

# Outdoor water use: Know your colour and your limits

**Gary Carr**



ted in order to conserve water.

As the warmer weather is now upon us it is very important to learn about the water restriction levels in order to reduce your consumption when required.

The following measures can also help to reduce your outdoor water use:

- Only water your lawns and gardens between 6-9 a.m./p.m. on odd or even days that correspond with your house number.
- Don't wash your driveway.
- If you own an automatic irrigation system, install moisture sensors or a central controller to avoid lawn watering during rainfall.
- Plant drought tolerant plants.
- Know how to turn off your automatic irrigation system in the event of any outdoor water use restrictions.

For details on Halton's Outdoor Water Use Program dial 311 or visit [www.halton.ca/waterconservation](http://www.halton.ca/waterconservation).

—Gary Carr is the chair of Halton Region

Did you know that in summer water consumption can double? This is largely due to the increase in outdoor water use from activities such as lawn watering and car washing. In order to ensure a reliable and continuous supply of water for essential and emergency needs like firefighting, Halton has launched an outdoor water use program designed to quickly communicate any outdoor water use restrictions.

The program consists of a numeric and colour-coded system that establishes three levels of outdoor water use depending on criteria such as water demand, reservoir levels, aquifer levels and anticipated weather patterns. The water restriction levels include:

Level 1 (Blue)— Careful Use. Outdoor watering permitted.

Level 2 (Yellow)— Limited Use. Only water outdoors on odd or even days that correspond with your house number. Outdoor watering should only occur between 6-9 a.m./p.m..

Level 3 (Red)— Stop Use. No outdoor lawn watering or car washing is permit-

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Ted Brown... 7  
Calendar... 16  
Sports... 26, 27  
Directory... 28, 31  
Classifieds... 28-34

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PAGE 26

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## THE INDEPENDENT & FREE PRESS

THURSDAY, March 25, 2010

Halton Hills' award-winning newspaper

**Public gets first chance to share views on \$2B transportation plan**

By TIM FORAN  
Halton Hills Group

A transportation master plan outlining how, when and where more than \$2 billion will be spent in Halton over the next 20 years will be the subject of public meetings over the next week, including tomorrow (Thursday) in Georgetown.

The Road to Change, the master plan will ultimately be a list of the necessary road repairs, bridge or underpasses, bike paths and dedicated bus lanes that will be needed to accommodate the 100,000 more people that are expected to call the region home by 2031.

The Road to Change will build on the already existing transportation master plan developed in 2006, and updated in 2007. That plan has been the main program in the 2012 call to available online at [www.halton.ca/transportation](http://www.halton.ca/transportation).

**Butterflies are free**

Help the Queen of Toronto presented Janis Innes, 8, with a balloon butterfly as he created balloon sculptures for the kids during March Break activities at Georgetown Market Place last week. For more photos see page 11.

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