

Water is an indispensable natural resource that we all share.

However, it is not unlimited.

Climate change adds to the challenges of sustainable water management by putting a strain on our ecosystems and damaging our living environments.

To ensure the sustainability of this resource, it is up to each of us to use water responsibly. This will help our six drinking water treatment plants to continue to supply more than two million people, thousands of businesses and the entire fire protection network every day.

For better consumption

Since June 2013, By-law 13-023 has regulated the use of drinking water in the city's area.

This document is a summary of certain provisions. For details on all of the by-laws in question, please refer to the official texts.

Montréal 

For more information, call 311
or visit ville.montreal.qc.ca/eaudemontreal.

By-law

Using Water Responsibly



Watering in good conscience

Portable lawn sprinkler or soaker hose

- Lawns at even-numbered addresses can be watered on even-numbered dates, while homes at odd-numbered addresses can water on odd-numbered dates.
- Watering is permitted only between 8 p.m. and 11 p.m. in the evening, if it doesn't rain.

Automatic sprinkler system

- Lawns at even-numbered addresses can be watered on even-numbered dates, while homes at odd-numbered addresses can water on odd-numbered dates.
- The system must be equipped with a moisture sensor.
- It must be programmed to run between 3 a.m. and 6 a.m., if it's not raining.

Hand watering

- If it doesn't rain, plants may be watered by hand at any time.
- The hose must have an auto shut-off nozzle.

Best practices

- It is prohibited to fill a pool between 6 a.m. and 8 p.m., except between April 1 and May 15.
- Washing paved surfaces, patios and outside walls is prohibited, except during construction or landscaping, or as a health measure. However, it is permitted between April 1 and May 15.
- It is prohibited to let water run onto the road or onto neighbouring properties, when watering.
- It is prohibited to let water run continuously or to use water pressure or flow as a source of energy.
- All decorative ponds with a waterfall, water fountain or jets must have a water recycling system.
- Since January 1, 2018, the use of air conditioning or refrigeration equipment using drinking water without a water recycling system has been prohibited in the residential (13-023) and non-residential sector (RCG 13-011).

Simple steps to take in daily life

Adopting good water management habits contributes to a successful green transition.

Water leaks: look into them!

A simple drip leak from a faucet can account for up to 60 litres of wasted water per day. Fixing leaks is an easy way to reduce water consumption.

Smart gardening

Collect rainwater in a barrel to water your plants and adapt your landscaping projects by choosing plants suitable for the soil and sunlight conditions.

Gutters that drain in the right place

If you have a pitched roof, disconnect your gutters from the sewer system and redirect rainwater into a water barrel or to a permeable surface (lawn, flowerbed), making sure to direct it at least 1.5 metres from the building to prevent infiltration into the foundation. This will help avoid clogging up the sewer system and will reduce overflows of untreated wastewater into watercourses.

Sensible cleaning

Washing your car with a bucket and sponge rather than a hose can save up to 300 litres of water!

Save with certified products

Opt for certified WaterSense plumbing fixtures (toilets, shower heads, faucets and aerators). They are efficient and effective! Also reduce your water and energy consumption with certified Energy Star appliances (dishwasher and washing machine). They will allow you to save on hot water and reduce your energy costs.