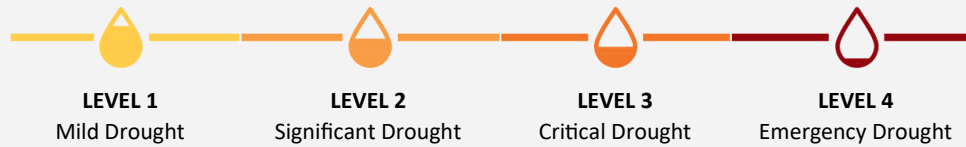


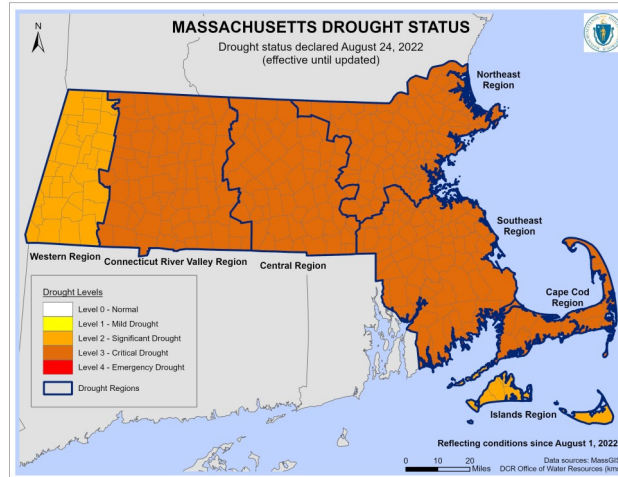
MASSACHUSETTS DROUGHT ALERT

August 26, 2022



DROUGHT STATUS

The Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs has declared a **Level 3 – Critical Drought** in the Northeast, Central, Connecticut River Valley, Southeast, and now Cape Cod Regions, a **Level 2 – Significant Drought** in the Western, and Islands Regions.



Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs:
Bethany A. Card

Acting Director of MEMA:
Dawn Brantley



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

Private Well owners click [here!](#)

CURRENT CONDITIONS

The state has experienced over seven months of below normal rainfall and the drought has intensified across the state. Since the onset of the drought, regions are experiencing between a four and ten inch deficit in precipitation. The risk of wild fires is increasing and unusually dry topsoil and groundcover vegetation causing fires to burn deeper and longer. Streamflow is severely impacted with dry stream beds and ponding, higher water temperatures and increased algal growth. Drought conditions are impacting our farms, with losses in soil moisture, more heavy irrigation needed and initial signs of crop loss.

WHAT YOU SHOULD DO

Residents, Facilities & Businesses:

ALL DROUGHT REGIONS

- Conserve water use
- Run dishwashers & washing machines at full capacity
- Take shorter showers
- Fix Leaks
- Be careful with outdoor flames
- **Ban on open flame & charcoal fires at state parks**

OUTDOOR WATER USE RESTRICTIONS

- LEVEL 2: Limit to hand-held 5:00 pm - 9:00 am
- LEVEL 3: **Ban on all non-essential outdoor water use**

Cities & Towns:

- Limit outdoor watering as per drought level restrictions for your region
- Limit new landscapes and outdoor washing
- Check emergency connections and interconnections with other water suppliers
- Implement drought or seasonal water rates
- Establish water use reduction targets
- Establish a leak detection program
- Develop/refine local drought plan for water supply

Follow Local & State Watering Restrictions!