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PLEDGING TO CONSERVE WATER

Several Okanagan communities are pledging to 'Make Water Work' for water conservation

Sarah Crookall - Aug 27, 2024 / 4:00 am



Photo: Pixabay

Various Okanagan municipalities and organizations are supporting the "Make Water Work" contest aimed at reducing water use.

Staff, council members, regular citizens and more from municipalities and communities up and down the valley are taking part in the Okanagan Basin Water Board's challenge this week.

"There is less water available per person in the Okanagan than anywhere else in Canada," reads the contest description. "Pledge to limit your outdoor water use this summer while keeping the Okanagan vibrant and thriving!"

Participants are asked to pledge actions like "I pledge to only water my lawn between dusk and dawn," and "I pledge to choose plants suitable to our dry climate."

The OBWB warns that the Okanagan has one of the highest rates of water use per person in Canada. Much of that water use is spent on household lawns and gardens.

As such, Make Water Work provides several [water conservation tips online](#).

On Monday, the Oliver Fire Department shared the pledge via social media. Currently, many communities in the Okanagan are on water restrictions allowing lawn watering once or twice per week,

Those who sign the challenge are eligible to win a \$500 gift card for a water-wise yard upgrade from a local garden centre. By sharing the contest on social media and tagging @okwaterwise, contestant are entered twice in the draw.

In previous years, [Armstrong has been the reigning champ](#) as the most water-wise community with seven wins.

As of writing, Kelowna was in the lead with roughly 80 local pledges. The contest closes Sept. 29 at midnight.

For more information on the Make Water Work contest and to pledge [click here](#).

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