

## Nonessential Outdoor Water Use Restrictions - Permit vs. Registration

Agenda item 5. will be a discussion of how to approach aligning the outdoor water use restrictions that appear in WMA Registrations and Permits. Below is an outline of requirements.

### Current Permit Limits on Nonessential Outdoor Water Use

Standard Outdoor Water Use Restrictions*	Calendar Option		Streamflow Option	
	May 1-Sept 30	7-day low-flow trigger	Flow above ABF	Flow above ABF
Below 65 RGPCD	7 days*	1 day*	7 days*	1 day*
Above 65 RGPCD Or wells in a Minimization subbasin	2 days*	1 day*	2 days*	1 day*
*No watering between 9 am and 5pm on any day				

Permittees with withdrawals in groundwater-driven basins (i.e., the southern portion of South Coastal, Cape Cod, Islands, and portions of the Buzzards Bay Basin) are required to implement an alternative approach based on groundwater drought triggers.

### Current Registration Limits on Nonessential Outdoor Water Use

Restrictions in WMA Registrations are based on the MA Drought Plan. Restrictions are imposed whenever a drought is declared in a water user's Drought Region.

State Drought Plan	Nonessential Outdoor Water-Use Restriction
Level 1 - Mild	1 day per week watering, before 9 a.m. or after 5 p.m.
Level 2 - Significant	Hand-held hoses or watering cans only, before 9 a.m. or after 5 p.m.
Level 3 - Critical	Ban on all nonessential outdoor water use
Level 4 - Emergency	Ban on all nonessential outdoor water use

MA Drought Region	Counties
Western	Berkshire
Connecticut River Valley	Franklin, Hampshire, and Hampden
Central	Worcester
Northeast	Essex, Middlesex, & Suffolk (plus town of Brookline)
Southeast	Bristol, Plymouth, & Norfolk (minus town of Brookline)
Cape Cod	Barnstable
Islands	Nantucket and Dukes (includes Elizabeth Islands)