



WATER CONSERVATION FACTS

Hydrant Flushing

Hydrants are flushed to make sure the hydrant and control valve are operational and do not leak. As citizens of Hinton, we are concerned that our fire protection systems are working. Hydrants are also flushed to clean out sediment in the main distribution lines. This allows the Town to maintain the high quality of water we deliver to our customers.

How do we flush hydrants?

Every municipal hydrant owned and operated by the Town of Hinton is flushed once a year. The hydrant is opened, and water is allowed to flow through the nozzle. This flushes water from the hydrant, cleaning the hydrant lead and the distribution main. In 1995, a new method of hydrant flushing was introduced in the Town of Hinton. It is a "unidirectional" method that involves closing off a section of the distribution system and allowing water to flow through the watermain in one direction. This method reduces the amount of water required to flush the hydrant and improves the quality of the flushing process.

When do we flush?

Hydrant flushing usually starts in early summer (weather permitting) and extends until September. In this way, every hydrant in the system can be flushed and cleaned.

Hydrants are also flushed when a water quality concern is identified or anytime the water system has been depressurized for repair.

Why do we allow water to be flushed out and not utilized elsewhere?

Ways to utilize the water being flushed onto the street have been investigated but are not feasible. The velocity of the water flow is critical to ensure proper flushing, so attaching hoses or other devices to the hydrant is not possible since it reduces water flow.

What are the safety issues when flushing hydrants?

Vehicle safety is a major concern because vehicles must respect the warning signs to SLOW DOWN, or their vehicle may suffer some damage.

Children playing around hydrants while they are being flushed is also a concern. Although our workers try to keep children off the street during flushing, drivers need to use extreme caution.

For further information, contact Infrastructure Services at 780-865-2634.



GIVE YOUR SPRINKLER A REST!

Lawns don't need to be watered every day. Watering every ***three to five days is sufficient***, and even less often if it rains. When you do water, give the lawn a thorough soaking. This will produce a deep root system and stronger grass. Daily watering results in shallow roots and weaker grass. Choose a sprinkler which delivers large flat drops rather than a fine mist. The sprinkler should also suit the size and shape of your lawn.

If your grass is green . . . it doesn't need watering!

Lawns only **NEED** a total of two to three centimetres of water a week. More is not better. To determine how long it takes for your lawn to receive two to three centimetres, place a can under your sprinkler and time how long it takes to fill the can to the 2-centimetre level. Or you can program your automatic timer on your sprinkler to water your lawn only as much as it needs and at the right time of the day.

Sun tanning and lawn watering don't mix!

The best time to water your lawn is during the coolest times of the day. Watering in the early morning when it is cool or in the late evening after the sun has gone down will reduce the amount of water lost to evaporation.

Don't water lawns on sunny days when water droplets magnify the sun's rays, causing the grass to burn.

Don't water on windy days; wind will evaporate the water.

Short grass belongs to the golf course.

Cut your grass higher than usual (over six centimetres) to provide shade for the roots. Taller grass holds water better and looks richer.

How can I help?

The Town of Hinton is asking residents of Hinton to refrain from watering lawns and gardens from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Odd/Even Watering

- Street addresses ending in even numbers water only on even calendar days.
- Street addresses ending in odd numbers water only on odd calendar days.

Our water supply capacity is limited, and we need to reduce water consumption.

The Town of Hinton thanks you for your anticipated co-operation. For further information, contact Infrastructure Services at 780-865-2634.