

MEDIA RELEASE

Dalby Town Council
29 November 2006



Dalby faces a summer without water

Significantly reduce daily water consumption immediately or face having no water at all was the warning from Dalby Town Council to residents today when it announced tough new water restrictions.

"Despite increasing restrictions earlier this month water consumption has continued to climb well above Council's supply capacity," said Dalby Mayor Cr Warwick Geisel.

"Yesterday for example, residents consumed 6.7 million litres - well over our supply capacity of 4.8 million litres a day. We simply cannot maintain this level of supply to the town's reservoirs and at this rate we will run out of water.

"It's clear from water consumption graphs that some residents are not complying with water restrictions and many are still wasting water.

"We all need to consider how we would cope if we were to run out of water. Just imagine a Christmas without evaporative air-conditioning or water to shower in."

Council's Director Engineering Services Matthew Sullivan also warned that a further consequence of current consumption levels is the risk of significant reduction in water quality, such as taste and clarity.

Effective from midnight Friday 1 December water restrictions will change to one hour of hand-held watering and garden dripper systems only from 6pm to 7pm on allocated days under the odds and evens system.

There will also be a total ban on dripper systems for lawns in addition to the existing total ban on sprinklers and total watering ban on Monday.

"Council will significantly increase its level of patrols and on the spot fines of \$50 will be issued.

"I urge residents to take ownership of this issue and assist Council to enforce water restrictions by using community pressure to force people to do the right thing.

"If everyone complies with these restrictions Dalby will have enough water to comfortably take us through summer. If not, the end result will be a total ban on outdoor use of water," said Mayor Geisel.

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Media Contact

Director Engineering Services

Matthew Sullivan

4672 1179

