

## **It's time to put down the hosepipe**

Yorkshire's in drought and while everyone's been enjoying the warm weather and using more water, we've seen a big impact on our reservoir levels. Usually, our groundwater sources and reservoirs are topped up in spring by changeable weather but this hasn't been the case as we've had the driest spring on record.

Our reservoirs haven't been topped up since January, so from Friday 11th July we're introducing hosepipe restrictions and asking customers to put down the hosepipes for the time being so we can give our reservoirs chance to recover. It's our job to make sure we can protect the environment and ensure there's enough water for everyone in the coming months, and while we've been working really hard to find and fix leaks, we're now taking this step to reduce the strain on our reservoirs.

## **What does this mean for you?**

Introducing restrictions on hosepipe use is not a decision we've taken lightly and we've been doing everything we can to avoid putting them in place.

We're grateful to our customers who have been saving water where they can already this year and whilst our teams are out 24/7 fixing leaks, accelerating our big pipe replacement programme and moving water around the region, we now need the people of Yorkshire to come together by using only what you need as this can make a big difference – every drop counts right now.

The less water we use now, the more we have for everyone in the months ahead.

[Find out more about the hosepipe restrictions](#)



**Activities covered by the hosepipe restrictions include:**



Watering your garden and lawn using a hosepipe. Switch to a watering can and use water from the tap, or even better, use grey water or rainwater from a water butt.



Cleaning your car using a hosepipe or power washer. You can still wash your car if you need to – just stick to cleaning the windows, wing mirrors and number plates with a bucket and cloth.



Cleaning paths, patios or decking using a hosepipe or power washer. These can wait until later in the year.



Cleaning windows at home using a hosepipe. Instead, grab a bucket and sponge to give them a clean.



Filling or maintaining your paddling pool, hot tub or cold-water plunge pool.

[Find out more about the business restrictions](#)

### **What have we been doing?**

As a result of the dry weather and warmer than usual temperatures, reservoir levels are currently 53.8%, well below the 80.9% average for this time of year.

We've been carefully managing water resources in the region for several months, moving water via a region wide grid system to balance stocks. Finding and fixing leaks has been a key focus; we've welcomed 100 extra people to the leakage team in 2025 who are working 24/7 across the county.

We're investing £406 million to replace more than 1,000km of water mains around the region to reduce leaks and bursts, as well as exchanging 1.3 million smart meters to help detect leaks.

[Find out more about our investment.](#)



Thank you for not using your hosepipes and saving water at home and at work. We'll let you know as soon as the restrictions have been lifted, but until then it's time to put down the hosepipe.





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