Logo: Blue W with a water droplet with text Wellington Water.

# Water Restriction Levels and what they mean

Our daily water supply has a limit, which means we have to be careful to manage our daily water supply and demand, and don’t use too much – especially when we’re facing long periods of hot and dry weather. Water Restrictions help us all understand how we can best manage our water use, so there’s enough to go round for the necessities.

Water Restrictions are decided by local councils (Wellington City Council, Porirua City Council, Hutt City Council, Upper Hutt City Council and South Wairarapa District Council), and may differ between councils.

If you want to find out which Water Restriction Level is in effect in your area, head to [www.WellingtonWater.co.nz](http://www.WellingtonWater.co.nz) or your local council website, or call your local council.

If you are Deaf, hard of hearing, deafblind, speech impaired or find it hard to talk, you can use the New Zealand Relay Service [www.nzrelay.co.nz](http://www.nzrelay.co.nz)

## Water Restriction Level 1 - Use sprinklers every second day

If you live in an even numbered house, you can use sprinklers or irrigation systems only on even numbered days between 6-8am and 7-9pm. If you live in an odd numbered house, the same rules apply for odd numbered days.

Sprinklers and irrigation systems are restricted to these times because it helps limit water evaporating in the heat of the day.

Dividing houses by odd and even numbers spreads the load of daily water demand, and helps manage daily supply levels.

You can use handheld watering devices any time, on any day, so long as you don’t leave them unattended.

## Water Restriction Level 2 - No sprinklers or irrigation. Only water your garden by hand

All unattended watering systems are banned.

You can water your garden by hand anytime, on any day, so long as you don’t leave your garden hose or watering device unattended.

## Water Restriction Level 3 - Stop residential outdoor water use

There is a ban on all residential outdoor water use. Businesses can continue to operate as normal, but please be pragmatic and responsible when watering.

Following Level 3 restrictions can reduce the risk of moving to Level 4. While you can save water in other areas, do not reduce the amount of water you drink.

## Water Restriction Level 4 - Stop all outdoor water use, reduce indoor water use

Water Restriction Level 4 means there is a significant water shortage.

At level 4 there is a ban on all outdoor water use, and we need to reduce indoor water use to ensure there is enough water for everyone.

To help save water, people should stop all outdoor water use, take 2 minute showers and limit their laundry use to 1 load per person per week. While you can save water in other areas, do not reduce the amount of water you drink.

# End of information: Water Restriction Levels and what they mean

This Large Print document is adapted by Blind Citizens NZ from the standard document provided by Wellington Water.