

MASSACHUSETTS DROUGHT ALERT

March 18, 2025



LEVEL 1
Mild Drought

LEVEL 2
Significant Drought

LEVEL 3
Critical Drought

LEVEL 4
Emergency Drought

DROUGHT STATUS:

Massachusetts is *still in a Drought*. Although the state received some snow and rain in February, conditions have continued to worsen. EEA has declared the following drought conditions: Connecticut River Valley, Central and Northeast Regions at **Level 3—Critical Drought** and Western, Southeast, Cape Cod and Islands Regions at **Level 2 – Significant Drought**.

CURRENT CONDITIONS:

Over the past month, most of the state received 2-4 inches of precipitation which is 1-1.5 inches below normal. Despite temporary surges in streamflow from recent precipitation, streamflow and groundwater conditions have worsened in nearly all regions, and recharge that typically occurs at this time of the year to groundwater and reservoirs is diminished. It is imperative that we continue to practice indoor water conservation to ensure that our drinking water supplies are sustained, and to fully recover from and reduce drought impacts.

We're entering FIRE SEASON early!

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

Practice Indoor Water Conservation!

Share your drought impacts with us!

www.mass.gov/wir

Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA):
Rebecca L. Tepper

Director of MEMA:
Dawn Brantley



For Information on
Water Conservation
click [here!](#)

Private Well owners
click [here!](#)

Residents, Facilities & Businesses (including private wells users)

WATER USE TIPS

- Aggressively reduce indoor water use
 - take shorter showers with timer
 - avoid water running while brushing/shaving, etc.
 - Run dishwashers & washing machines only at full capacity
- Minimize overall water use
 - Follow local water restrictions
 - Monitor total household water use shown on water bill for sudden increases
 - Fix leaks immediately

OUTDOOR FIRE PREVENTION TIPS

- Burning yard waste is prohibited
- Use caution with power equipment
- Properly dispose of ashes and smoking materials

Communities/Municipalities

- Establish a year-round water conservation program that includes public education and communication using [outreach materials](#)
- Provide timely drought and water conservation information to local residents and businesses
- Check emergency inter-connections with other water suppliers
- Implement drought surcharge or seasonal water rates
- Establish water use reduction targets for all water users
- Conduct targeted outreach to identified top water users
- Establish a leak detection program
- Develop or refine local drought management plan using guidance in the state [Drought Management Plan](#)
- Limit or prohibit washing of hard surfaces, vehicles, boats

Learn more at www.mass.gov/drought