



## Frequently Asked Questions

[Home](#) / [Frequently Asked Questions](#)



- 1. What are the drought regions? >
- 2. What are the drought indicators and how are they used? v
- 3. Can the drought regions be affected by conditions differently? v
- 4. What can I do to conserve water? v
- 5. If it rains, do I still need to conserve water? v
- 6. Are State-imposed mandatory water use restrictions in place at this time? v
- 7. How would I know if the State did impose mandatory water-use restrictions? v
- 8. My town has imposed water use restrictions. Do I have to follow these if no State restrictions are in place? v
- 9. Whom do I contact in my town or county to find out if water use restrictions are in place? v
- 10. What is a “drought watch”? v
- 11. What does “drought warning” mean? v
- 12. What is a “water emergency”? v

### Water Supply Status and Actions

Normal

Routine monitoring of water supply and meteorological indicators. All conditions normal.

Watch

Focus placed on voluntary reductions in demand through increased public awareness.

Warning

DEP Commissioner issues order urging public to voluntarily use water sparingly; DEP may issue orders to purveyors to manage supplies in most affected regions.

Emergency

Governor orders mandatory restrictions on certain uses of water, usually phased in as conditions deteriorate.

# Additional information on drought

## Government Agency Sites

- [NJDEP Division of Water Supply and Geoscience](#)
- [NJDEP Forest Fire Service Fire Restrictions](#)
- [Save Water! Outreach & Education Resources](#)
- [NJ Department of Agriculture](#)
- [National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration \(NOAA\)](#)
- [National Drought Mitigation Center](#)
- [Delaware River Basin Commission \(DRBC\)](#)
  - [DRBC Drought Info](#)
- [Pennsylvania Drought Information](#)
- [Delaware Drought Information](#)
- [Maryland Drought Information](#)
- [New York State Drought Information](#)



## Drought-Related Data and Weather Information

- [Northeast Regional Climate Center – Lawn Watering Input](#)
- [USGS Science in New Jersey](#)
  - [NJ Stream Flow Levels](#)
  - [NJ Groundwater Levels](#)
- [US Drought Monitor](#) (updated each Thursday)
- [National Weather Service-Middle Atlantic River Forecast Center](#)
- [NOAA's IWIN Weather info for NJ](#)
- [Office of the NJ State Climatologist at Rutgers University](#)

## Other Resources

- [Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station Drought Resources](#)

## Publications

- [The Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station Best Management Practices for Irrigating Golf Course Turf](#)

### Questions or comments?

[Contact us](#)

### Drought

- [Home](#)
- [Drought Regions in New Jersey](#)
- [Drought Status and Conditions](#)
- [News and Announcements](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Private Well Owner FAQ](#)
- [Contact Us](#)

### Environmental Protection

- [Commissioner Shawn M. LaTourette](#)
- [DEP Home](#)
- [Press Releases](#)
- [About DEP](#)
- [Topics](#)
- [Programs/Units](#)
- [DEP Online](#)
- [Contact Us](#)

## Statewide

- [Governor Phil Murphy](#)
- [Lt. Governor Tahesha Way](#)
- [NJ Home](#)
- [Services A to Z](#)
- [Departments/Agencies](#)
- [FAQs](#)
- [Contact Us](#)
- [Privacy Notice](#)
- [Legal Statement & Disclaimers](#)
- [Accessibility Statement](#)



Copyright © State of New Jersey, 1996-2025  
Department of Environmental Protection

P. O. Box 420  
Trenton, NJ 08625  
609-777-3200

Last Update: March 6th, 2025

