

## **BY-LAW REGARDING THE USE OF DRINKING WATER**

### **BY-LAW NUMBER 2013-03**

#### **Municipality of L'Isle-aux-Allumettes**

In effect from April 15 to September 15, the by-law on the use of drinking water applies to the population serviced by the L'Isle-aux-Allumettes water works system.

#### **Article 1**

The purpose of the by-law is to regulate drinking water usage in order to preserve the quality and supply of this resource. Whereas new government standards require a revision of the rules governing the use of public drinking water systems prior to April 1, 2013;

#### **Article 2 Enforcement responsibility**

The Municipality is responsible for enforcing this by-law.

#### **Article 3 General authority of the municipality**

##### **Article 3.1 Work interference**

Anyone who prevents a municipal employee or another person at its service from conducting repair work, readings or inspections, who disrupts or bothers such employee in exercising his authority or who damages in any way the waterworks system, equipment or components, interferes with or disrupts the operation of the drinking water system, related components or equipment, damages the aforementioned equipment as a result of their actions, is in violation of this by-law and is liable to the penalties prescribed in this by-law.

##### **Article 3.2 Access rights**

Employees designated specifically by the Municipality have the right to access, at all reasonable time public or private place, within or outside municipal boundaries and to remain there for as long as is needed to complete repair work, take readings or examine

if the provisions of this by-law are applied (municipalities governed by the Municipal Code should limit their visits between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m., as indicated in article 492 C.m.Q.). They must be given the cooperation they require for easy access. Employees shall carry and display, where required, their municipal identification card. Furthermore, municipal employees have the right to access shut-off valves located inside buildings.

Only those employees designated in the first clause are allowed to remove or install seals. Any other individual who removes or installs a seal is in violation of this by-law and liable to the penalties included in this by-law.

### **Article 3.3 Water pressure and flow**

For all types of connections, the Municipality does not guarantee continuous service or a pre-determined pressure or flow value; no one can refuse to pay their account in part or in full for reasons of insufficient water supply, despite the cause.

### **Article 3.4 Request for plans**

The Municipality may request one or more interior plumbing plans for buildings, or request details on the operation of devices that use water from the municipal drinking water system.

### **Article 3.5 Interdictions**

Making changes to the system, causing damage to seals or compromising the operation of devices and accessories provided by the Municipality is forbidden, as is the contamination of water in the system or tanks, and knowingly providing false information to the Municipality about the supply of water in the system are all actions liable to legal prosecution.

## **Article 4 Use of water infrastructure and equipment**

### **Article 4.1 Air conditioning and refrigeration**

The installation of air conditioning or refrigeration systems that use drinking water is prohibited. Air conditioning or refrigeration systems installed prior to the coming into force of this by-law shall be replaced, prior to January 1, 2017, with a system that does not use drinking water.

Notwithstanding the first provision of this article, air conditioning or refrigeration systems equipped with a water recirculation loop are allowed, providing they are regularly maintained.

The installation of compressors that use drinking water is forbidden. Such compressors installed prior to the coming into force of this by-law shall be replaced, prior to January 1, 2017, with a compressor that does not use drinking water.

Notwithstanding the third provision of this article, compressors equipped with a water recirculation loop are allowed, providing they are regularly maintained.

**Article 4.2 Automatic flush urinals equipped with purge tank, connections**

The installation of auto-flush urinals equipped with a purge tank that uses drinking water is prohibited. All auto-flush urinals equipped with a purge tank that uses drinking water installed prior to the coming into force of this my-law shall be replaced prior to January 1, 2017, with a manual flush or a motion-detector flush unit.

**Article 4.2 Plumbing Code**

The design and execution of plumbing work carried-out after the coming into force of this by-law shall comply with the latest versions of the Quebec Construction Code, chapter III, Plumbing, and the Safety Code, Chapter I, Plumbing.

**Article 4.3 Use of fire hydrants and municipal valves**

Fire hydrants are used only by authorised municipal employees. No one is allowed to open, close, tamper with or operate a fire hydrant or a valve on the hydrant feed line without municipal authorization. Fire hydrants shall be opened and closed as prescribed in the Municipality's procedure. An anti-backflow device must be used to prevent the possibility of backflow or siphoning.

**Article 5 Interior and exterior usage**

**Article 5.1 Watering vegetation**

Hand watering of gardens, beds, flower pots and hanging baskets is allowed at all times using a garden hose with a self-closing nozzle.

**Article 5.2 Watering timetable**

The watering of lawns, hedges, trees, shrubs or other plants with sprinklers or perforated hoses is allowed only between 8 p.m. and 11 p.m. on the following days:

- a) Occupants with an even-numbered dwelling are allowed on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays;

- b) Occupants with an odd-numbered dwelling are allowed on Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays.

Filling swimming pools and spas is allowed between 8 p.m. and 11 p.m. However, a low pressure anti-backflow device must be used to prevent contamination of the drinking water system.

#### **Article 5.5 Watering ban**

For reasons of drought, major breakage of municipal water conduits or for other reasons, the person in charge of enforcing the by-law may, by way of public notice, implement a watering ban, prohibiting any person from watering lawns, trees and shrubs or filling swimming pools, washing vehicles or using water for any other purpose. However this ban does not apply to hand-watering of gardens and edible plants grown in pots or in the ground, to flowers and flower beds.

#### **Article 5.6 Water features**

Water features must be equipped with an on-demand trigger system. Continuous flow of drinking water is prohibited.

#### **Article 5.7 New lawns and landscaping**

Notwithstanding article 5.2, watering new lawns, new tree or shrub plantations or new landscaped areas is allowed for a 15-day period following commencement of seeding or plantation of lawn patches, providing a free permit was granted by the municipal office.

#### **Article 5.8 Vehicles, driveways, walkways, patios or outside walls of buildings**

Washing vehicles is permitted at all times, providing a pale of water or a hose with a self-closing nozzle is used. Washing driveways, walkways, patios or the outside walls of buildings is only allowed between April 1 to May 15 every year or when paint, construction or renovation work requires cleaning. The use of drinking water to melt snow or ice in driveways, lawns, patios or walkways is strictly forbidden.

#### **Article 5.9 Runoff water**

Deliberate use of watering equipment to generate runoff water on the street or neighbouring properties is forbidden. However, some leeway is granted to factor in the effects of wind.

## **Article 6 Cost, violations and fines**

### **Article 6.1 Cost for retrofit work**

If the owner requires that their water main be rebuilt or replaced with a larger diameter unit, or requires a deeper installation into the ground, the cost of such work shall be paid by the said owner, who is required, prior to commencement of work, to deposit the estimated amount at the municipal office. The actual final cost and fees will be adjusted upon completion of the work.

### **Article 6.2 Fines**

Violations to any provision of this by-law are liable to:

- a) In the case of an individual (natural person) :**
  - i. A fine between \$100 - \$300 for a first offence**
  - ii. A fine between \$300 - \$500 for a second offence**
  - iii. A fine between \$500 - \$1000 for all extra offences.**
- b) In the case of a corporate entity:**
  - i. A fine between \$200 - \$600 for a first offence**
  - ii. A fine between \$600 - \$1000 for a second offence**
  - iii. A fine between \$1000 - \$2000 for all extra offences.**

In all cases, fees are added to the fine. In the case of a continuous offence, the violator is deemed to commit a violation for as many days as the violation is actually committed.

The provisions of the Code of Penal Procedures apply for all legal actions taken under the current by-law.

### **Article 6.3 Issuance of statements of offence**

The person in charge of enforcing this by-law has the authority to issue statements of offence for any violation of the current by-law.

### **Article 6.4 Orders**

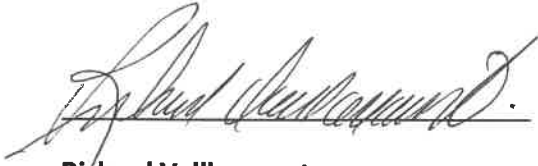
Where a court issues a sentence for an offence for which the object is contrary to the standards of this by-law, the court may, in addition to the fine and the fees stated in article 6.2, order that such an offence be, in the timeframe it sets, eliminated by the faulty party and that, if the violator complies within the set timeframe, the offence may be rescinded by the conduct of appropriate work by the municipality and charged to the violator.

**Article 7 This by-law will come into force in accordance with the law**

Notice of motion, fall 2012

Enactment: April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2013

Publication: April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2013



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