



2000 – 10423 101 Street NW, Edmonton, Alberta
T5H 0E8 Canada
epcor.com

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Progress made on the repair work at the E.L. Smith Water Treatment Plant

Mandatory ban on non-essential water use remains in place for Edmonton and Capital Region

Significant strides were made last night on the work to restore E.L. Smith Water Treatment Plant to full capacity. EPCOR crews and contractors worked overnight and successfully repaired electrical systems. Work continues today to stabilize the system and replenish the reservoirs.

The mandatory ban on non-essential water use must remain in place while pumping systems are tested at full capacity and while we restore the reservoirs across the city.

EPCOR recognizes the tremendous efforts made by all residents, business owners, large water users, and regional partners to conserve water over the past few days – in particular the sacrifices made by car wash and laundromat owners and their employees. We understand this remains a difficult situation for many and we continue to offer our sincere thanks to everyone for supporting the restrictions.

We'd like to encourage residents to continue practicing water conservation by:

- Deferring laundry or large uses of water such as filling hot tubs
- Using smaller amount of dishes and washing them as efficiently as possible
- Taking shorter showers rather than baths and running water only when necessary

The mandatory ban on non-essential water use applies to residents, business and members of industry operating in Edmonton and surrounding communities supplied with EPCOR water, including Sherwood Park, St. Albert, Stony Plain, Spruce Grove, Leduc, Beaumont and Fort Saskatchewan. Until the E.L. Smith Water Treatment Plant returns to normal operations, customers may also experience low water pressure.

EPCOR will be holding a media availability and update on Friday, February 2 at 11 am. At the media availability EPCOR will provide additional information on the causes of the incident at E.L. Smith, the repair work conducted, and the performance of water demand management measures. More detailed information will follow at the March 4, 2024 Utility Committee meeting, based on the completion of post-incident reviews.