequent offence.
- Hose** – A single hand held hose (nominal 12mm diameter) only per property, attended during use shall be permitted to be used. Hose shall be fitted with a trigger controlled nozzle.
- Fire Hose & hydrants** - Fire hoses and hydrants are only to be used for fire-fighting purposes. Hosing of paved areas and use of fire hoses for non-fire uses is prohibited
- Hosing of concrete/paved areas** - Water must not be used to clean paved areas, including street cleaning, unless cleaning is required as a result of accident, fire, health hazard or other emergency
- Child's water toys** – child's water toys and slides utilising running water shall only be permitted during sprinkler times and shall be used in lieu of sprinkler for that period.
- Testing / filling pipelines** - Written approval is required prior to taking water for testing/filling of pipelines.
- Water conservation / efficiency** – Water conservation and efficient water use practices are to be maintained at all times and apply to any uses not specifically listed above.
- Water from standpipes** – Water from drinking water standpipes or hydrants is not to be taken or used for purposes other than supply of drinking water, public health purposes, or for fire fighting purposes. Water supply for dust suppression and construction purposes etc. shall be obtained from sources other than the town supply (eg recycled water standpipe)
- Transport of potable water** - Regardless of the water restriction level in place, the taking of water from a Council water supply system, including water taken via a private connection to Council's water supply system, and transporting/transferring the water to another property or location is prohibited unless the water is obtained from an approved Council standpipe/tanker fill point, or specific approval has been granted in writing by the Council.
- Water Restriction exemption** - Water shall not be used except by way of exemption from Banana Shire Council.