



Water Restrictions Policy

Council Policy ☒

Internal Policy ☐

Guideline/Procedure ☐

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1. POLICY INTENT

To establish a policy and approval process for the imposition of water restrictions by Mareeba Shire Council Water and Waste.

2. SCOPE

This policy applies to all users including commercial, industrial, residential, Council and Mareeba Shire Council Water and Waste.

3. PROVISIONS

Chapter 2 Part3 of Division 3 of the Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008 (the Act), provides Mareeba Shire Council with the power to restrict water supply due to climatic conditions or for water conservation needs. Under s41 (2) of the Act, Mareeba Shire Council may only impose restrictions in the following circumstances:

1. There is an urgent need for it because of climatic conditions or water conservation needs;
2. The available water supply has fallen to a level at which unrestricted use of water is not in the public interest; or
3. The service provider has a reasonable and comprehensive strategy for demand management for water and the restriction is essential to ensure the aims of the strategy are met; or
4. The service provider has an outdoor water use conservation plan and the restriction is a measure to be implemented under the plan; or
5. The Minister has published a notice under the *Water Act, section 22 or a regulation has been made under the *Water Act, section 23 and the restriction is for the purposes of the notice or regulation; or
6. The service provider is directed, under a water supply emergency declaration, a water supply emergency regulation or an approved water supply emergency response to impose a restriction; or
7. The water service provider is directed by the regulator under section 42 (2) to impose the restriction.

*Water Act, section 22 (Limiting or prohibiting taking or interfering with water during emergencies)

*Water Act, section 23 (Regulation may limit taking or interfering with water for 1 year)

Mareeba Shire Council Water and Waste may impose the following types of restrictions:

1. The volume of water supplied to a customer or type of customer; or
2. The hours when water may be used on premises for stated purposes; or
3. The way water may be used on premises.

4. APPROVAL TO IMPOSE RESTRICTIONS

In normal circumstances, approval to impose water restrictions must be sought via a report to Council and recommendation to the Chief Executive Officer as delegate for Council for the water restriction powers under the Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008.

In emergency situations, the Chief Executive Officer may impose water restrictions in accordance with this policy and the provisions of the Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008 upon advice from the Director Infrastructure Services. In these circumstances a report on actions taken must be provided to the next scheduled Council meeting.

5. NOTIFICATION OF WATER RESTRICTIONS

For s43 (1) of the Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008, Mareeba Shire Council must give notice of the water restriction to anyone affected by it in the way considered appropriate, having regard to the circumstances in which the restriction is imposed.

Except in emergencies the notice will be advertised in the local media. In emergencies the notice will be given in the way the Chief Executive Officer considers appropriate.

Under s43 (2) of the Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008, water restrictions do not have effect until the day after the notice is given.

6. EXEMPTIONS

The Director Infrastructure Services of Mareeba Shire Council as delegate of the Chief Executive Officer may grant exemptions to water restrictions upon application from water users based on the following grounds:

1. For reasons of public health and safety;
2. To allow the undertaking of essential works;
3. Minor or infrequent uses of water outside the restrictions (e.g. sporting or community events);
4. Any other criteria deemed appropriated under the water supply conditions at the time.

7. NON-COMPLIANCE WITH WATER RESTRICTIONS

Failure to comply with water restrictions may incur penalties as described in s43 (3) of the Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008.

8. REVIEW

It is the responsibility of the Director Infrastructure Services to monitor the adequacy of this policy and recommend appropriate changes. This policy will be formally reviewed annually or as required by Council.

9. REFERENCES

- Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008
- Local Government Act 2009
- Local Government Regulation 2012

10. DISTRIBUTION REGISTER

Date	Issue No.	Copy No.	Issued To	Copy Type

This policy is to remain in force until otherwise determined by Council.

Water Restrictions - Level 1

PURPOSE	LEVEL 1
Private gardens -watering	No manual or automated sprinklers, micro spray or drip watering systems to be used between the hours of 8am and 6pm. Hand held hoses, fitted with a trigger nozzle; watering cans or buckets can be used at any time.
Public parks / gardens / road reserves - watering Other than Parks and Gardens of significance or Heritage Gardens as determined by Council	No manual or automated watering systems to be used between the hours of 8am and 6pm. Hand held hoses, fitted with a trigger nozzle; watering cans or buckets can be used at any time.
Private gardens and public gardens - filling or topping up of ponds	Existing ponds can only be topped up to their normal level and only by means of hand held hoses, fitted with a trigger nozzle or by means of watering cans or buckets filled directly from taps.
Fountains	Fountains may operate normally.
Paved areas - cleaning	Hosing of paved areas is prohibited unless cleaning is required as a result of an accident, fire, health hazard or other emergency. The use of a bucket filled directly from a tap is permitted at any time.
Private swimming pools or spas - filling or topping up	Filling new pools - no restrictions. Existing pools and spas may be topped up as per garden watering times.
Farm dams and tanks - topping up	Farm dams must not be topped up except - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dams or tanks providing water for firefighting, public health or stock watering purposes but only to the extent necessary to reasonably provide for those purposes; or In the case of other dams or tanks, with the written permission of the Authority. Tanks - no restrictions
Sports grounds - watering	No manual or automated sprinklers, micro spray or drip watering systems to be used between the hours of 8am and 6pm. Hand held hoses, watering cans or buckets can be used at any time. Active playing surfaces may be watered prior to events to maintain the ability to be used for the intended purpose.
Commercial market garden or plant nursery - watering of plants	No restrictions.
Window cleaning	Windows can be cleaned at any time using - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> High pressure, low volume cleaners; Trigger hoses; Buckets or watering cans.

Water Restrictions - Level 1

PURPOSE	LEVEL 1
Mobile water tankers - filling	Mobile water tankers - no restrictions.
Motor vehicle dealers' vehicles - cleaning	Water must not be used to clean vehicles except by means of - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Commercial car washing facilities that recycle water; b) Watering cans or buckets filled directly from taps; or c) Trigger hoses.
Food transport vehicles - cleaning	Water must not be used to clean vehicles except by means of - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Automatic washing systems which recycle water; or b) Trigger hoses; c) Commercial car wash facilities using trigger hoses; or d) Watering cans or buckets filled directly from taps; e) High pressure, low volume cleaner.
Other vehicles (cars, trucks, boats, jet skis) - cleaning	Water must not be used to clean vehicles except by means of - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Automatic washing systems which recycle water; or b) Commercial car wash facilities using trigger hoses; or c) Watering cans or buckets filled directly from taps; or d) Trigger hoses e) Boat motors may be flushed and rinsed after use.
Construction industry - use of water in	Unless otherwise exempted by the Authority in writing, hoses must not be used except trigger hoses.
Any purpose not included in any other items of this column other than for use inside domestic premises and for domestic and farm animals	Water must not be used without the written permission of the Authority.
New lawns - residential	New lawns can be watered on the day of installation for a period of two hours at any time with sprinkler with timer shut off on any day between the hours of 6pm and 8am. Hand held hoses fitted with a trigger nozzle can be used at any time.

Failure to comply with Water Restrictions may incur penalties as described in s 43 (5) of the Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008.

Water Restrictions - Level 2

PURPOSE	LEVEL 2
Private gardens -watering	<p>No manual or automated sprinklers, micro spray or drip watering systems to be used on Mondays.</p> <p>Odd numbered houses - sprinklers allowed on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, between the hours of 6am and 8am and 6pm and 8pm only.</p> <p>Even numbered houses - sprinklers allowed Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays, between the hours of 6am and 8am and 6pm and 8pm only.</p> <p>Hand held hoses, fitted with a trigger nozzle; watering cans or buckets can be used at any time.</p>
Public parks / gardens / road reserves - watering Other than Parks and Gardens of significance or Heritage Gardens as determined by Council	<p>No manual or automated watering systems to be used on Mondays.</p> <p>Sprinklers allowed on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, between the hours of 10pm and 5am only.</p> <p>Hand held hoses, fitted with a trigger nozzle; watering cans or buckets can be used at any time.</p>
Private gardens and public gardens - filling or topping up of ponds	Existing ponds can only be topped up to their normal level and only by means of hand held hoses, fitted with a trigger nozzle or by means of watering cans or buckets filled directly from taps.
Fountains	<p>Fountains must not operate unless they recycle water.</p> <p>Water lost from fountains must not be replaced except by means of hand held hoses or by means of watering can or buckets filled directly from taps.</p>
Paved areas - cleaning	<p>Hosing of paved areas is prohibited unless cleaning is required as a result of an accident, fire, health hazard or other emergency.</p> <p>The use of a bucket filled directly from a tap is permitted at any time.</p>
Private swimming pools or spas - filling or topping up	<p>Filling new pools - no restrictions.</p> <p>Existing pools and spas may be topped up as per garden watering times.</p>
Farm dams and tanks - topping up	<p>Farm dams and tanks must not be topped up except -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dams or tanks providing water for firefighting, public health or stock watering purposes but only to the extent necessary to reasonably provide for those purposes; or In the case of other dams or tanks, with the written permission of the Authority.
Sports grounds - watering	<p>Sprinklers, micro spray or drip systems, can be used between 6am and 8am and 6pm and 8pm.</p> <p>Hand held hoses, watering cans or buckets can be used at any time.</p> <p>Active playing surfaces may be watered prior to events to maintain the ability to be used for the intended purpose.</p>
Commercial market garden or plant nursery - watering of plants	No restrictions.

Water Restrictions - Level 2

PURPOSE	LEVEL 2
Window cleaning	Windows can be cleaned at any time using - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High pressure, low volume cleaners; • Trigger hoses; • Buckets or watering cans.
Mobile water tankers - filling	Mobile water tankers must not be filled except - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Between the hours of 8am and 8pm with the written permission of the Authority; or • Tankers supplying water for use inside domestic premises, or for firefighting or stock watering purposes.
Motor vehicle dealers' vehicles - cleaning	Water must not be used to clean vehicles except by means of - <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Commercial car washing facilities that recycle water; b) Watering cans or buckets filled directly from taps; or c) Trigger hoses, which can be used only to rinse vehicles after washing.
Food transport vehicles - cleaning	Water must not be used to clean vehicles except by means of - <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Automatic washing systems which recycle water; or b) Trigger hoses; c) Commercial car wash facilities using trigger hoses; or d) Watering cans or buckets filled directly from taps; e) High pressure, low volume cleaner.
Other vehicles (cars, trucks, boats, jet skis) - cleaning	Water must not be used to clean vehicles except by means of - <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Automatic washing systems which recycle water; or b) Commercial car wash facilities using trigger hoses; or c) Watering cans or buckets filled directly from taps; or d) Trigger hoses, which can be used only to rinse vehicles after washing; e) Boat motors may be flushed and rinsed after use.
Construction industry - use of water in	Unless otherwise exempted by the Authority in writing, hoses must not be used except trigger hoses.
Any purpose not included in any other items of this column other than for use inside domestic premises and for domestic and farm animals	Water must not be used without the written permission of the Authority.
New lawns - residential	New lawns can be watered on the day of installation for a period of one hour at any time with sprinkler with timer shut off. On any day between the hours of 6am and 8am and 6pm and 8pm for a period of 14 days after the installation date (receipt of installation required), by sprinkler with timer shut off.
	After 14 days from the day of establishment all level 2 water restrictions apply including watering times - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Odd numbered properties between 6am and 8am and 6pm and 8pm, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays; • Even numbered properties between 6am and 8am and 6pm and 8pm, Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays. Hand held hoses fitted with a trigger nozzle can be used at any time.

Failure to comply with Water Restrictions may incur penalties as described in s 43 (5) of the Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008.

Water Restrictions - Level 3

PURPOSE	LEVEL 3
Private gardens -watering	Watering by manual or automated sprinklers, micro spray or drip watering systems and hand held hoses are prohibited on Mondays. Odd numbered houses - sprinklers allowed on Tuesdays and Saturdays, between the hours of 6am and 7am and 6pm and 7pm only. Even numbered houses - sprinklers allowed Wednesdays and Sundays, between the hours of 6am and 7am and 6pm and 7pm only. Hand held hoses, fitted with a trigger nozzle can be used on any day except Mondays. Watering cans or buckets can be used at any time.
Public parks / gardens / road reserves - watering Other than Parks and Gardens of significance or Heritage Gardens as determined by Council	Watering by attended hand held hoses, fitted with a trigger nozzle to only be used between 6am and 7am and 6pm and 7pm only.
Private gardens and public gardens - filling or topping up of ponds	Newly constructed ponds must not be filled for the first time without the written permission of the Authority. Existing ponds can only be topped up to their normal level and only by means of hand held hoses, fitted with a trigger nozzle or by means of watering cans or buckets filled directly from taps.
Fountains	Fountains must not operate unless they recycle water. Water lost from fountains must not be replaced.
Paved areas - cleaning	Hosing of paved areas is prohibited unless cleaning is required as a result of an accident, fire, health hazard or other emergency. The use of a bucket filled directly from a tap is permitted at any time.
Private swimming pools or spas - filling or topping up	Filling new pools - no restrictions. Existing pools and spas may be topped up as per garden watering times.
Farm dams and tanks - topping up	Farm dams and tanks must not be topped up except - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dams or tanks providing water for firefighting, public health or stock watering purposes but only to the extent necessary to reasonably provide for those purposes; or In the case of other dams or tanks, with the written permission of the Authority.
Sports grounds - watering	Non active playing surfaces must not be waters without the written permission of the Authority. Active playing surfaces can only watered using - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sprinklers, micro spray or drip systems between the hours of 6am and 8am and 6pm and 8pm; or With hand held hoses immediately before or at the time of use; or With watering cans or buckets filled directly from taps.

Water Restrictions - Level 3

PURPOSE	LEVEL 3
Commercial market garden or plant nursery - watering of plants	No restrictions.
Window cleaning	Water must not be used to clean windows except by means of a bucket or watering can filled directly from a tap.
Mobile water tankers - filling	Mobile water tankers must not be filled except - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Between the hours of 8am and 8pm with the written permission of the Authority; or Tankers supplying water for use inside domestic premises, or for firefighting or stock watering purposes.
Motor vehicle dealers' vehicles - cleaning	Water must not be used to clean vehicles except by means of - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Commercial car washing facilities that recycle water; b) Watering cans or buckets filled directly from taps; or c) Trigger hoses, which can be used only to rinse vehicles after washing.
Food transport vehicles - cleaning	Water must not be used to clean vehicles except by means of - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Automatic washing systems which recycle water; or b) Trigger hoses; c) Watering cans or buckets filled directly from taps; d) High pressure, low volume cleaner.
Other vehicles (cars, trucks, boats, jet skis) - cleaning	Water must not be used to clean vehicles except by means of - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Automatic washing systems which recycle water; or b) Commercial car wash facilities using trigger hoses; or c) Watering cans or buckets filled directly from taps; or d) Boat motors may be flushed and rinsed after use for a maximum of 5 minutes.
Construction industry - use of water in	Unless otherwise exempted by the Authority in writing, hoses must not be used except trigger hoses.
Any purpose not included in any other items of this column other than for use inside domestic premises and for domestic and farm animals	Water must not be used without the written permission of the Authority.
New lawns - residential	<p>New lawns can be watered on the day of installation for a period of one hour at any time with sprinkler with timer shut off.</p> <p>On any day between the hours of 6am and 7am and 6pm and 7pm for a period of 14 days after the installation date (receipt of installation required), by sprinkler with timer shut off.</p> <p>After 14 days from the day of establishment all level 3 water restrictions apply including watering times -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Odd numbered properties between 6am and 7am and 6pm and 7pm, Tuesdays, and Saturdays; Even numbered properties between 6am and 7am and 6pm and 7pm, Wednesdays and Sundays. <p>Hand held hoses fitted with a trigger nozzle can be used at any time except Mondays. Watering cans or buckets can be used at any time.</p>

Failure to comply with Water Restrictions may incur penalties as described in s 43 (5) of the Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008.

Levels 1 -3 Water Restrictions Request for Exemption (Residential)

This form is for financial year 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018

Privacy Notice: Mareeba Shire Council is collecting your personal information in accordance with the Local Government Act 2009 in order to process your application. The information will be only accessed by authorised Council employees. Your information will not be given to any other person or agency unless you have given us permission or we are required by law.

Contact Name/s			
Postal Address			
Location of Water Use			
Preferred Contact Phone / Mobile Number (for further clarification if required)			
Email or Fax Details (for forwarding approval)			

REASONS FOR EXEMPTION (please provide details below)

<input type="checkbox"/> Watering Lawns and Gardens - change to watering time			
<input type="checkbox"/> Hosing Hard Surfaces			
Date Water Use Planned			
Signature		Date	

Office Use Only (Conditions of approval)

Mareeba Shire Council

Water Restrictions Policy 2017/18

POLICY INTENT

To establish a policy and approval process for the imposition of water restrictions by Mareeba Shire Council Water and Waste.

SCOPE

This policy applies to all users including commercial, industrial, residential, Council and Mareeba Shire Council Water and Waste.

PROVISIONS

Chapter 2 Part3 of Division 3 of the Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008 (the Act), provides Mareeba Shire Council with the power to restrict water supply due to climatic conditions or for water conservation needs. Under s41 (2) of the Act, Mareeba Shire Council may only impose restrictions in the following circumstances:

1. There is an urgent need for it because of climatic conditions or water conservation needs;
2. The available water supply has fallen to a level at which unrestricted use of water is not in the public interest; or
3. The service provider has a reasonable and comprehensive strategy for demand management for water and the restriction is essential to ensure the aims of the strategy are met; or
4. The service provider has an outdoor water use conservation plan and the restriction is a measure to be implemented under the plan; or
5. The Minister has published a notice under the *Water Act, section 22 or a regulation has been made under the *Water Act, section 23 and the restriction is for the purposes of the notice or regulation; or
6. The service provider is directed, under a water supply emergency declaration, a water supply emergency regulation or an approved water supply emergency response to impose a restriction; or
7. The water service provider is directed by the regulator under section 42 (2) to impose the restriction.

*Water Act, section 22 (Limiting or prohibiting taking or interfering with water during emergencies)

*Water Act, section 23 (Regulation may limit taking or interfering with water for 1 year)

Mareeba Shire Council Water and Waste may impose the following types of restrictions:

1. The volume of water supplied to a customer or type of customer; or
2. The hours when water may be used on premises for stated purposes; or
3. The way water may be used on premises.

APPROVAL TO IMPOSE RESTRICTIONS

In normal circumstances, approval to impose water restrictions must be sought via a report to Council and recommendation to the Chief Executive Officer as delegate for Council for the water restriction powers under the Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008.

In emergency situations, the Chief Executive Officer may impose water restrictions in accordance with this policy and the provisions of the Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008 upon advice from the Director Infrastructure Services. In these circumstances a report on actions taken must be provided to the next scheduled Council meeting.

NOTIFICATION OF WATER RESTRICTIONS

For s43 (1) of the Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008, Mareeba Shire Council must give notice of the water restriction to anyone affected by it in the way considered appropriate, having regard to the circumstances in which the restriction is imposed.

Except in emergencies the notice will be advertised in the local media. In emergencies the notice will be given in the way the Chief Executive Officer considers appropriate.

Under s43 (2) of the Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008, water restrictions do not have effect until the day after the notice is given.

EXEMPTIONS

The Director Infrastructure Services of Mareeba Shire Council as delegate of the Chief Executive Officer may grant exemptions to water restrictions upon application from water users based on the following grounds:

1. For reasons of public health and safety;
2. To allow the undertaking of essential works;
3. Minor or infrequent uses of water outside the restrictions (e.g. sporting or community events);
4. Any other criteria deemed appropriated under the water supply conditions at the time.

NON-COMPLIANCE WITH WATER RESTRICTIONS

Failure to comply with water restrictions may incur penalties as described in s43 (3) of the Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008.

REVIEW

It is the responsibility of the Director of Infrastructure to monitor the adequacy of this policy and recommend appropriate changes. This policy will be formally reviewed annually or as required by Council.

REFERENCES

- Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008
- Local Government Act 2009
- Local Government Regulation 2012

Levels 1 -3 Water Restrictions Request for Exemption (Businesses)

This form is for financial year 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018

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Contact Name/s	
Postal Address	
Location of Water Use	
Preferred Contact Phone / Mobile Number (for further clarification if required)	
Email or Fax Details (for forwarding approval)	

REASONS FOR EXEMPTION *(please provide details below)*

<input type="checkbox"/> Watering Lawns and Gardens - change to watering time	
<input type="checkbox"/> Hosing Hard Surfaces	
Date Water Use Planned	
Signature	
	Date

Office Use Only (Conditions of approval)