

Water Curtailment Information

What is curtailment?

Water curtailment is a set of procedures that the City’s Public Works Department has developed to encourage and eventually mandate water use by Ashland customers when it is forecast that Ashland’s water supply will not be enough for the community’s “normal” summer use.

How does curtailment work?

The curtailment process is designed to first encourage smart water use then restrict water use throughout the summer season in a way that allows as much customer flexibility as possible, while also ensuring that water remains available all the way through the end of summer (Sept/Oct).

Water restrictions are implemented in stages with each stage charging residents and businesses four times their normal water rate in stages 1, 2 & 3 and ten times the normal rate in stage 4 when they go over the stage allotment. Water allotments are based on the size of the customer’s water meter. The most common meter size and allotments by stage are shown in the table below.

Meter Size	Stage 1		Stage 2		Stage 3		Stage 4	
	Cubic Feet	Gallons						
0.75/1"	3,600	26,928	2,500	18,700	1,800	13,464	900	6,732

How do I know if I am staying within my allotment?

Water consumption history is shown on each utility bill for the current month and the graph at the bottom of the bill shows how that compares with the same month in the previous year so customers can use the graph to see their “typical” consumption trends for the year.

To see how you are doing during the month between monthly bills, you can read your meter and subtract the consumption from the last meter reading shown on your monthly utility bill. A quick instruction on how to read your meter can be found at <https://www.ashland.or.us/Page.asp?NavID=12411>.

Are there other restrictions in addition to the allotment limits?

When curtailment is officially announced, in addition to the allotment limits, a prohibition on “water waste” begins. The curtailment ordinance has a list of activities considered water waste that are regulated or prohibited.

Water waste includes:

No irrigation between 10 AM and 8 PM	Drinking water at restaurants only by customer request
No pressure washing sidewalks or driveways	No car washing without shut off nozzles
No water use for dust control or building pressure washing	No sprinkler/water run off onto sidewalks or streets for more than five minutes
No filling of pools or ponds over 100 gallons	Fix plumbing/irrigation line breaks immediately



How can I do my part to conserve water?

Residents and businesses have already been very cooperative and responsive to the initial requests. Even more actions can be taken by residents and businesses to reduce water use, not only right now during this year's water shortage but also efforts can be made to achieve long lasting reductions as well. The City offers a number of programs, rebates and resources for reducing water use both indoors and outdoors that are available throughout the year. To find out more information on what you can do to conserve water, visit www.ashland.or.us/conserve.

Is the water supply and community consumption data available to the public?

City staff encourages the community to be involved and understand the water supply and this summer's challenges. Daily water intake and outflow information is available in a summary graph on the <https://www.ashland.or.us/Page.asp?NavID=11301> page, as well as a detailed supply and production data table.

