



REGIONAL DISTRICT NORTH OKANAGAN

MEMBER MUNICIPALITIES:

CITY OF ARMSTRONG

CITY OF ENDERBY

DISTRICT OF COLDSTREAM

VILLAGE OF LUMBY

CITY OF VERNON

TOWNSHIP OF SPALLUMCHEEN

ELECTORAL AREAS:

"B" – SWAN LAKE

"C" – BX DISTRICT

"D" – LUMBY (RURAL)

"E" – CHERRYVILLE

"F" – ENDERBY (RURAL)

Over Allocation Consumption Fee

Agricultural water customers pay for allocation – a volume of water for agricultural use during the irrigation season. Allocation limits help the utility manage the resources required to support irrigation water demand and encourage efficient water use, as agricultural water demand accounts for over 55% of all water used each year. Efforts to manage leaks make a big difference in helping maintain our water supplies during our drier summers.

Allocation is based on the Ministry of Agriculture’s crop water demand recommendation of 5,500 cubic meters of water per hectare [m³/ha] per year. Provincial agrologists calculated the 5,500 value using average growing conditions in Greater Vernon to ensure crops have sufficient water.

Allocation is quoted in hectares (ha) as it is based on the area being cultivated. For example, if a customer had 1.0 ha of allocation, they would multiply this number by 5,500 to get the annual volume of water allowed on that property for agricultural purposes:

$$1 \text{ ha} \times 5,500 \text{ m}^3/\text{ha} = 5,500 \text{ m}^3$$

Customers are charged the *Agricultural Over Consumption Rate* (per the current *Greater Vernon Water Rates Imposition Bylaw*) for water use over the allocated volume for that property. In the case of the above example, if the customer used 6,000 m³ they would be charged the *Over Consumption Rate* for 500 m³ of water use:

$$500 \text{ m}^3 \times \$0.47 = \$235$$

The rate for consumption less than 20% over the allocation is \$0.47/ m³ (see table below for rates), so in this case the customer would pay an extra \$235 in addition to their quarterly Allocation Fee.

Allocation Fee as per Greater Vernon Water Rates Imposition Bylaw No. 2864, 2020, Schedule "A" (for water use within your allocation):		
\$82.46 per hectare of allocation per quarter or portion of that quarter		
Agricultural Over Consumption Rate as per Bylaw No. 2864, 2020, Schedule "A" (for water use over your allocation):		
Tier	Amount Over Allocation	Volumetric Rate
A	0-20% over allocation	\$0.47 per cubic meter per year
B	over 20-50% over allocation	\$0.93 per cubic meter per year
C	over 50% over allocation	\$1.86 per cubic meter per year

Improving irrigation efficiency and repairing leaks helps to avoid over allocation fees. Many irrigation scheduling and water conservation resources are available at www.rdno.ca/agconnect. Greater Vernon Water recommends working with a certified irrigation professional to optimize an irrigation system. If a customer has made efficiency improvements and still requires more water, they may apply to purchase more allocation.