

CITY OF AIRDRIE  
Water Use and Conservation Policy

**Effective Date:** July 3, 2018                      **Revision Date:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Approved By:** Council  
**Approved On:** July 3, 2018                      **Resolution #:** 2018-C-184

**BACKGROUND:**

The sustainability of water resources is an important issue for municipalities in Alberta. Environmental and economic concerns including climate change, the importance of watershed protection, and the escalating costs of water delivery encourage improved management of municipal water consumption.

The City of Airdrie purchases treated water from the City of Calgary; therefore it is important to understand the critical role our municipal water consumption plays in the greater watershed. The City must be diligent in water resource management to ensure long-term sustainability for all water users. The adoption of water use and conservation practices is an effective means of meeting current and future water demands. This will result in reduced demand for potable water, deferred capital investment in infrastructure, as well as increased resiliency during times of drought.

**PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this Policy is to increase awareness of the importance of responsible water use and conservation for long-term sustainability for businesses and residents of the city of Airdrie.

**SCOPE:**

The scope of the Policy includes reducing potable water use, increasing municipal infrastructure resiliency, and enhancing sustainability practices as they relate to water conservation issues.

**POLICY:**

The Policy supports initiatives that reduce water consumption without compromising water quality or consumer satisfaction. The Policy concentrates on reducing consumption through:

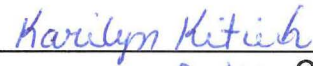
- Public education programs;
- Collaborative partnerships with those that encourage water conservation;
- Incentives and rebate programs in support of water conservation technologies and applications in residential homes, commercial properties, and subdivision developments;
- Efficient and effective design, construction, operation and maintenance of municipal infrastructure;
- Municipal standards and specifications;
- Bylaws to provide corrective action reinforcement; and
- Innovative technologies and practices.

**ALIGNMENT:**

This Policy aligns with Airdrie's City Plan, AirdrieONE Sustainability Plan, and Council's Strategic Priority to promote environmental stewardship through water conservation. By way of this Policy, the City of Airdrie supports the Government of Alberta's *Water for Life* strategy for: safe, secure drinking water; healthy aquatic ecosystems; and reliable, quality water supplies for a sustainable economy; as well as the South Saskatchewan Regional Plan, the Bow Basin Watershed Management Plan, and Nose Creek Watershed Water Management Plan.



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Mayor

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Acting City Clerk