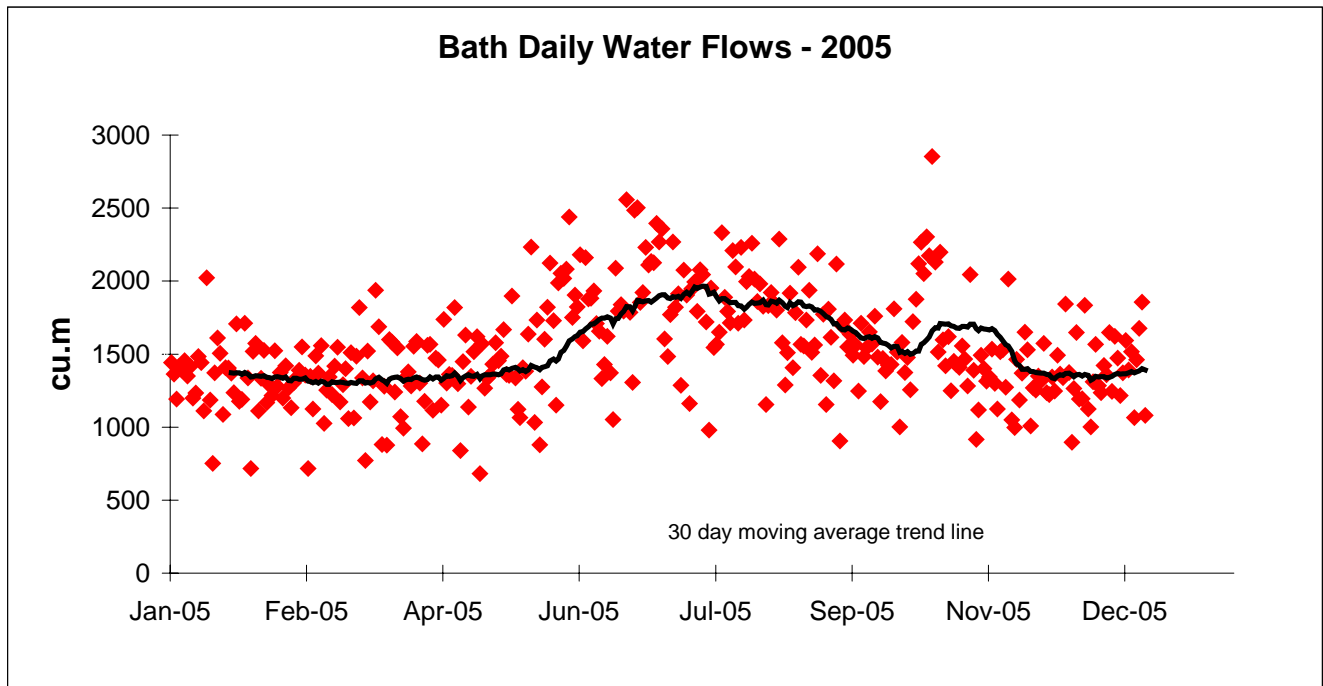


For up-to-date information concerning your roads, transit, waste management, water and sewage systems, visit the Township's web site: [www.loyalist-township.on.ca](http://www.loyalist-township.on.ca) or the Recreation Brochure.

## **Township implements peak water demand management Plan**

### **Why does the Township need a peak water demand management plan?**

- Summer peak flows are substantially higher than average base flows tying up capacity that could be allocated to new users.
- Capital cost for treatment and storage systems are increasing.
- Replacement cost for the Fairfield water system is \$1,401 for 1000 litres (220 gallons) of capacity.
- Replacement cost for the Bath water system is \$1,426 for 1000 litres (220 gallons) of capacity.
- Municipality needs to maximize the number of users on the system. Previous improvements were substantially funded by Provincial grants. These grants are now very difficult to obtain.
- Ministry of the Environment requires municipality to implement water conservation measures.
- Water systems for health and safety (fire) reasons must be capable of meeting maximum daily demands.
- In 2005, the Fairfield (Amherstview & Odessa) peak daily flow was 57% higher than the average daily flow.
- In 2005, the Bath peak daily flow was 86% higher than the average daily flow.
- Although the Fairfield and Bath water treatment plants draw water from Lake Ontario, a seemingly unlimited supply, there is a limit to how much and how fast water can be retrieved from the lake based on each facility's ability to treat water.
- Failure to reduce maximum daily demand forces premature expansion of the water systems that the users will pay for through increased rates.
- If the residents can reduce the maximum daily demand, there can be more users to share the costs.
- Plants under normal conditions are running at less than 50% of capacity but are occasionally impacted by large demands.
- See graph on next page illustrating typical daily flow trends for both systems showing higher summer demands.



### What is the Township's Plan?

- For the months of May to September, the Plan restricts water use so that odd numbered property owners may use water outdoors only on odd numbered days of the month and even numbered property owners may use water outdoors only on even numbered days of the month.
- The Plan defines outdoor watering as watering lawns or gardens; washing vehicles, sidewalks or driveways; and filling swimming pools, but does not include using handheld watering cans for the occasional watering of plants and flowers.
- The Plan allows the Director of Engineering Services, at his sole discretion, to provide an exemption or grace period for special circumstances, such as new sod and seed plantings, and allows the Director flexibility in developing an exemption program that will minimize minor requests, such as watering for newly planted trees and shrubs.
- In case of an emergency or pending water shortages, the Director of Engineering Services may further restrict the use of water to ensure that public health and safety are maintained.
- The Plan also requires utility staff to continue with the leak detection program to reduce loss of water.

### Benefits to you the Homeowner!

- Provides a greater safety factor to protect public health and to have sufficient water in times of emergency.
- Allows additional users to be connected and to share system costs.
- Delays need for plant expansion.
- Conservation measure is environmentally sound.

### Negative impacts to you the Homeowner

- Restricts days homeowner may use outdoor watering.

#### Other Water Conservation Tips

Source: Ministry of the Environment

- **Repair all Leaks**
  - Find any leaky pipe or faucets
  - A good way to check for leaks is turn off all water in your home and check the water meter to see if it is still flowing – if it is, you have a problem that should be fixed right away
  - Make sure you do not have leaky toilets – this can be checked with a few drops of food colouring in the toilet tanks and if the coloured water appears in the bowl you have a leak
  - Report any watermain or lateral leaks to Loyalist Township’s Utilities Department immediately.



- **Outdoors**
  - Water lawns and garden no more than once a week – early morning or late evening watering reduces evaporation
  - Two centimetres of water a week should be sufficient for your lawn (keep an empty container under the sprinkler to do the measurement).
  - Wash your car near the lawn or shrubs to make greater use of the water
  - Cut grass less frequently and at longer lengths- short cuts encourage evaporation

- Leave grass clippings on the lawn – they retain moisture and fertilize at the same time
- Use compost, grass and leaves as mulch on garden beds to prevent evaporation
- Choose drought-resistant trees, plants and grasses that need less water

▪ **In the Kitchen**

- Don't thaw frozen foods under running water – defrost them in the microwave or refrigerator
- Don't rinse food or dishes under the tap – use some water in a bowl or in a sink
- Don't run the tap for cold water – use ice cubes or keep a jug of water in the refrigerator
- Compost kitchen waste instead of using a garbage disposal.
- Add a water saving aerator to the tap.

▪ **In the bathroom**

- Install low consumption toilets
- Place a toilet dam in the toilet to save as much as four litres a flush
- Take a shower instead of a bath
- Shower for five minutes instead of ten
- Water-saving shower heads can cut water use by 40% and pay for themselves

▪ **Around the house**

- Wash only full loads of laundry
- Consider a more water efficient washing machine - some newer models have their drum on the side and cut water use in half

For more information on water conservation, please contact  
**Ministry of the Environment**  
**Public Information Centre**  
**135 St. Clair Avenue West**  
**Toronto, Ontario, M4V 1P5**

### **Important Water / Sewage Utility Phone Numbers**

After hours emergencies, call 541-3202. For locates, reporting watermain breaks, sewage blockages, water quality issues, call 386-7351, ext. 116. Billing enquiries and water meter repairs, call 386-7351, ext. 105.

Corporation of Loyalist Township  
 Engineering Department  
 P.O. Box 70, Odessa, Ontario, K0H 2H0  
[engineering@loyalist-township.on.ca](mailto:engineering@loyalist-township.on.ca)