

Winter Sprinkler Ban FAQ Information Sheet



po box 57 busselton wa 6280 · p 089781 0500 · f 089754 1075 · abn 79 306 761 565
admin@busseltonwater.wa.gov.au · www.busseltonwater.wa.gov.au

BUSSELTON WATER

When is the Winter Sprinkler Ban?

The winter sprinkler ban is a permanent water efficiency measure commencing each year on **1 June and ending 31 August**.

Why do we have a winter sprinkler ban?

Evaporation rates are low in winter and there is usually sufficient rainfall to sustain lawns and gardens. Water being used on lawns and gardens in winter is a waste of this valuable resource. The winter sprinkler ban aims to prevent this wastage and save water for the drier months.

Can I maintain my bore during the winter sprinkler ban?

Maintenance of garden bores is important and under the legislation a person does not commit an offence if the person operates a reticulation system using domestic bore water to the minimum extent necessary while the system is being installed, maintained, tested and repaired.

The minimum extent necessary is considered to involve limiting testing to a maximum of 2 minutes per station. Running your reticulation longer than this may be deemed as watering your garden.

The Department of Water recommends that wherever possible maintenance, repairs and testing are carried out on one of your allocated September to May sprinkler roster days (where applicable) and before 9am or after 6pm.

What happens if there is no rain?

The Minister for Water can delay the start date of the ban or suspend the ban for a period of time if weather conditions require.

What happens if I am away when the winter sprinkler ban starts and I am unable to turn off my sprinkler system?

During the winter sprinkler ban you must turn off your sprinkler system otherwise you may incur penalties. If you will be away when the winter ban comes into effect, it is your responsibility to ensure that your sprinkler system has been turned off prior to your departure or that you have arranged for someone to turn the system off for you.

I water my garden with a hand held hose. Is this permitted during the winter sprinkler ban?

Yes. You are still permitted to hand water your garden at any time.

Do businesses and other organisations need to abide by these restrictions?

If businesses have a groundwater licence, they must abide by the conditions of their licence.

Who do I contact if I observe sprinkler mis-use during the winter sprinkler ban?

If you observe sprinkler mis-use at a property please contact Busselton Water - call 9781 0500. It is important to record as many details as possible including the address, time and date of the water mis-use and what you observed.

Do penalties apply for not doing the right thing?

Yes, penalties do apply for a proven breach. Anyone using their sprinklers between June and August risks a \$100 fine.