



## Sandwick Waterworks Conversion Final Project Update

June 2019

## The Connection is Complete!

Sandwick residents are now permanently connected to the Comox Valley Water System and the CVRD would like to thank you for your patience during this project.

The CVRD had implemented a mock billing period to provide customers with an opportunity to better understand their water consumption. This mock billing period has been extended to include the T2 billing cycle (April-July 2019) to accommodate the needs of Sandwick residents to run their taps following the extensive flushing program that was completed in May. Metered billing based on actual water consumption will begin in August 2019.

## What is the Comox Valley water system and where does our water come from?

The Comox Valley Water System (CVWS) draws its supply from the Comox Lake reservoir and provides drinking water to approximately 45,000 residents.

### About the current system

Water from Comox Lake is currently drawn from the Puntledge River, and flows through a network of reservoirs, pumping stations and transmission mains or pipes. Water in the Comox Valley Regional District needs to be used efficiently. The water from Comox Lake and the Puntledge River is licensed and used primarily by BC Hydro for electricity generation and by Fisheries and Oceans Canada for hatcheries and other habitat projects. In addition, the water source has numerous important ecological values and uses.

The Puntledge River pump station is the Comox Valley's backup source during periods when BC Hydro is undertaking maintenance or repairs on the penstock. The chlorination station on the Puntledge River is required to disinfect the water to safe standards set out in the Canadian Drinking Water Guidelines.

The current system utilizing BC Hydro's infrastructure will be in place until a new water treatment plant and intake from Comox Lake is constructed.

## Want to be notified immediately about water disruptions?

Please visit:

[www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/getnotified](http://www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/getnotified) to register for notifications to your cell phone or land line.

Upon registering please choose to receive notifications for the following:

- The community in which you live
- Boil water notifications - Comox Valley Supply System Users

Need help? Phone [250-334-6057](tel:250-334-6057) for support with registration.

## Does the Comox Valley water treatment project apply to us?

Yes, the Comox Valley water treatment project applies to all users connected to the Comox Valley Water System, which now includes Sandwick. The new treatment plant is being constructed to meet provincial guidelines introduced in 2008.

Construction of the water treatment project is scheduled to begin in 2019 and is estimated to cost \$110 million. The new water treatment system will deliver three main benefits:

- Eliminate the need for turbidity-related boil water notices
- Remove the risk of viruses, bacteria and parasites in the drinking water
- Provide a secure supply of reliable, high quality drinking water for decades to come.

## Stage 1 Water Restrictions Are In Effect

The Comox Valley watering restrictions now also apply to Sandwick. Stage 1 restrictions take effect on May 1 each year and apply to all people and businesses located within Sandwick. Stage 2, 3 and 4 will only occur as required based on water supply and availability. Residential lawn and garden watering is permitted during the specified hours by day of the week for odd or even street addresses. See the schedule below for dates and times for watering at your address.

## Comox Valley Water System - Watering Schedule

STAGE	STARTS	HOURS	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	Starting May 1	5-8 am 7-10 pm	No Watering	Even Address	Odd Address	Even Address	Odd Address	Even Address	Odd Address
2	When Notified	6-8 am 8-10 pm	No Watering	Even Address	Odd Address	No Watering	No Watering	Even Address	Odd Address
3	When Notified	6-8 am 8-10 pm	HAND WATER ONLY						
4	When Notified	N/A	NO WATERING						

For more information about what activities are permitted during each stage of water restrictions, visit: [www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/restrictions](http://www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/restrictions)

### Why do we need watering restrictions?

Water consumption **triples** during summer months as a result of outdoor water use. This is generally at a time when water availability for the system is at its lowest. Reducing consumption in the dry summer months helps to ensure continued water supply throughout the summer. Decisions about water infrastructure is made using an estimated maximum demand for water. Decreasing our demand will help to reduce the size and costs of future infrastructure for the system.

### Contact Us:

For questions regarding the Comox Valley water system or Sandwick conversion:  
CVRD Engineering Services Branch  
(250) 334-6056  
For more information, please email [engineeringservices@comoxvalleyrd.ca](mailto:engineeringservices@comoxvalleyrd.ca)  
or visit our website: [www.comoxvalleyrd.ca](http://www.comoxvalleyrd.ca)

