

STATUTORY NOTICE FOR A TEMPORARY USE BAN

Northumbrian Water Limited (trading as Essex & Suffolk Water) gives notice that, pursuant to Sections 76 and 76A-C of the Water Industry Act 1991 as substituted by Section 36 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010, it prohibits the uses of potable water supplied by it under a Temporary Use Ban ("TUB") as set out below.

The prohibition applies to:

- all customers supplied with mains water by Essex & Suffolk Water in Essex, Suffolk, Norfolk and the London Boroughs of Barking, Dagenham and Redbridge
- all businesses and household who receive water from Essex & Suffolk Water through water retailers or New Appointments and Variations ("NAVs").

The TUB applies to our Essex Water Resource Zone and Blyth, Hartismere and Northern Central Water Resource Zones in Suffolk as shown on the map located at the end of this notice.

This notice and further details concerning the TUB restrictions, current drought conditions and water efficiency advice can be found at: eswater.co.uk

The TUB will come into force at **00:01am on Monday 3 August 2026** and shall remain in force until further notice.

PROHIBITED USES

The use of a hosepipe, including the use of sprinklers, micro or automatic irrigation systems, pressure washers and similar devices connected directly or

indirectly to the mains water supply, is prohibited for the following purposes:

- A.** Watering a garden using a hosepipe;
- B.** Cleaning a private motor-vehicle using a hosepipe;
- C.** Watering plants on domestic or other non-commercial premises using a hosepipe;
- D.** Cleaning a private leisure boat using a hosepipe;
- E.** Filling or maintaining a domestic swimming or paddling pool;
- F.** Drawing water, using a hosepipe, for domestic recreational use;
- G.** Filling or maintaining a domestic pond using a hosepipe;
- H.** Filling or maintaining an ornamental fountain;
- I.** Cleaning walls, or windows, of domestic premises using a hosepipe;
- J.** Cleaning paths or patios using a hosepipe;
- K.** Cleaning other artificial outdoor surfaces using a hosepipe.

Except for prohibited uses **E** and **H** above, customers may continue to undertake these activities using water from a bucket or watering can, or using water not sourced from the public supply, including harvested rainwater, greywater or private supplies such as from a borehole.

The above prohibited uses are those specified under Section 76 of the Water Industry Act 1991, as substituted by Section 36 of the Flood and Water Management Act.

DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this notice:

"Hosepipe" includes anything designed, adapted or used to serve the same purpose as a hosepipe and includes equipment attached to it, including sprinklers, irrigation systems and pressure washers.

"Garden" includes:

- a domestic garden
- a park
- gardens open to the public
- a lawn
- a grass verge
- an area of grass used for sport or recreation
- an allotment garden
- any area of an allotment used for non-commercial purposes
- any other green space

"Using a hosepipe" includes drawing water through a hosepipe from a container and filling a container using a hosepipe supplied with mains water from Essex & Suffolk Water.

"Domestic recreational use" includes the use of water slides, paddling equipment, sprinklers, hot tubs and similar equipment.

A **"business"** is defined as those which pay business rates.

A **"domestic property"** is those subject to council tax.

Further definitions are contained within the Water Use (Temporary Bans) Order 2010 which can be found here: [The Water Use \(Temporary Bans\) Order 2010](#)

EXCEPTIONS

The table below confirms the statutory and discretionary exceptions to the TUB.

You do not need to apply for an exception or notify us (Essex & Suffolk Water), if an exception applies to you.

If one of these exceptions applies to you then you may continue to use a hosepipe for the restricted purposes where use of alternative methods would not be reasonably practicable.

TUB CATEGORY (What you can not do)	STATUTORY EXCEPTION	DISCRETIONARY UNIVERSAL EXCEPTION (granted by all water compnies)	DISCRETIONARY CONCESSIONAL EXCEPTION (granted by Essex & Suffolk Water)
A. Watering a garden using a hosepipe	Using a hosepipe to water a garden for health or safety reasons. NB In this category, the definition of "a garden" includes "an area of grass used for sport or recreation". Therefore, it should be noted that watering areas of grass, which are used for sport or recreation, is covered by a Statutory Exception for health and safety only in relation to the active strip/playing area, not the entire ground	- To Blue Badge holders on the grounds of disability - Use of an approved drip or trickle irrigation system fitted with a pressure reducing valve (PRV) and timer	- To customers who have mobility issues but are not in possession of a Blue Badge - To water newly laid turf for first 28 days
B. Cleaning a private motor-vehicle using a hosepipe	A "private motor-vehicle" does not include (1) a public service vehicle, as defined in section 1 of the Public Passenger Vehicles Act 1981 (c), and (2) a goods vehicle, as defined in section 192 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 (d)	- To Blue Badge holders on the grounds of disability - Use of a hosepipe in the course of a business to clean private motor vehicles where this is done as a service to customers	To customers who have mobility issues but are not in possession of a Blue Badge
C. Watering plants on domestic or other non-commercial premises using a hosepipe	Does not include watering plants that are (1) grown or kept for sale or commercial use, or (2) that are part of a National Plant Collection or temporary garden or flower display	- To Blue Badge holders on the grounds of disability - Use of an approved drip or trickle irrigation system fitted with a PRV and timer	- To customers who have mobility issues but are not in possession of a Blue Badge - To water newly laid turf for first 28 days
D. Cleaning a private leisure boat using a hosepipe	(1) cleaning any area of a private leisure boat which, except for doors or windows, is enclosed by a roof and walls (2) Using a hosepipe to clean a private leisure boat for health or safety reasons	- Commercial cleaning - Vessels of primary residence - Cases where fouling is causing increased fuel consumption - Engines designed to be cleaned with a hosepipe	To prevent or control the spread of non-native and/or invasive species
E. Filling or maintaining a domestic swimming or paddling pool	(1) filling or maintaining a pool where necessary in the course of its construction (2) filling or maintaining a pool using a hand-held container which is filled with water drawn directly from a tap (3) filling or maintaining a pool that is designed, constructed or adapted for use in the course of a programme of medical treatment (4) filling or maintaining a pool that is used for the purpose of decontaminating animals from infection or disease (5) filling or maintaining a pool used in the course of a programme of veterinary treatment (6) filling or maintaining a pool in which fish or other aquatic animals are being reared or kept in captivity	None	
F. Drawing water, using a hosepipe, for domestic recreational use	None	None	

TUB CATEGORY (What you can not do)	STATUTORY EXCEPTION	DISCRETIONARY UNIVERSAL EXCEPTION (granted by all water compnies)	DISCRETIONARY CONCESSIONAL EXCEPTION (granted by Essex & Suffolk Water)
G. Filling or maintaining a domestic pond using a hosepipe	Filling or maintaining a domestic pond in which fish or other aquatic animals are being reared or kept in captivity	Blue Badge holders on the grounds of disability	To customers who have mobility issues but are not in possession of a Blue Badge
H. Filling or maintaining an ornamental fountain	Filling or maintaining an ornamental fountain which is in or near a fish-pond and whose purpose is to supply sufficient oxygen to the water in the pond in order to keep the fish healthy	None	To operate water features with religious significance
I. Cleaning walls, or windows, of domestic premises using a hosepipe	Using a hosepipe to clean the walls or windows of domestic premises for health or safety reasons	- To Blue Badge holders on the grounds of disability - Commercial cleaning	To customers who have mobility issues but are not in possession of a Blue Badge
J. Cleaning paths or patios using a hosepipe	Using a hosepipe to clean paths or patios for health or safety reasons	- To Blue Badge holders on the grounds of disability - Commercial cleaning	To customers who have mobility issues but are not in possession of a Blue Badge
K. Cleaning other artificial surfaces using a hosepipe	Using a hosepipe to clean an artificial outdoor surface for health or safety reasons	- To Blue Badge holders on the grounds of disability - Commercial cleaning	To customers who have mobility issues but are not in possession of a Blue Badge

PENALTIES

Any person who contravenes the prohibition may be guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £1,000.

REPRESENTATIONS

Representations concerning any aspect of this Temporary Use Ban may be submitted by:

Email: ESWTUB@nwl.co.uk

Post: Essex & Suffolk Water, Sandon Valley House, Canon Barns Road, East Hanningfield, Chelmsford, Essex, CM3 8BD

If Essex & Suffolk Water decides to vary any aspect of the TUB following consideration of representations, a further notice will be published. Subject to this, the TUB will take effect from **Monday 3 August 2026** and remain in force until further notice.

OUR SUPPLY AREA

