

COMMUNICATION 131071

Received From: Jennifer Hughes, By-law Administrative Clerk
Addressed To: Committee of the Whole
Date: May 26, 2020
Topic: New Lawn Watering By-law to Repeal By-law 19-2002

BACKGROUND

This By-law was selected for review by staff based on issues raised by the By-law Enforcement Officers, who report that the previous by-law was outdated in a number of areas.

SUMMARY

The Town's Lawn Watering By-law has been reviewed by staff, which has resulted in a number of suggested updates in the proposed draft by-law.

Recommended changes include:

- Added provisions that detail the different levels of water ban, and restrictions for each one;
- New schedule that lists exempted properties that are on the Town's tax roster but not on Town water supply;
- Shortened watering times from four (4) hours each morning and evening to three (3) hours in the morning and evening, keeping water conservation in mind;
- An increase in the number of days (from 7 to 21) of watering allowed for new seed or sod; and
- New provisions allowing an Officer to enter onto property, and preventing the obstruction of an Officer.

DISCUSSION

In the interest of water conservation, watering times have been shortened by a total of two (2) hours each day (an hour shorter in the morning, and an hour shorter in the evening). Detailed provisions for each level of water ban ensures that the by-law provisions can be enforced and leaves no room for interpretation about what is permitted under each stage of the water ban. The new by-law also allows Officers to enter onto property, if required to ensure its provisions can be enforced.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with this by-law.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Council approve the Lawn Watering By-law and that By-law 19-2002 be repealed.