



CAO Report – August 13, 2024

With the hot and dry weather continuing, there have been fires burning in the region. We have been keeping close track of conditions and will support the regional Emergency Operations Centre at RDOS with support as needed. If a significant event were to emerge in our own District will be prepared to set up our own Emergency Operations Centre here as well. While we have not had a major fire event in our own boundaries this summer, we have provided mutual aid recently including to BC Wildfire north of the District and to RDOS with the recent West Bench fires.

Residents are reminded that we have partnered with Voyent Alert! to provide notifications and alerts throughout the community. If you have not done so already, please take a minute to sign up to receive notifications for critical events, wildfires, and flooding, as well as day-to-day communications such as garbage and recycling information, water and sewer notices, municipal facility updates and public engagement opportunities. Sign-up is easy and more information and sign-up details can be found at the VoyentAlert! Website: <https://voyent-alert.com>

The Okanagan is in a drought stage level 3 and we are monitoring water storage volumes in our 12 reservoirs. The District is always in Stage 1 watering restrictions unless otherwise posted. That means an odd/even watering schedule so if your house number ends in 0, 2, 4, 6, or 8, you may water on Sundays, Tuesdays, and Fridays. If your house number ends in 1, 3, 5, 7, or 9, you may water on Saturdays, Mondays, and Thursdays. However, when it comes to watering trees, shrubs or vegetables folks can use micro-irrigation, drip irrigation, or a hose with a shut-off nozzle to on any day, at any time. Residential underground water systems may only water between 12:00 AM and 6:00 AM on their designated watering days. For more information, visit the District website.

The Seasonal Water Service Program has been rolled out successfully, with about 200 water meters installed on properties which previously had an unmetered connection. Mock bills have been provided each month and several residents have indicated they are surprised at their use and are adjusting their watering before the real bills start coming next Summer. In some cases the meters have revealed that repairs to residential irrigation/sprinkling systems will need to be made. As a fun fact, a hole in a water pipe as small as 1.5 mm can waste an average of 100,000 litres of water per month. Some of the highest user include 17 properties who were using 500,000 litres per month on their second meter or the equivalent of filling 10 swimming pools every month. As a reminder, properties in the seasonal water service program are those which are less than 2 acres with the majority being 1 acre or less.

Finally, the District has contracted Wright Tree Services through a competitive bid process to conduct powerline vegetation management. Summerland bylaws require that vegetation is kept to a minimum of 3 metres away from powerlines, this is not only for public safety but also prevents many of the power outages or fires that can come from trees contacting powerlines in windy conditions, or other outages

that can happen with heavy snow can ice. Wright Tree Services may have traffic control to protect its workers while tree trimming on or near roadways. They may also contact you if they require access to a powerline on your property.

Respectfully submitted,

Graham Statt, Chief Administrative Officer