

Permanent Watering Restrictions

The Bozeman City Commission approved **PERMANENT** time of day and day of week outdoor watering restrictions effective June 16, 2022, for the City of Bozeman.

The City of Bozeman is a semi-arid and drought prone area that relies on snowpack for our limited water supply.

In order to conserve water on an ongoing basis, The Bozeman City Commission approved **PERMANENT** time of day and day of week outdoor watering restrictions effective June 16 for the City of Bozeman, regardless of a declared drought stage.

- **Outdoor lawn/landscape watering with overhead spray sprinkler systems may only occur 3 days a week, following a mandatory watering schedule:**

**EVEN-NUMBER
PHYSICAL ADDRESS**

**WATER YOUR LAWN
TU · TH · SAT**

**ODD-NUMBER
PHYSICAL ADDRESS**

**WATER YOUR LAWN
WED · FRI · SUN**

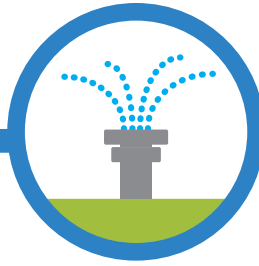
**PUBLIC PARKS,
PRIVATE OPEN SPACES,
STREET RIGHT OF WAYS**

**WATER YOUR LAWN
MON · WED · FRI**



**WATERING IS PERMITTED ON YOUR ALLOWED
WATERING DAYS BEFORE 10AM AND AFTER 8PM.**

- **Lawn watering and time of day restrictions are in effect permanently, regardless of season or declared drought stage.**
- **Residences that utilize private wells are not required to comply with permanent watering restrictions.** However, we are all affected by drought and sub-surface water from wells is connected to the surface water supplies that the City relies on. Therefore, it's a good idea for us all to look out for each other and reduce water usage.
- **Montana State University is not subject to outdoor water use restrictions** because outdoor irrigation at MSU is not connected to City of Bozeman water supplies; however, they have been implementing effective water conservation efforts campus wide.



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FAQs

Q: Will the permanent watering restrictions still be in effect if it is raining/snowing?

A: Yes. While we welcome all the precipitation we get, we must conserve water consistently to protect our drinking water and needed wildlife habitat through healthy in-stream waterway flows.

Q: Can I get an exemption from the permanent watering restrictions?

A: If you feel that you cannot comply with the day of week and/or time of day restrictions, you can submit a formal request for an exemption. Situations that may qualify for exemptions include the use of new irrigation technology, preservation of turf subject to heavy public use, or irrigation system limitations that do not permit adequate watering in the allotted watering window. Requests may be sent to the City's Water Conservation Division at waterconservation@bozeman.net.

Q: Are there any exemptions to the permanent watering restrictions?

A: Exemptions to the time of day AND day of week restrictions include the watering of trees, ornamental perennials, shrubs, flowers, and food gardens as long as the method for watering includes the use of a hand-held hose with shut-off nozzle, watering can, or low-volume drip irrigation system. The use of overhead spray irrigation in these areas is not permitted outside of the watering restrictions. New sod establishment is also exempt from permanent watering restrictions for up to 45 days after installation.

Q: Will residents and businesses have the ability to decide which days they will be allowed to water?

A: No. The City of Bozeman has assigned watering days based upon physical addresses (even numbered versus odd numbered) in Bozeman.

Q: Will these outdoor water use restrictions stay in effect year-round?

A: Yes. Let's work together to protect our water supply and wildlife habitat all year long.

Q: Do the permanent outdoor water use restrictions apply if I'm on a private well?

A: Properties that utilize private wells are not included in these regulations. However, we are all affected by drought and the sub-surface water drawn from wells is connected to the same surface water supplies that the City relies on. Therefore, it's a good idea for us all to look out for each other and reduce water usage.

Q: We are building a new home and are putting in a yard this summer. Will we be able to water daily to help establish the turf?

A: Yes. You may water daily, as needed, for up to 45 days post-installation. After that, your property will be expected to follow the permanent time of day and day of week watering restrictions. Please contact the Water Conservation Division at 406-582-2265 to inform staff of the location with newly installed grass that is utilizing this watering restriction exemption.

Q: I've noticed my neighbor is not abiding by the new permanent watering restrictions. When and where should I report this violation?

A. The City is working hard to spread the word about these new permanent watering restrictions, but leading by example and communicating with your neighbors is an excellent way to make sure everybody's on the same page. If you are concerned about a neighbor's watering usage outside of the time of day and day of week permanent watering restrictions, please contact the City's Water Conservation Division at 406-582-3220 or waterconservation@bozeman.net.

Q: If I am responsible for irrigating my boulevard (also known as a street right of way), does this mean that I have to abide by two different watering schedules (one for my main lawn and a different one for my boulevard)?

A: No, since the irrigation is connected at your property address, you can follow the three day watering schedule assigned to your even or odd property address.