

## LQRV Strata Community Water Update + Conservation Tips

### Greetings to all Little Qualicum River Village (LQRV) residents,

Vancouver Island is experiencing a reduction in water levels within its aquifers. We are currently in a 'Critical Awareness State' regarding our village's water system. We urgently request that you make every effort to reduce water consumption immediately and help spread this important message to all community members.

### Our Current Water Shortage Situation

Owing to the limited rainfall in recent years Vancouver Island has witnessed a significant reduction in water levels within its aquifers. This issue is particularly evident in well #13, which we have been using to meet excess demand. As a result, we are facing a critical water shortage this summer, as predicted by Environment Canada. In addition, the recent excess demand on our water supply has raised significant concerns about our well water pumps, which are currently operating at maximum capacity 24/7. If this strain on our water system infrastructure continues, we may face even more severe water supply problems.

To help address this crisis, our Strata has drilled two new wells and is working diligently to make them operational as soon as possible. However, the bureaucratic process is causing significant delays, and we are currently in a queue with many other parties awaiting approval from government and other agencies.

The LQRV Council and our engineers are prioritizing and pursuing every avenue possible to advance the permit and licensing process. Also to obtain some positive feedback to allow the strata to start construction on the infrastructure required to deliver the water to the reservoir. We appreciate your understanding during this challenging period, as government agencies are experiencing significant backlogs and are understaffed.

In the meantime, to address the immediate water shortage, the council has arranged with several water trucking companies to supply us with water when necessary, bearing in mind any restrictions imposed by the Regional District of Nanaimo on their business permits. Despite these efforts, it is crucial for our Strata to conserve as much water as possible during this period.

Thank you for your cooperation and immediate action in conserving water.

\* [RDN Link: Watershed Protection, FAQ Website + Tips for water conservation](https://www.rdn.bc.ca/dwwp-faq) <https://www.rdn.bc.ca/dwwp-faq>

### Indoor Water Conservation Tips - During a Drought or Water Shortage

#### BATHROOM

- Avoid flushing unnecessarily. Dispose of tissues, insects + other similar waste in the trash rather than the toilet.
- Take short showers instead of baths. Turn on the water only to get wet and lather and then again to rinse off.
- Avoid letting the water run while brushing your teeth, washing your face or shaving.
- Place a bucket in the shower to catch excess water for watering plants.

#### KITCHEN

- Operate automatic dishwashers only when they are fully loaded. Use the "light wash" feature to use less water.
- Hand wash dishes by filling two containers - one with soapy water and the other with rinse water.
- Clean vegetables in a pan filled with water rather than running water from the tap.
- Store drinking water in the refrigerator. Do not let the tap run while you are waiting for water to cool.
- Avoid wasting water waiting for it to get hot. Capture it for other uses such as plant watering or heat it on the stove or in a microwave.
- Don't rinse dishes before placing them in the dishwasher, just remove large particles of food.
- Avoid using running water to thaw meat or other frozen foods. Defrost food overnight in the refrigerator or use the de-frost setting on your microwave.

#### LAUNDRY

- Operate clothes washers only when they are fully loaded or set the water level for the size of your load.

### Outdoor Water Conservation Tips - During a Drought or Water Shortage

#### CAR WASHING

- Use a commercial car wash that recycles water.

#### LAWN CARE

- In extreme drought, you can allow lawns to die in favour of preserving trees and large shrubs.
- Avoid watering plants unless it can be with collected rainwater.
- 1000 litre totes are available on Facebook Marketplace for collecting rainwater.

\* Updates will be posted on the Strata Press & the LQRV Website as changes happen. Thank-you for your conservation efforts...

\* This LQRV Information Flier has been approved by all our LQRV Council Members - 16 July, 2024.



Little Qualicum River  
VILLAGE