

Media Release

26 September 2011

Council announces summer watering times

Western Downs Regional Council communities will revert to summer watering times from the beginning of October.

With the onset of the warmer weather residents are encouraged to conserve water wherever possible and adhere to the summer watering times which apply between October 2011 and March 2012.

New watering times for households under allocated water restriction levels from October 1 as follows:

- **Level One** – All watering devices allowed between 5am-9am and 4pm-8pm
- **Level Two** – All watering devices allowed between 6am-8am and 5pm-7pm
- **Level Three** – Handheld hoses and dripper systems allowed between 6.30am-7.30am and 5pm-7pm
- **Level Four** – Handheld hoses and dripper systems allowed between 5.30pm-6.30pm
- **Level Five** – Watering with buckets only between 5.30pm-6.30pm
- **Level Six** – Total ban on all outside water use

Spokesperson for Utilities – Water, Wastewater and Gas Councillor Bill McCutcheon said the changes in times and restrictions are a requirement under Council's Drought Management Plan to ensure that levels of local water supplies are maintained.

"Although a wet summer last year has maintained most of the surface water supply levels, the warmer weather throughout summer will see water consumption increase in many households," he said.

Cr McCutcheon urged residents to maintain responsible water usage throughout the region during the summer.

"The warmer weather throughout the spring and summer months will normally result in a significant increase in water consumption in many households," he said.

"It is important for residents to monitor their household's water consumption which will help keep their water bills down."

The summer water restrictions schedule for all town supplies which apply from October 1 are: **Chinchilla** – level two; **Dalby** – level three; **Jandowae** – level two; **Miles** – level two; **Tara** – level two; **Wandoan** – level one; **Bell** – level one; **Condamine** – level one; **Warra** – level one; **Brigalow** – level one; **Dulacca** – level one; **Flinton** – level one; **Glenmorgan** – level one; **Jimbour** – level one; **Kaimkillenbun** – level six; **Kogan** – level four; **Meandarra** – level one; **Moonie** – level one; **The Gums** – level one; **Westmar** – level one.

Cr McCutcheon advised that Council officers will be monitoring adherence to the program and will be conducting regular patrols throughout town areas.

"Council encourages residents to comply with their local watering restrictions as failure to do so may incur an on-the-spot fine if you are found to be in breach by a patrolling officer," he said.

For more information on watering restrictions, tips on how to save water, and for information on Council's Waterwise rebate program, contact Council on **1300 COUNCIL** (1300 268 624) or visit www.wdrc.qld.gov.au

Conditions for non-residential users may vary and more information on non-residential water restrictions is available on the Council website.

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Media Contact:

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Cr Bill McCutcheon

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