



Vaudreuil-Dorion

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Adoption of By-law No. 1821 on the Protection of Water Resources

Vaudreuil-Dorion, May 17, 2022 – Last night, the municipal council of the City of Vaudreuil-Dorion adopted By-law No. 1821 on the protection of water resources. This new By-law replaces By-law No. 1623 on the outdoor use of drinking water as well as By-laws No. 1505 and 1760, and section 3.2 of By-law No. 1216. The new By-law, which will be in force all year round, aims to control the use of water resources to ensure their protection and limit water abuse. It applies to all properties served by the water system.

Some of the new features include: Fines to be doubled in case of abusive watering, resulting in a fine of \$500 for a first offence in the case of an individual, and \$ 1 000 in the case of a company. Abusive use of water includes watering the lawn and plants when it rains or the soil is drenched, washing the parking space, driveway or patio without a permit. Any abusive use or wastage of drinking water must stop immediately as soon as it has been determined as such by a representative of the City. The latter also has the right to shut down the supply of outdoor water, the filling of a swimming pool, cleaning or any other unauthorized activity.

In the case of residential pools, filling, start-up and backwashing followed by refilling will now have to be carried out according to the following schedule: even street numbers on Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays; odd street numbers on Tuesdays, Fridays and Sundays. Please note that a portable pool exceeding a height of 60 centimetres may be filled only once a year. Once installed, plans should be made to treat the water.

"If we felt it necessary to put in place a regulation like this, it is because we see an excessive consumption of drinking water every summer. Our plant is able to produce plenty of it, but that's not the point. The point is that it is improper to waste it knowing that 2.2 billion people do not even have access to water elsewhere in the world. Last year, at certain times, water consumption was equivalent to that of a population of 120,000 citizens, while we are 43,000. Already in the last two weeks, consumption has gone from 14,000 cubic metres of water in 24 hours to more than 19,000. These numbers are available for everyone to see on the City's website," commented Mayor Guy Pilon. "Water is an indispensable resource, but not an inexhaustible one. We must stop wasting!"

Residential over-consumption of water in Vaudreuil-Dorion can total as much as \$1,200,000 a year in additional operating costs. Lawn watering alone can account for up to 50% of a municipality's residential drinking water consumption.

Watering of vegetation

Watering your landscape is allowed at all times. The times for watering the lawn remain the same:

- Even street numbers:
 - Manual and mechanical watering: Monday and Thursday, 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.
 - Automatic watering: Monday and Thursday, 2 a.m. to 4 a.m.
- Odd street numbers:
 - Manual and mechanical watering: Tuesday and Friday: 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.
 - Automatic watering: Tuesday and Friday, 2 a.m. to 4 a.m.

A permit is required for watering new greenery. The request can be made online on the City's website. The cost of the permit is now \$20 and no permit will be valid between the period of July 1st and August 31st. Only 150 permits can be issued simultaneously and all watering must be done using only one garden hose at a time.

By-law 1821 can be consulted on the city's website at ville.vaudreuil-dorion.qc.ca.