



February 20th, 2026

Joel Beatson
Executive Director
Landscape Alberta

Dear Joel Beatson,

The City of Calgary is moving forward with planned reinforcement repairs to support the stability of the current Bears paw South Feeder Main (BSFM). This work will target up to nine segments of the existing pipe to support operations and stability.

Due to the critical condition of the BSFM and its importance in Calgary's drinking water system, the City is reinforcing sections of pipe that are experiencing enhanced levels of deterioration. These reinforcements are intended to support continued operation of the BSFM until the new parallel steel pipe is completed and can take over service from the current line.

Water restrictions will be in place beginning March 9

The feeder main will be taken out of service to complete construction. During this time, it's critical that all Calgarians and the surrounding regions use less water. Outdoor water restrictions and indoor water conservation will be in effect starting March 9 and is expected to last approximately four weeks. No outdoor water use will be permitted during this time. We also anticipate restrictions will be needed again when we tie in the new parallel pipe.

Outside of the reinforcement work, other scenarios outside of The City's control, including another break in the feeder main or weather-related conditions such as drought or heat waves, may necessitate implementing outdoor water restrictions at any time.

We recognize the urgency of these issues and their potential economic impact. Until the pipe is fully twinned, it remains at risk of failure. **Homes, businesses and yards should be ready for Stage 4 outdoor water restrictions and voluntary indoor conservation at any time.**

Bylaw Updates

Since the first break in 2024, The City has been connecting directly with industries that rely on outdoor water use to better understand the impacts of water restrictions. We heard about possible solutions that reduce reliance on treated water in construction and irrigation, and about key timing windows during which critical activities occur for these industries. In response to the concerns raised, we made updates to outdoor restrictions in 2024 to support the landscaping industry and others. Most importantly, we amended the [Water Utility Bylaw](#) in 2025 to create exemptions for watering new trees, sod and seed during their respective establishment periods from the earlier stages of outdoor watering restrictions.

Our team will continue to engage with our partners and industry to understand ongoing impacts while balancing water demand with the available supply. We encourage you to stay in touch with your industry associations as The City continues to provide updates on this critical work.

Resources

- Updates on the Bearspaw South Feeder Main Improvements Project can be found www.calgary.ca/bsfmreinforcements
- For timely updates on water restrictions, please keep an eye on www.calgary.ca/savewater
- There are many ways you can conserve water without compromising safety or quality. Please check out our resource library at www.calgary.ca/savewateratwork.

Regards,



Rehana Rajabali, P.Eng., MUDS
Manager, Natural Environment & Adaptation
Climate & Environment | Planning & Development Services
The City of Calgary

