

Water conservation plan updates

Current Water Consumption

The current water for the Village of Ashcroft is approximately 1500L/capita/day based on full year figures for 2018 as shown below.

2018 Water Consumption				
Ashcroft Population per 2016 Census				1558
	Cubic Meters	Liters	Days	L/capita/day
Jan	42531	42531000	31	881
Feb	36368	36368000	28	834
Mar	40988	40988000	31	849
Apr	48070	48070000	30	1,028
May	118059	118059000	31	2,444
Jun	108421	108421000	30	2,320
Jul	145555	145555000	31	3,014
Aug	116577	116577000	31	2,414
Sep	69300	69300000	30	1,483
Oct	43852	43852000	31	908
Nov	40964	40964000	30	876
Dec	42694	42694000	31	884
		Average		1,494
ADD as measured in 2010				1800
Reduction Achieved				17%
Reduction Target 10% or 150 L/Cap/Day by year 2025				

Reduction Target

The village is aiming to reduce consumption by 10% or 150L/capita/day by year 2025

Water Conservation Actions & Measures

1. Cost-of-Service Accounting: The village embarked on increasing water rates to that the water rates full cover the cost of providing the service and water is not subsidized from general

taxation revenues. Starting in 2015 the water rates increased 15% per year until 2021. This follows recommendation from the Water Master Plan which also formed the basis of our application for a Water Treatment Plant under the Building Canada Fund.

2. Water Conservation Bylaw: Watering restrictions were implemented starting May 1st, 2018 which restrict watering in summer to certain days and hours to reduce peak consumption for residential customers in the summer months. These have proven to be effective in reducing consumption and are codified in our Bylaw which continues to come into effect each summer.
3. Education: Alongside conservation bylaw the village has taken a lead in education. Every year we freely distribute conservation kits which include water conservation tips, a moisture meter, a rain gauge and magnets. For drinking water week the village conducts a number of outreach activities including mail outs, drawing contest for kids and presentations. The village website also promotes conservation by posting tips, notices and advisories.
4. Leakage reduction: We have kept up a regular schedule of leak detection followed up by a phased approach of repairs on a case-by-case basis financed by the operating budget.
5. Water Metering: The Long-Term Financial plan incorporates water metering studies envisioned in 2024 and implementation of water meters followed by the study. As the smart metering technology improves, the village is monitoring innovation in surrounding municipalities so that we can apply some of the learning and avoid pitfalls in implementation of water meters. Due to resource limitations water metering projects are in large part contingent receipt of grants to fund capital upgrades.

Climate Change Mitigation & Adaptation Strategies

1. Flood prevention & Mitigation is incorporated into our strategic goals since the village is exposed to flooding events and debris flows due to desert nature of our flora and increasing frequency of extreme rain events. A full drainage assessment and capital improvements are required to adapt to these more frequent rain events.
2. Education is a cornerstone of our strategy as with a fairly low investment we are able to impact consumption patterns. The per capita consumption in the village is very high and informing and educating citizens of the impact of their consumption habits encourages action. We also work with our community partners like Communities in Bloom who put out information about plants more suited to desert climates which require less water. Desert planters are also now commonly used within the community.

Implementation strategies

As a small community our staff complement is minimal. Key staff including the CAO, CFO and DCO alongside the Public Works Forman are part of most initiatives. Additional studies, such as the metering study often require external consultants. Furthermore, lessons from peers and peer communities are essential to successful implementation and we track innovations closely. Although much of the planned initiatives are included in our Long-Term Financial Plan, they are in most cases contingent on grant funding, particularly for larger capital projects.

Official Community Plan

In 2018 the village completed a revision to the Official Community Plan. The plan explicitly addresses Climate change and adaptation in Part 2, Section 7.

Ashcroft is committed to preserving its environment for the enjoyment of this generation and future generations. Key issues that Ashcroft faces today are related to protecting water quality, ensuring that air quality supports the health of the entire community, respecting the wildlife which make their home in and around Ashcroft, and generally reducing the community's environmental footprint.

The asset management plan emphasises water infrastructure upgrades. We are currently in the process of building a new water treatment plant which allows us to comply with Canadian Drinking Water Standards.