

## Fire prevention Aide Memoir

The City of Cape Town has issued level 5 water restrictions and it is effective from 3 September 2017 until further notice. The following restrictions have been imposed

### RESTRICTIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL CUSTOMERS

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1. All water users are required to use no more than 87 litres of municipal drinking water per person per day in total irrespective of whether you are at home, work or elsewhere.
2. No watering/irrigation with municipal drinking water allowed. This includes watering/irrigation of flower beds, lawns, vegetables, agricultural crops, other plants, sports fields, golf courses, schools, educational facilities, nurseries, parks and other open spaces, customers involved in agricultural activities, etc. (Nurseries and customers involved in agricultural activities or with historical gardens may apply for exemption. For more information, visit [www.capetown.gov.za/thinkwater](http://www.capetown.gov.za/thinkwater).)
3. City departments may only water/irrigate sports fields, parks, etc. using non-drinking water and upon agreement of days and times with the Water and Sanitation department.
4. Facilities/customers making use of borehole water, treated effluent water, spring water or wellpoints are encouraged not to water/irrigate within seven days after rainfall that provided adequate saturation.
5. All boreholes and wellpoints must be registered with the City and must display the official City of Cape Town signage clearly visible from a public thoroughfare. Visit [www.capetown.gov.za/thinkwater](http://www.capetown.gov.za/thinkwater) for how to register.
6. Borehole/wellpoint water must be used efficiently to avoid wastage and evaporation. Borehole/wellpoint water users are strongly encouraged to water/irrigate only on Tuesdays and Saturdays before 09:00 or after 18:00 for a maximum of one hour.
7. All properties where alternative, non-drinking water resources are used (including rainwater harvesting, greywater, treated effluent water and spring water) must display signage to this effect clearly visible from a public thoroughfare. Visit [www.capetown.gov.za/thinkwater](http://www.capetown.gov.za/thinkwater) for further information.
8. No washing or hosing down of hard-surfaced or paved areas with municipal drinking water allowed. Users, such as abattoirs, food processing industries, care facilities, animal shelters and other industries or facilities with special needs (health/safety related only) must apply for exemption. For more information, visit [www.capetown.gov.za/thinkwater](http://www.capetown.gov.za/thinkwater).
9. The use of municipal drinking water for ornamental water fountains or water features is prohibited.
10. No topping up (manual/automatic) of swimming pools with municipal drinking water is allowed, even if fitted with a pool cover. This includes the filling of new pools or the refilling of an existing pool after a repair. This applies to all pools, including public pools and pools at clubs, businesses and institutions.

### RESTRICTIONS APPLICABLE TO NON-RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS

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1. All commercial properties must ensure that their monthly consumption of municipal drinking water is reduced by 20% compared to consumption for the previous year.
2. No washing of vehicles (including taxis), trailers, caravans and boats with municipal drinking water allowed. These must be washed with non-drinking water or cleaned with waterless products or dry steam cleaning processes. This applies to both formal and informal car washes.
3. The operation of spray parks is prohibited.
4. Customers must install water efficient parts, fittings and technologies to minimise water use at all taps, showerheads and other plumbing components in public places and adhere to Water By-law requirements.
5. No new landscaping or sports fields may be established, except if irrigated only with non-drinking water.
6. For users supplied with water in terms of special contracts (notarial deeds, water service intermediaries or water service providers), the contract conditions shall apply.

## IMPACT OF WATER RESTRICTIONS ON FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS

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It is very possible that fire protection systems fed from the local municipal supply such as hydrants and sprinkler systems may be affected during this period with possible decrease in both pressure and flow. It is expected that this may cause serious challenges for both the site based fire teams and the local fire brigade.

### FIRE SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS

To possibly prevent fire ignition and mitigate fire spread the following should be considered, [NB\* not an exhaustive list]

1. Review all fire safety controls provided on equipment where process involves the use of flammable and combustible liquids and gases.
2. Manage and control all hot work [welding, grinding, and any work that generates spark and or heat] that is conducted on site, review hot work procedures and training and ensure that where required in terms of the permit that a fire watch is provided.
3. Fire procedures and evacuations- review fire and evacuation procedures ensuring that all persons are evacuated timeously and the fire brigade is contacted immediately. [The notification of numerous persons before the fire brigade is alerted will slow down the response, it is recommended that the fire brigade is contacted first then supporting persons]
4. Ensure that fire procedures are well signposted and visible to all staff.
5. Ensure primary fire team responders have recently been trained to ensure a suitable response.
6. Reiterate actions in the event of fire to all employees and ensure that all employees have a basic understanding of how to operate handheld fire fighting equipment.
7. Review housekeeping within the site and ensure that there is a place for everything and everything is in its place. Ensure that miscellaneous items are not stacked near boundary/site fences and or combustible items [pallets] are stacked at least 15m away from the buildings.
8. Waste areas should be maintained and it should be ensured that these areas are at least 10m from major buildings with waste reduced to a minimum.
9. Limit the storage of gas cylinders and flammable liquids within the production areas and ensure compliance with local municipal by-law storage requirements.
10. Where practical reduce fire loads within production and storage.
11. To provide the biggest opportunity for the provided sprinkler system to limit fire spread until the fire brigade arrives consider the following;
  - a. Stacking heights as per sprinkler design should not be transgressed;
  - b. Stacking should not be conducted in the aisles spaces;
  - c. Ensure that where rack stacking is conducted that the flue spaces are kept open;
  - d. Where sprinkler systems have not been provided and or required ensure that stacking heights are kept to a minimum and they should not exceed 3m.
12. Where fire detection is provided ensure that it is operating as designed and the control panel is situated within an area that is occupied 24/7 for example a security control room.
13. Ensure that fire extinguishers are adequately provided and maintained with clear signposting and access.
14. Ensure security patrols are conducted at predetermined intervals and if fire load and or process are considered significant increase the patrol frequency where practical.
15. Smoking controls should be strictly controlled.