

## January 2020

### Fire Safety

#### Recognition date extended for the fire protection accreditation scheme (FPAS).

Fire protection practitioners in NSW will now have extra time to gain accreditation, following the NSW Government's extension of the deadline for formal recognition of the Fire Protection Accreditation Scheme (FPAS). The new date is 6 April 2020.

The extension gives industry practitioners extra time to gain FPAS accreditation that identifies them as 'competent fire safety practitioners' (CFSPs), before such accreditation becomes mandatory for certain types of fire protection work in NSW. This accreditation includes a person's ability to sign an annual fire safety statement (AFSS). This is important for strata schemes to ensure the AFSS is accepted by the local council or heavy fines can be applied.

***Strata Logic will implement a system of checking with all of the current fire safety companies which are providing services to our clients to ensure they have a nominated person with the appropriate accreditation as a CFSP before the current deadline of 6 April 2020 expires and we will seek instructions from the strata committee to appoint a new fire service provider if the current provider is unable to satisfy this legal requirement.***

### Water Restrictions

#### Sydney Water Level 2 Restrictions are now in force and enforced.

- You can only water your garden before 10am or after 4pm with a watering can or bucket
- 'Smart' watering systems that include automated weather adjustment, a rain sensor or a soil moisture sensor and drip irrigation systems may only be used for 15 minutes before 10am or after 4pm

- The use of unattended hoses is not permitted
- Hosing of hard surfaces is not permitted, unless in an emergency or for health and safety reasons
- You can wash your car with a bucket or at a commercial car wash
- You will need a permit before filling a pool over 500L
- Its ok to use bore water, rain water tanks and grey water systems

#### You can:

- ✓ spot clean hard surfaces **for health, safety or emergency** reasons, using a hose fitted with a trigger nozzle or high pressure cleaning equipment
- ✓ wash your garbage bin using water from a bucket or a hose fitted with a trigger nozzle
- ✓ wash your windows or other glass surfaces with a bucket and cloth/sponge or engage a window cleaner who has an exemption permit
- ✓ use a broom to clean paths, driveways and other hard surfaces.

#### There are exemptions to some businesses.

This means that some tradespeople, such as gardeners and builders, who may work on your property can use water within the conditions of their water restrictions exemptions permit. Their permit may include watering between 10 am and 4 pm or watering hard surfaces to enable them to operate their business.

If you are concerned, ask the contractor about their exemption. When Sydney Water approve an exemption, they provide a permit and sticker to display at their place of business or on their vehicles, so they can explain to customers they have an exemption. .

***It may be a good time for owners to give some consideration to rain water tanks being installed on the common property to allow lawns and gardens to be watered regularly and also to ensure your irrigation system is compliant with the recent changes.***