

**STATUTORY NOTICE FOR TEMPORARY BAN ON WATER USE  
SOUTHERN WATER SERVICES LIMITED  
SECTIONS 76 AND 76A-C OF THE WATER INDUSTRY ACT 1991**

Southern Water Services Limited ("Southern Water") gives notice that, pursuant to sections 76 and 76A-C of the Water Industry Act 1991, the following uses of water supplied by Southern Water are restricted across the whole of Hampshire and on the Isle of Wight. Those subject to the temporary use ban will be customers of Southern Water and those in receipt of our water but who may be served by other companies such as water retailers.

This notice, and further details concerning the prohibitions, current drought and water efficiency advice may be found on the website of Southern Water here: [southernwater.co.uk/hosepipeban](http://southernwater.co.uk/hosepipeban)

These water use restrictions will start on Friday 10th July at 00:01 hours and continue until further notification.

The restrictions apply in all Southern Water Supply Areas of Hampshire and in the Isle of Wight Supply Area as defined in the drought plan of Southern Water and as shown in the map below.

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 (or a trailer for such a 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 (except activities 5 and 8) 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 following definitions apply:

- "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.

These prohibited water uses are covered by section 76 of the Water Industry Act 1991. Further definitions may be found in the Water Use (Temporary Bans) Order 2010, which is available at: [http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2010/2231/pdfs/ukxi\\_20102231\\_en.pdf](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2010/2231/pdfs/ukxi_20102231_en.pdf)

**Restrictions and Exceptions**

You will not need to apply for an exception but Southern Water may question your use of an exception if reports of hosepipe usage are received or evidence of a hosepipe is detected.

People who may find it hard to make adaptations and are registered with the Southern Water Priority Service Register, are a Blue Badge holder or WaterSure customer with mobility or health needs, will be granted an automatic exception to any of the restrictions.

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

<b>Restricted Hosepipe Use</b>	<b>Exception</b>
<i>What you can't do</i>	<i>Pre-approved exceptions for certain categories of people or uses of water – if one of these applies to you then you can use your hosepipe for this reason</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Watering a garden using a hosepipe;</li> <li>• Cleaning a private leisure boat using a hosepipe;</li> <li>• Cleaning walls, or windows of a domestic premises using a hosepipe;</li> <li>• Cleaning paths or patios using a hosepipe;</li> <li>• Cleaning other artificial outdoor surfaces using a hosepipe</li> </ul>	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.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Filling or maintaining a domestic swimming or paddling pool;</li> <li>• Filling or maintaining a domestic pond;</li> <li>• Filling or maintaining an ornamental fountain</li> </ul>	Using a hosepipe where the welfare and/or health and safety of animals including fish is paramount will not be restricted.
<p><b>Watering a garden using a hosepipe</b></p> <p>A "garden" is a private or public garden, a lawn, a park; a grass verge; an area of grass used for sport or recreation; an allotment used for non-commercial purposes; and any other green space.</p> <p><b>A garden is not:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• agricultural land,</li> <li>• land used in the course of a business for growing any crops, fruits, vegetables or other plants for sale or commercial use;</li> <li>• land used for National Plant Collection;</li> <li>• a temporary garden or flower display (i.e. on show to the public for no more than 7 days); or</li> <li>• plants in an outdoor pot or in the ground under cover (under cover being in a greenhouse, outbuilding or under a permanent canopy).</li> </ul>	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. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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 onset of TUBs, and for a period of four weeks which start from the date when the turf was laid, not the start of the TUB.</li> <li>• A hosepipe can be used to water standard trees, whips, saplings and hedging planted within a three-year window of the imposition of the TUB (i.e. within the last three years of the start of a TUB), where this cannot be hand-watered or watered with non-potable water.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Cleaning a private motor-vehicle (or a trailer for such a vehicle) using a hosepipe</b></p> <p>A "private motor vehicle" does not include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) a public service vehicle, as defined in Section 1 of the Public Passenger Vehicles Act 1981(c), and</li> <li>(2) a goods vehicle, as defined in Section 192 of the Road Traffic Act 1988(d). This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public bus</li> <li>• Any vehicles covered by an organisation's "Goods Vehicle Operator's Licence" - Military vehicles</li> <li>• Snow ploughs and gritters</li> <li>• Emergency service vehicles (including those used by gas, electricity, water and telephone companies)</li> <li>• Hearses and accompanying funeral cars</li> <li>• Recovery vehicles (only if they're used exclusively for that purpose)</li> <li>• Tractors and agricultural vehicles</li> <li>• Mobile exhibition vehicles</li> <li>• Catering vehicles</li> <li>• Mobile shops</li> <li>• Mobile medical screening vehicles</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Watering plants on domestic or other non-commercial premises using a hosepipe specifically:</b></p> <p>Plants in an outdoor pot or in the ground under cover (under cover being in a greenhouse, outbuilding or under a permanent canopy).</p>	<p>The TUB does not apply to watering plants that are</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) grown or kept for sale or commercial use, or</li> <li>(2) that are part of a National Plant Collection or temporary garden or flower display. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A hosepipe can be used to water food crops at domestic premises or private allotments, where this cannot be reasonably done by watering can.</li> <li>• 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 onset of TUB, and for a period of four weeks which start from the date when the turf was laid not the start of the TUB.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>

<b>Cleaning a private leisure boat using a hosepipe</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cleaning any area of a private leisure boat which, except for doors or windows, is enclosed by a roof and walls.</li> <li>• Using a hosepipe to clean a private leisure boat for health or safety reasons</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• A hosepipe can be used for commercial cleaning.</li> <li>• A hosepipe can be used to clean vessels that are a primary residence.</li> <li>• A hosepipe can be used to clean boats where fouling is causing increased fuel consumption.</li> <li>• A hosepipe can be used on engines that are designed to be cleaned with a hosepipe.</li> <li>• A hosepipe can be used to prevent or control the spread of non-native and/or invasive species where other means are not appropriate.</li> </ul>
<b>Filling or maintaining a domestic swimming or paddling pool</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Filling or maintaining a pool where necessary in the course of its construction.</li> <li>• Filling or maintaining a pool using a handheld container which is filled with water drawn directly from a tap.</li> <li>• Filling or maintaining a pool that is designed, constructed or adapted for use in the course of a programme of medical treatment.</li> <li>• Filling or maintaining a pool that is used for the purpose of decontaminating animals from infections or disease.</li> <li>• Filling or maintaining a pool used in the course of a programme of veterinary treatment.</li> <li>• 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 refilling. 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.</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>
<b>Drawing water, using a hosepipe, for domestic recreational use</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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 refilling. 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.</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>
<b>Filling or maintaining a domestic pond (manmade or natural) using a hosepipe</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Filling or maintaining a domestic pond in which fish or other aquatic animals are being reared or kept in captivity.</li> </ul>
<b>Filling or maintaining an ornamental fountain (including a cascade or any other display of moving water, and includes filling by permanent plumbing)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• Ornamental fountains within places of worship or community ornamental fountains can be filled when they are used as part of a religious ceremony.</li> </ul>
<b>Cleaning walls, or windows, of domestic premises using a hosepipe</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Using a hosepipe to clean the walls or windows of domestic premises for health or safety reasons</li> <li>• A hosepipe can be used where cleaning apparatus is not connected to mains supply.</li> <li>• Electric pumps that are connected to water butts filled by rainwater are not covered by the restrictions.</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul> <p>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 this TUB.</p>
<b>Cleaning paths or patios using a hosepipe</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Using a hosepipe to clean paths or patios for health or safety reasons.</li> <li>• A hosepipe can be used where cleaning apparatus is not connected to mains supply.</li> </ul> <p>NB For clarity: electric pumps that are connected to water butts filled by rainwater are not covered by the restrictions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul> <p>NB For clarity: the use of water-fed poles for cleaning at height is permitted under the H&amp;S Statutory Exception. The use of water fed pole for domestic use by a householder is not permitted.</p>
<b>Cleaning other artificial outdoor surfaces using a hosepipe</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Using a hosepipe to clean an artificial outdoor surface for health or safety reasons.</li> <li>• A hosepipe can be used where cleaning apparatus is not connected to mains supply.</li> </ul> <p>NB For clarity: electric pumps that are connected to water butts filled by rainwater are not covered by the restrictions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul> <p>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.</p>

**Representations**

Representations concerning any of these prohibitions may be made in writing at [droughtplan@southernwater.co.uk](mailto:droughtplan@southernwater.co.uk). If, as a result of any representation, Southern Water 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. Further details concerning the prohibitions and actions concerning the current drought may be found on Southern Water's website at [southernwater.co.uk/hosepipeban](http://southernwater.co.uk/hosepipeban)

- Southern Water hosepipe ban area
- Use water wisely

