

## Letters

**Water restrictions  
anger reader**

Dear Editor,

First let me state that I am in absolute favor of water conservation. It is an issue that should be given greater attention, not only at local levels of government, but also at provincial and federal levels. I am, however, getting sick and tired of the nonsense that is being fed to the town of Stouffville via notices in newspapers and in articles as on the front page of the Tribune Wednesday, June 21. What I take issue with is the odd/even 6 to 9 a.m. watering restrictions and the threatened "up to" \$5,000 fine for failure to comply.

Firstly, when this scheme was introduced someone on council (it may have been the former mayor) stated that a survey had shown this to be the most convenient time for most people. As with most surveys in our country, this is one that failed to solicit my opinion.

Why doesn't the town of Stouffville cut the bull? The reason for these hours is that it is extremely restrictive to most people and has the effect of limiting watering for many families to less than an hour every second day, which is probably a goal of the town.

Does anyone on council truly feel this is a fair system with so many families with both partners working and leaving the home at 7 a.m. or earlier? What about seniors? Are they expected to get up at an ungodly hour to do their watering?

As for enforcement, what the law really means is that in order for someone to be charged, somebody has to first make a complaint and take the time to follow through with charges. This I know from personal experience. Due to water run-off from the yard of a neighbor who waters whenever he feels like it, my backyard was turned into a swamp even in the driest of summers.

Calls to the town were met with the response "there is nothing that can be done unless we catch him" or "I was told that I could press charges and follow through". In other words the town wants us to do their work for them because they don't have the ability or intestinal fortitude to enforce their law. The result of my years (yes, that's right - years) of complaints, was to forget the town enforcing their law and to spend close to \$4,000 in landscaping to prevent the water run-off from rendering a large part of my back-

(Please see page 12)

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