



The Corporation of the Township of Huron-Kinloss

Staff Report

Report Title: Water-Wastewater April 2024

Date: Apr. 3, 2024

Report Number: PW-2024-04-16

Department: Public Works

File Number: C11 PW 24

Prepared By: John Yungblut, Director of Public Works

Attachments: Monthly Water/Wastewater Summary, Redacted O'Hare Letter

Recommendation:

THAT the Township of Huron-Kinloss Committee of the Whole hereby receives Report PW2024-04-16 prepared by John Yungblut, Director of Public Works.

Background:

Monthly Summary

Our Operating Authority, Veolia Water Canada, has prepared a summary of the water and wastewater operations over the past month and is attached to this report.

Lawn Watering By-Law Amendment Request

The attached letter was received by Township staff, requesting that the Township consider reducing the permitted duration of lawn watering. The current Lawn Watering By-Law allows for the use of lawn sprinklers from 6am-9am and 6pm-9pm, however, automatic irrigation systems are limited to 4am-7am. In either case, lawn watering is restricted to every other day.

Discussion/Analysis/Overview:

Lawn Watering By-Law Amendment Request

The intent of the Lawn Watering By-Law is to limit the use of water for irrigation purposes to ensure our water system capacity is maintained through the summer. It is not intended to address other issues such as noise pollution. The two permitted timing windows of three hours is intended to provide some flexibility on how and when residents water their lawns. We do not have concerns with water supply capacity during the summer months, except for in situations where components of the system have to be taken offline. In these instances, we will put a temporary lawn watering ban in place to preserve our water supply.

Township staff have reviewed our by-law in comparison with other lawn watering by-laws in neighbouring municipalities to determine if we are in alignment:

Municipality	Effective Dates	Morning Duration	Evening Duration	Automatic System Watering Duration
Huron-Kinloss	June 1-Sept. 15	6am-9am	6pm-9pm	4am-7am
Kincardine	May 15-Sept 30	6am-9am	6pm-9pm	Not specified
Goderich	May 15-Aug. 31	7am-9am	7pm-9pm	2:30am-6am
Saugeen Shores	May 15-Aug. 31	7am-9am	7pm-9pm	2:30am-6am
ACW	June 1-Sept 15	6am-9am	6pm-9pm	4am-7am
Brockton	Not specified	7am-9am	6pm-9pm	2:30am-6am
South Bruce	Not specified	6am-8am	6pm-8pm	Not specified

Based on the information collected, we are generally in alignment, although some municipalities have two hour durations instead of three hours. Council could consider reducing the permitted duration from 3 hours to 2 hours in the morning and evening, however, this would take us out of alignment with two key neighbouring municipalities which may result in unnecessary confusion for some residents and by-law enforcement staff.

The Township currently supplies water to customers in ACW from both the Lakeshore and Lucknow drinking water systems. Conversely, Kincardine supplies water to Huron-Kinloss residents in the Huronville subdivision.

The Township lawn watering by-law does not apply to customers that are connected to the Kincardine system even though they are residents of Huron-Kinloss. Those properties would be subject to the Municipality of Kincardine's Lawn Watering By-Law. Staff believe our by-law would apply to customers connected to the Huron-Kinloss water system in the south end of Lucknow and Amberley Beach, but are located in the Township of ACW. This opinion would have to be confirmed with both neighbouring municipalities, however.

Regardless, if our Lawn Watering By-Law deviates from ACW and Kincardine, both residents and by-law enforcement staff would have to confirm which system a property is connected to before they can enforce the appropriate timing window. While this information could be made available to everyone involved, it will create an unnecessary level of confusion in the opinion of Township staff.

Instead of a by-law amendment, we would encourage residents to inform neighbours that the lawn watering is bothering them and ask if they could reduce the duration of lawn watering or use a different sprinkler, as suggested in the attached letter. If that approach is not effective, a noise complaint may be filed with the Township to address concerns.

Financial Impacts:

Water and wastewater operations are included in the Operating Budget.

Performance Measurement:

N/A

Strategic Area:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Embrace a thriving rural lifestyle | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enhance Municipal Service Delivery |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare for Inclusive Growth | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ensure Financial Stability |

Strategic Goal: Manage assets and infrastructure

Respectfully Submitted By:

John Yungblut, Director of Public Works

Report Approved By:

Jodi MacArthur, Chief Administrative Officer