



NEWS FROM COUNCIL

APRIL 2016

This April edition of News from Council will be dedicated solely to the recently adopted bylaw 2016-589, dealing with the use of municipal drinking water.

In 2011, the Québec Minister of Municipal Affairs and Land Occupancy published a strategy, the goal of which was to reduce water consumption by 20% by the year 2017. This strategy required municipalities to implement certain actions in order to reduce their water consumption. These actions include detecting and repairing infrastructure leaks, installing water meters in non residential buildings, ensuring adequate water tariffication rates and adopting a water use bylaw aimed at preserving the quality and the quantity of drinking water.

Council has therefore recently adopted bylaw 2016-589 for the use of drinking water. The exact text (in French) of this bylaw can be found on the municipality's web-site (Mairie > Renseignements généraux > Règlements municipaux). In essence, the bylaw regulates use of the potable water that is provided by the municipality by requiring adherence to certain rules, including the following. Take note that this is by no means an exhaustive list of what is contained in the bylaw and residents are strongly encouraged to consult the original document on the municipality's web-site.

- Air conditioning and cooling systems that use potable water are now prohibited unless they use a recirculating water system and they are regularly inspected;
- Building occupants are being asked to notify the municipality if they become aware of, or suspect a breakage or irregularity in the water distribution system;
- Dwelling units or buildings on one lot, that are hooked up to the municipality's potable water distribution system, may not serve as the source of potable water for other dwelling units or buildings on a neighbouring lot;
- Unless authorized by the municipality, the filling of tanks from the municipal water distribution system is prohibited; pools and hot tubs may not be filled with municipal drinking water between the hours of 6:00 am and 8:00 pm, but filling is allowing in the case of a new pool, in order to maintain its structure;
- Allowing water to run continuously (either inside or outside) is strictly prohibited, unless explicitly authorized by the municipality;
- Lawn and garden watering and outdoor use of water is now subject to certain restrictions :
 - o Manual watering of a vegetable or flower garden, flower boxes, planters, flowerbeds, trees and shrubs is permitted at all times;
 - o Watering of lawns, hedges, trees, shrubs and other plantings, using an automatic system is allowed between the hours of 3 and 6 am and for use of a mechanical watering system, between the hours of 8 and 11 pm, but only on the following days : on even numbered days for dwellings with even numbered civic addresses ; and on odd numbered days for dwellings with odd numbered civic addresses.;
 - o Watering of a new lawn, newly planted trees or shrubs and new landscaping is permitted every day, during the times of day already mentioned, for a period of 15 days from the time of seeding, laying of turf strips or planting. Watering of a lawn laid with turf strips is permitted at all times during the day on which it is installed;
- Washing of vehicles is allowed at all times provided that a bucket or a hose fitted with an automatic shut off device is used;
- Washing of driveways, sidewalks, patios and exterior walls of a building is only permitted from April 1st to May 15th, or during painting, construction, renovation or landscaping work that justifies cleaning and provided that a hose fitted with an automatic shut off device is used;
- It is not allowed to use potable water to melt ice and snow;
- Water features or ponds, whether or not they include fountains or waterfalls, that are filled initially and then refilled from the municipal water supply, must be equipped with a functioning system to recirculate the water. A continuous stream of drinking water to feed the water features is prohibited;



Municipalité du Village de
Municipality of the Village of
North Hatley

- The municipality may, in the case of drought or a major break in the distribution system, issue a public notice prohibiting anyone from using water outdoors for a certain period of time. This prohibition would not apply to manual watering of gardens and in the case of new planting, authorization may be obtained from the municipality if weather conditions warrant it and if water stocks will allow.

Council would also ask that you take a moment to think about the importance of this valuable natural resource, the next time you turn on your tap.

This completes the April edition of *News from Council*. Remember to send any questions and concerns to communication@northhatley.org or by mail to The Municipal Council, Village of North Hatley, 3125, ch. Capelton, North Hatley J0B 2C0. You can also continue to check our website and attend monthly Village Council meetings on the first Monday of each month at 7:00 pm at the North Hatley Community Centre : 3127, ch. Capelton.