



THE VILLAGE OF ASHCROFT FAQ #3 – WATER TREATMENT PLANT - WATER CONSUMPTION

1. Do we use more water per person than other communities?

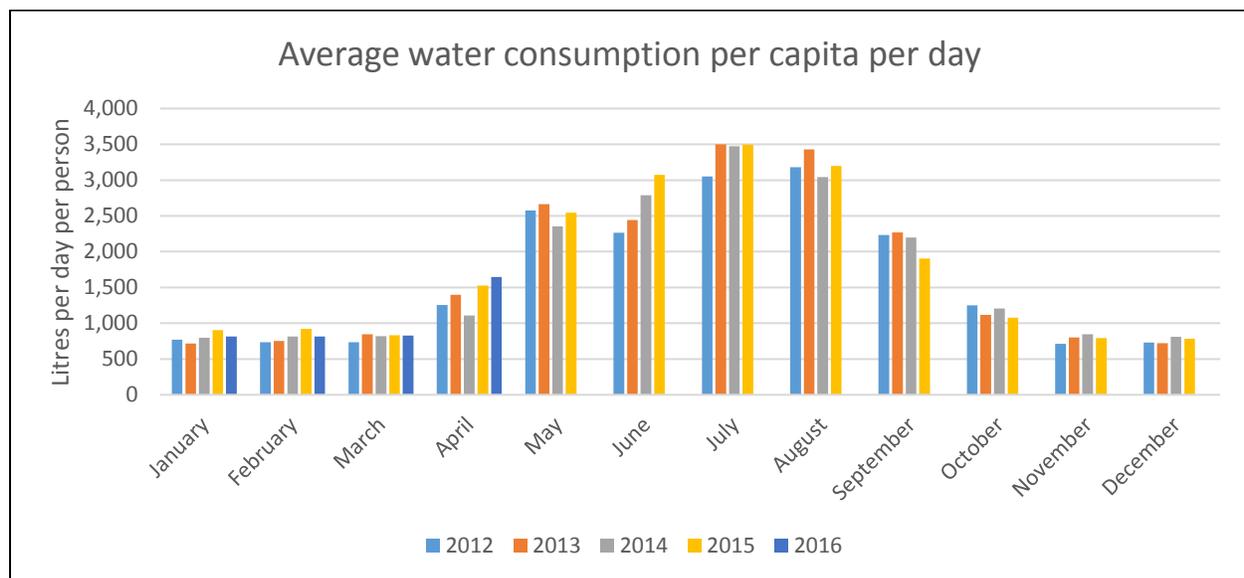
Yes, the Village of Ashcroft does use more water per person than the provincial average. As we do not have water meters we have to calculate our use on a community wide scale based on our population. The provincial water use per capita is 606 liters per day. The Village of Ashcroft uses on average 1,831 liters per person per day. Every community uses water differently and have different categories of users so to compare our use to other communities is not possible which is why we use the provincial averages.

2. We are hotter than most places so shouldn't we use more water?

It is true that we are often the hottest place in the province and often all of Canada and to keep vegetable gardens and fruit trees healthy will require more water than many other places. However we have all seen people watering their lawns every day during the hottest times of the day or when it is windy. This is a waste of water as it either evaporates or blows away. Lawns do not require as much water as many residents use to keep them healthy and a few dry spots will come back once the intense heat has passed.

3. Do we use excessive water all year round?

The graph below indicates that from January until March and November and December Ashcroft usage is fairly close to the provincial average. Before we pat ourselves on the back, we should consider that the provincial average would be much lower during the winter months so our use is still above average. Once the warmer weather is here in April and the sprinklers get turned on the water usage increases dramatically.



4. Doesn't the Village use the majority of the water on our parks?

The Village of Ashcroft has a far higher number of parks than the average community and to keep them green takes a lot of water. We have installed rain meters at the parks so that the sprinklers do not come on if we have had rain. We also run our systems for the same amount of time each day during the summer so our consumption stays consistent while daily usage within the system fluctuates every day. Effective in



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2016 the Village has reduced our watering to even and odd days which is consistent with what we have asked our residents to do.

5. Do we have leaks in the water mains?

The Village undertook a leak detection program in 2011 and were surprised that there were so few leaks. We have repaired the leaks that were identified and did notice a drop in water consumption. We also had our water mains checked in April 2016 and no new leaks were identified.

6. How can we reduce water waste, especially during the winter?

There are many ways to reduce the amount of water we use. When replacing appliances and fixtures purchasing water saving ones such as front loading washing machines or low flush toilets are a great option. Fixing or replacing a dripping tap or a running toilet is an easy and inexpensive water reduction solution. Ensuring that your pipes are well insulated so that you don't have to have water running all winter to prevent freezing is another way to reduce wasting water in the winter.

May 19, 2016