

# TEMPORARY BAN ON WATER USE

United Utilities Water Limited gives notice that, pursuant to sections 76 and 76A–C of the Water Industry Act 1991, the following uses of water supplied by United Utilities Water Limited are restricted.

This notice, and further details concerning the prohibitions, current drought and water efficiency advice may be found on the website of United Utilities Water Limited here: [unitedutilities.com](http://unitedutilities.com)

Water use restrictions will start on 5 August 2018 at 0800 hours and continue until further notification. The restriction applies in the Integrated Resource Zone and the West Cumbria Resource Zone as defined in the drought plan of United Utilities Water Limited and indicated on the map. Thank you for your support at this important time.

## Prohibited Uses

The use of a hosepipe, including using sprinklers, dripper hoses, automatic irrigation systems and similar devices, is prohibited for the following:

1. Watering a garden using a hosepipe;
2. Cleaning a private motor-vehicle using a hosepipe;
3. Watering plants on domestic or other non-commercial premises using a hosepipe;
4. Cleaning a private leisure boat using a hosepipe;
5. Filling or maintaining a domestic swimming or paddling pool;
6. Drawing water, using a hosepipe, for domestic recreational use;
7. Filling or maintaining a domestic pond using a hosepipe;
8. Filling or maintaining an ornamental fountain;
9. Cleaning walls, or windows, of domestic premises using a hosepipe;
10. Cleaning paths or patios using a hosepipe;
11. Cleaning other artificial outdoor surfaces using a hosepipe.

Note that customers can still undertake the above activities if they use mains water from a bucket or watering can; or use water that is not sourced from the mains such as grey water, rainwater from a water butt through a hosepipe, or private boreholes for example.

The following definitions apply:

- “Using a hosepipe” includes the drawing of water supplied by the company from a container through a hosepipe; and filling a container by means of a hosepipe with water supplied by the company;
- “Garden” includes a park, gardens open to the public, a domestic garden, a lawn, a grass verge, an allotment used for non-commercial purposes and any other green space;
- “Hosepipe” includes anything designed, adapted or used to serve the same purpose as a hosepipe. The prohibitions apply whether or not any device is attached to the hosepipe, such as a sprinkler for example; and
- “Using a hosepipe for domestic recreational use” includes operating water slides and other recreational equipment.

These prohibited water uses are covered by the Water Industry Act 1991 section 76 as amended by the Flood and Water Management Act 2010. Further definitions may be found in the Water Use (Temporary Bans) Order 2010, which is available at:

[legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2010/2231/contents/made](http://legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2010/2231/contents/made)

## Statutory Exceptions

Customers who meet the requirements below can continue to use water without having to make representation to United Utilities Water Limited to receive permission. In using water, it is requested that customers use water wisely and adopt water efficient practices:

- Using a hosepipe for health or safety reasons, where this includes (a) removing or minimising any risk to human or animal health or safety; and (b) preventing or controlling the spread of causative agents of disease;
- Watering plants that are (1) grown or kept for sale or commercial use, or (2) that are part of a National Plant Collection or temporary garden or flower display;
- Cleaning any area of a private leisure boat which, except for doors or windows, is enclosed by a roof and walls;
- Filling or maintaining a pool where necessary in the course of its construction;

- Filling or maintaining a pool that is designed, constructed or adapted for use in the course of a programme of medical treatment;
- Filling or maintaining a pool that is used for the purpose of decontaminating animals from infections or disease;
- Filling or maintaining a pool used in the course of a programme of veterinary treatment;
- Filling or maintaining a pool in which fish or other aquatic animals are being reared or kept in captivity;
- Filling or maintaining a domestic pond in which fish or other aquatic animals are being reared or kept in captivity;
- Filling or maintaining an ornamental fountain which is in or near a fish-pond and whose purpose is to supply sufficient oxygen to the water in the pond in order to keep the fish healthy.

NB Watering areas of grass, which are used for sport or recreation, is covered by a Statutory Exception for health and safety only in relation to the active strip/playing area, not the entire ground.

## Discretionary Universal Exceptions

Customers who meet the criteria below for a Discretionary Universal Exception can continue to use water without having to make representation to United Utilities Water Limited to receive permission to use water for the following restricted uses. It is requested that customers that meet the requirements for a Discretionary Universal Exception use water wisely and adopt water efficient practices.

The criteria for a Discretionary Universal Exception include:

- Watering a garden attached to a domestic dwelling, or watering plants on domestic premises using a hosepipe by people who hold a Blue Badge or by people registered on the Priority Services Register of United Utilities Water Limited;
- Cleaning a private motor-vehicle using a hosepipe or specific low water use apparatus such as pressure washers by people who hold a Blue Badge or by people registered on the Priority Services Register of United Utilities Water Limited;
- Cleaning walls, or windows, of domestic premises using a hosepipe by people who hold a Blue Badge or by people registered on the Priority Services Register of United Utilities Water Limited;
- Cleaning paths or patios, or other artificial outdoor surfaces, using a hosepipe by people who hold a Blue Badge or by people registered on the Priority Services Register of United Utilities Water Limited;
- Filling or maintaining a domestic pond using a hosepipe by people who hold a Blue Badge or by people registered on the Priority Services Register of United Utilities Water Limited;
- Use of an approved drip or trickle irrigation watering system, fitted with a pressure reducing valve and a timer, that are not handheld, that place water drip by drip directly onto the soil surface or beneath the soil surface, without any surface run off or dispersion of water through the air using a jet or mist;
- Commercial customers that use hosepipes in the course of their day-to-day cleaning business operation (for example hand car washing, window cleaning, graffiti removal), excluding the watering of domestic gardens;
- Cleaning a private motor vehicle using specific low water use apparatus such as pressure washers;
- Watering food crops at domestic premises or private allotments using a hosepipe;
- Watering newly laid turf using a hosepipe for the first 28 days;
- Watering newly-bought plants for the first 14 days;
- Cleaning a private leisure boat using a hosepipe to remove graffiti;
- Cleaning a private leisure boat using a hosepipe to prevent or control the spread of non-native and/or invasive species;
- Filling or maintaining an ornamental fountain to operate water features with religious significance;
- Filling or maintaining a new domestic swimming pool;

- Filling or maintaining a domestic swimming or paddling pool with covers to minimise evaporative losses when not in use;
- Filling or maintaining a domestic swimming or paddling pool with water conservation and/or recycling systems approved by the water company;
- Filling or maintaining a domestic swimming pool that is subject to significant repair and renovation;
- Cleaning walls or windows of domestic premises using a hosepipe for the removal of graffiti or where very low water use technologies are employed and approved by the water company; and
- Cleaning paths or patios or other artificial outdoor surfaces using a hosepipe for the removal of graffiti or where very low water use technologies are employed and approved by the water company.

The following definition applies:

- “Blue Badge” means a current valid Blue Badge issued by the relevant Local Authority.

## Representations

Representations concerning any of these prohibitions may be made in writing at [unitedutilities.com](http://unitedutilities.com) or by telephone on 0800 1078861. To be considered representations must be received by 4 August 2018 at 1700 hours.

If, as a result of any representation, United Utilities Water Limited decides to vary any terms of the prohibition, a further notice will be published. Subject to this, the prohibitions will have effect from the stated date and will remain in force until further notice.

Any person who contravenes any of these prohibitions may be guilty of an offence, and liable, on summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding £1,000.



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