Drought Management Task Force Update

11.05.20

John Gregoire, Program Manager, Reservoir Operations
Spring analysis (3.21-6.21):

Pandemic “stay-at-home” order in place until “Phase I reopening” on 5.25, but summer usage hadn’t kicked in yet.
System demand -- Spring + Summer 2020

This includes data from 3/18 through summer.
System demand -- Summer (6.21 – 9.21)

Pandemic “Phase 2 reopening’’ starts on 06.08

“Phase 2/Step 2 reopening” starts on 06.22

“Phase 3 reopening” starts on 07.06

Summer demand patterns have kicked in.
Quabbin Reservoir

Quabbin Reservoir Volume
First of the Month

Date | Elevation | Volume | % Volume
--- | --- | --- | ---
11/2/20 | 524.08 | 367,200 | 89.1%
10/7/20 | 524.40 | 369,600 | 89.7%
Totals | -0.32 | -2,400 | -0.6%

% Volume

Jan-14 | Jan-15 | Jan-16 | Jan-17 | Jan-18 | Jan-19 | Jan-20 | Jan-21

Normal | Quabbin Elevation
Sudbury & Foss Reservoirs

Sudbury System
- Sudbury flows into Res 3
- Res 3 flows into Res 1
- Res 2 flows into Res 1
- Res 1 flows into the Sudbury River

Sudbury Reservoir
- Lower Limit
- Upper Limit

Foss Reservoir
- Lower Limit
- Upper Limit

Brackett Reservoir (Res 2)

Sudbury Dam

Sudbury River

Stearns Reservoir (Res 1)

Dam 1

Dam 2

Dam 3

Foss Reservoir (Res 3)
MWRA Social Media Messaging on drought

There is a Stage 3 Drought across the state. Although our reservoirs are still within normal operating range, it is important that we all use water wisely.

[Link to tweet](http://www.mwra.com/01news/2020/070220-reservoirstatus.html)

Twitter

Update: The Commonwealth has declared a Level 3 Significant Drought in many parts of the state. Please [click here](http://www.mwra.com/01news/2020/070220-reservoirstatus.html) to read about tips on saving water at home, both indoors and outdoors.

Massachusetts has been experiencing an extended dry period over the last few months and the Commonwealth has declared a Level 2 Significant Drought in many parts of the state. Since the early 1980s, MWRA’s water communities have successfully reduced water usage by over 30%, which means that the Quabbin and Wachusett Reservoirs are still near full and in the normal operating range for this time of year. Although MWRA will not be issuing mandatory water restrictions on our member communities, it is always important to conserve water wherever you can, so that if the drought continues, we will have the water we need.

[Click here](http://www.mwra.com/01news/2020/070220-reservoirstatus.html) to see tips on saving water at home, both indoors and outdoors.