



Media release

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Water Restrictions lifted for most areas

Lawn watering restrictions in place for Doyleston, Kirwee, Leeston, Lincoln, Prebbleton and Rolleston have now been lifted, but remain in place for Springfield and West Melton.

“The restrictions have been lifted as recent rain has helped reduce the demand for water, and water use is expected to be less during autumn as the weather becomes cooler than in the summer,” says Asset Manager Water Services Murray England.

While residents in these townships can now water their lawns and gardens at any time of the day, the Council still encourages people to consider watering after 9pm and before 6am as this is the time of lowest demand for water and provides the best opportunity for water to soak into the ground, reducing the amount of water needed for irrigation.

Lawn watering restrictions remain in place in Springfield and West Melton, and mean that properties connected to these supplies can’t water lawns between 6am-9am and from 4pm-9pm daily until restrictions are lifted.

In West Melton, several months of low rainfall have depleted groundwater levels. The Council is asking residents to reduce water use in order to avoid more stringent watering restrictions being introduced.

“While Council infrastructure has the capacity to supply West Melton with more water, the Council like other resource consent holders, has limitations imposed on water use through the consent conditions imposed by Environment Canterbury which it must comply with,” says Mr England.

In Springfield, water is drawn from the Kowai River and treated to supply the town. This river is experiencing low flows due to the dry weather of previous months and water restrictions remain in place.

In Doyleston, a second pipe has now been constructed which connects the town’s reservoir to the pipeline supplying Doyleston from Leeston. This is helping to provide Doyleston with more constant water pressure. In Leeston an upgrade to the well will soon start which will provide both Leeston and Doyleston townships water supplies with more capacity.

One additional bore will also be developed to supply Lincoln and another to supply Prebbleton later this year. In Rolleston, two new bores will come online this year to provide extra capacity. A fourth bore is also planned to be added to the existing three bores supplying West Melton as part of the Wilfield subdivision.

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