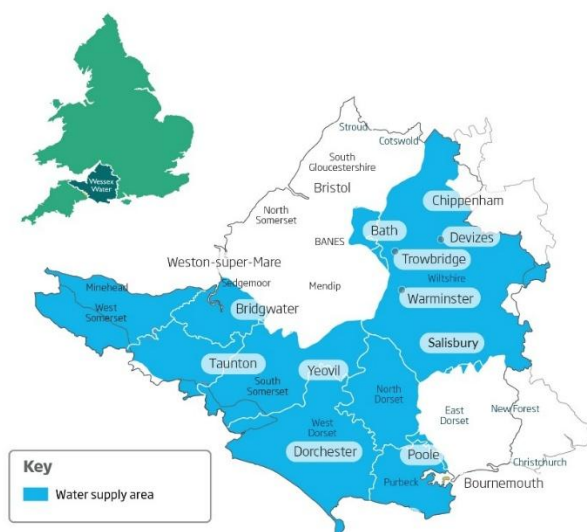


Wessex Water Services Limited ("Wessex Water") gives notice that, pursuant to sections 76, 76A, 76B and 76C of the Water Industry Act 1991 ("the Act") and The Water Use (Temporary Bans) Order 2010 ("the Order"), water supplied by Wessex Water is restricted across the whole of its water supply area, including those who use water we supply but who may be served by other companies such as water retailers.

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

- Customers can still undertake the above activities (except filling or maintaining a domestic swimming pool or paddling pool and filling or maintaining an ornamental fountain) if they use mains water from a bucket or watering can (where this is feasible); 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.
- The words used in this notice are further defined by reference to sections 76-76C of the Act, and in the Order additional information is available at: wessexwater.co.uk/hosepipe-ban.
- The Order sets out statutory exceptions which apply to the restrictions additional information on these is available at: wessexwater.co.uk/hosepipe-ban.
- Wessex Water has permitted certain discretionary universal exceptions which apply to users with additional medical or mobility needs and users adopting certain water saving measures which are set out in full in the additional information available at: wessexwater.co.uk/hosepipe-ban
- Customers may contact Wessex Water to seek agreement for a discretionary concessional exception.

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.



Additional Information

Statutory Definitions:

Sections 76-76C of the Act, and in the Order provide the following key definitions:

- “Using a hosepipe” includes drawing water supplied by the company through a hosepipe from a container; and filling a container with water supplied by the company by means of a hosepipe;
- “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.

Further definitions may be found in the Water Use (Temporary Bans) Order 2010, which is available at: http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2010/2231/pdfs/ukxi_20102231_en.pdf

Statutory exceptions:

These exceptions are automatically provided for under the Act and the Order upon commencement of the restrictions. You will not need to apply for statutory exceptions, but Wessex Water may question your use of an exception if reports of hosepipe usage are received or evidence of a hosepipe is detected.

Watering a garden using a hosepipe

Where using a hosepipe for any of the restricted purposes is required for unavoidable health and safety, such as removing or minimising any risk to human or animal health or safety or preventing or controlling the spread of causative agents or disease, this will not be restricted.

Using a hosepipe to water a garden for health or safety reasons.

NB for clarity: in this category, the definition of “a garden” includes “an area of grass used for sport or recreation”. Therefore, it should be noted that watering areas of grass, which are used for sport or recreation, is covered by a statutory exception for health or safety only in relation to the active strip/playing area, not the entire ground.

A garden includes: a park; gardens open to the public; a lawn; a grass verge; an area of grass used for sport or recreation; an allotment garden; allotment used for non-commercial purposes; any other green space.

Cleaning a private motor-vehicle (or a trailer for such a vehicle) using a hosepipe

Where using a hosepipe for any of the restricted purposes is required for unavoidable health and safety, such as removing or minimising any risk to human or animal health or safety or preventing or controlling the spread of causative agents or disease, this will not be restricted.

A “private motor vehicle” does not include:

- (1) a public service vehicle, as defined in Section 1 of the Public Passenger Vehicles Act 1981(c), and
- (2) a goods vehicle, as defined in Section 192 of the Road Traffic Act 1988(d). This includes:

- Public bus
- Any vehicles covered by an organisation’s “Goods Vehicle Operator’s Licence”
- Military vehicles
- Snow ploughs and gritters

- Emergency service vehicles (including those used by gas, electricity, water and telephone companies)
- Hearses and accompanying funeral cars
- Recovery vehicles (only if they're used exclusively for that purpose)
- Tractors and agricultural vehicles
- Mobile exhibition vehicles
- Catering vehicles
- Mobile shops
- Mobile medical screening vehicles

Any vehicle of over 3.5 tonnes gross plated weight or (where there is no plated weight) an unladen weight of more than 1,525 kg to transport goods for hire or reward or in connection with a trade or Business.

Watering plants on domestic or other non-commercial premises using a hosepipe specifically:

Plants in an outdoor pot or in the ground under cover (under cover being in a greenhouse, outbuilding or under a permanent canopy). The restrictions do not apply to 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 a private leisure boat using a hosepipe

Cleaning any area of a private leisure boat which, except for doors or windows, is enclosed by a roof and walls. Using a hosepipe to clean a private leisure boat for health or safety reasons

Filling or maintaining a domestic swimming or paddling pool

Filling or maintaining a pool where necessary in the course of its construction.

Filling or maintaining a pool using a handheld container which is filled with water drawn directly from a tap.

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.

Using a hosepipe where the welfare and/or health and safety of animals including fish is paramount.

Filling or maintaining a domestic pond (manmade or natural) using a hosepipe

Filling or maintaining a domestic pond in which fish or other aquatic animals are being reared or kept in captivity.

Using a hosepipe where the welfare and/or health and safety of animals including fish is paramount.

Filling or maintaining an ornamental fountain (including a cascade or any other display of moving water, and includes filling by permanent plumbing)

Filling or maintaining an ornamental fountain which is in or near a fishpond and whose purpose is to supply sufficient oxygen to the water in the pond in order to keep the fish healthy.

Using a hosepipe where the welfare and/or health and safety of animals including fish is paramount.

Cleaning walls, or windows, of domestic premises using a hosepipe

Using a hosepipe to clean the walls or windows of domestic premises for health or safety reasons, such as removing or minimising any risk to human or animal health or safety or preventing or controlling the spread of causative agents or disease.

Cleaning paths or patios using a hosepipe

Using a hosepipe to clean paths or patios for health or safety reasons, such as removing or minimising any risk to human or animal health or safety or preventing or controlling the spread of causative agents or disease.

Cleaning other artificial outdoor surfaces using a hosepipe

Using a hosepipe to clean an artificial outdoor surface for health or safety reasons, such as removing or minimising any risk to human or animal health or safety or preventing or controlling the spread of causative agents or disease.

Universal exceptions:

These exceptions are automatically provided by Wessex Water upon commencement of the restrictions.

Watering a garden using a hosepipe

A hosepipe can be used to water turf at domestic premises where this cannot be reasonably done by watering can, where the turf was laid before the restrictions came in, and for a period of four weeks which start from the date when the turf was laid, not the start of the restrictions.

A hosepipe can be used to water standard trees, whips, saplings and hedging planted within a three-year window of the imposition of the restrictions (i.e. within the last three years of the start of the restrictions), where this cannot be hand-watered or watered with non-potable water.

NB for clarity: standard trees in urban settings are not covered by the restrictions as they do not fall within the definition of being in an area classed as a “garden”, or “domestic or other non-commercial premises” and therefore they can be watered with a hosepipe.

Regardless of where a tree is planted, when watering please consider using non-potable water to reduce the amount of mains water used and use water efficiently where possible.

A drip or trickle irrigation watering system can be used if:

- they are 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 runoff or dispersion of water through the air using a jet or mist

Cleaning a private motor-vehicle (or a trailer for such a vehicle) using a hosepipe

A hosepipe can be used in the course of a business to clean private motor vehicles where this is done as a service to customers, where this cannot be reasonably done using a bucket.

Watering plants on domestic or other non-commercial premises using a hosepipe specifically

A hosepipe can be used to water food crops at domestic premises or private allotments, where this cannot be reasonably done by watering can.

A hosepipe can be used to water turf at domestic premises where this cannot be reasonably done by watering can, where the turf was laid before the restrictions started, and for a period of four weeks which start from the date when the turf was laid not the start of the restrictions.

A hosepipe can be used to water trees, whips, saplings and hedging planted within a three year window of the imposition of the restrictions, where this cannot be hand-watered or watered with non-potable water.

This covers tree planting by a council and/or charitable/voluntary organisation and covers larger-scale tree planting not individual trees. This also includes young trees planted as part of the 25 Year Environmental Plan/Environmental Plan 2023 and young trees that are planted under a subsidy scheme.

A hosepipe can be used to water standard trees in urban settings (such as streets) planted in the last three years that cannot reasonably be hand-watered or watered with non-potable water. (A standard tree is a tree with a single stem with clear trunk (no side branches) for at least 1.8m above the ground).

A drip or trickle irrigation watering system can be used if:

- they are 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 runoff or dispersion of water through the air using a jet or mist

Cleaning a private leisure boat using a hosepipe

A hosepipe can be used for filling a water tank in a boat where the water is to be used for washing, cooking or sanitation purposes.

A hosepipe can be used for commercial cleaning.

A hosepipe can be used to clean vessels that are a primary residence.

A hosepipe can be used to clean boats where fouling is causing increased fuel consumption.

A hosepipe can be used on engines that are designed to be cleaned with a hosepipe.

A hosepipe can be used to prevent or control the spread of non-native and/or invasive species where other means are not appropriate.

Filling or maintaining a domestic swimming or paddling pool

A hosepipe can be used when filling a swimming pool, paddling pool, swim spa or exercise spa that is a fixed structure from empty after construction or significant refurbishment. In this case significant refurbishment should be treated as equivalent to construction. Once it has been refilled then a hosepipe cannot be used for any subsequent filling.

A hosepipe can be used for pools within places of worship or community pools when they are used as part of a religious ceremony.

Drawing water, using a hosepipe, for domestic recreational use

A hosepipe can be used when filling a hot tub that is a fixed structure from empty after construction or significant refurbishment. In this case significant refurbishment should be treated as equivalent to construction. Once it has been refilled then a hosepipe cannot be used for any subsequent filling. NB For clarity, where people use a hot tub for medical purposes, and cannot fill it with a watering can, then a hosepipe may be used on the grounds of health and safety.

A hosepipe can be used for filling a water tank in a caravan or motorhome where the water is to be used for washing, cooking or sanitation purposes.

Filling or maintaining an ornamental fountain (including a cascade or any other display of moving water, and includes filling by permanent plumbing)

Ornamental fountains within places of worship or community ornamental fountains can be filled when they are used as part of a religious ceremony.

Cleaning walls, or windows, of domestic premises using a hosepipe

A hosepipe can be used where cleaning apparatus is not connected to mains supply.

Electric pumps that are connected to water butts filled by rainwater are not covered by the restrictions.

A hosepipe can be used to clean the walls and windows of domestic premises where this is done by a business as a service to customers.

NB For clarity: the use of water-fed poles by commercial cleaners for window cleaning at height is permitted under the health or safety exception. The domestic use of a water-fed pole is not permitted under the restrictions.

A hosepipe can be used as part of the process of removing graffiti from domestic premises when the graffiti is a hate crime, insulting or offensive, as this links to the statutory H&S exception.

Cleaning paths or patios using a hosepipe

A hosepipe can be used where cleaning apparatus is not connected to mains supply. NB For clarity: electric pumps that are connected to water butts filled by rainwater are not covered by the restrictions.

A hosepipe can be used as part of the process of preventing or controlling the spread of non-native and/or invasive species, where this cannot reasonably be done using other preferred means.

A hosepipe can be used to clean the paths or patios of domestic premises where this is done by a business as a service to customers. NB For clarity: the use of water-fed poles for cleaning at height is permitted under the H&S Statutory Exception. The use of water fed pole for domestic use by a householder is not permitted.

A hosepipe can be used as part of the process of removing graffiti from domestic premises when the graffiti is a hate crime, insulting or offensive as this links to the H&S statutory exception.

Cleaning other artificial outdoor surfaces using a hosepipe

A hosepipe can be used where cleaning apparatus is not connected to mains supply. *NB For clarity:* electric pumps that are connected to water butts filled by rainwater are not covered by the restrictions.

A hosepipe can be used as part of the process of preventing or controlling the spread of non-native and/or invasive species, where this cannot reasonably be done using other preferred means

A hosepipe can be used to clean artificial outdoor surfaces of domestic premises where this is done by a business as a service to customers. NB For clarity: the use of water-fed poles for cleaning at height by commercial cleaners for window cleaning is permitted for health or safety reasons. The use of water fed poles for domestic use by a householder is not permitted.

A hosepipe can be used as part of the process of removing graffiti from domestic premises when the graffiti is a hate crime, insulting or offensive as this links to the H&S statutory exception.

Discretionary exceptions:

People who may find it hard to make adaptations and are registered with Wessex Water's Priority Service Register will be granted an exception to all of the restrictions automatically, but are requested to try to save water wherever possible.

Further exceptions:

Those with further or other needs not already provided for by existing exceptions are invited to contact Wessex Water by emailing hosepipe.ban@wessexwater.co.uk to discuss any additional exceptions which may be provided to meet those needs upon commencement of the restrictions.