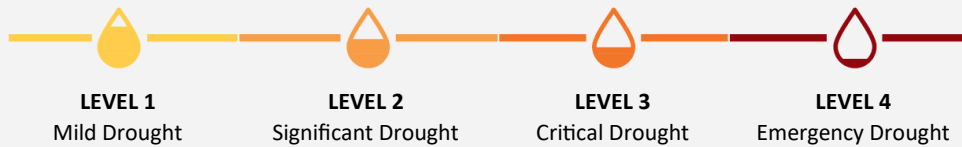


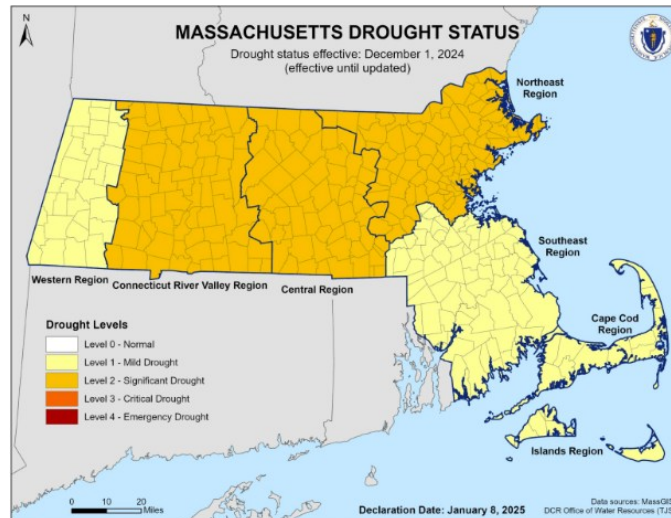
MASSACHUSETTS DROUGHT ALERT

January 10, 2025



DROUGHT STATUS:

Following several weeks of snow and rain, Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs declared that drought conditions have improved and that the Connecticut River Valley (CTRV), Central and Northeast Regions are now at a **Level 2 – Significant Drought** and the Western, Southeast, Cape Cod and Islands Regions at **Level 1 – Mild Drought**.



Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs:
Rebecca L. Tepper

Director of MEMA:
Dawn Brantley



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

Private Well owners click [here!](#)

CURRENT CONDITIONS:

Over the past month, most of the state received 3-6 inches of rain and snow; the Southeast Region received 6-8 inches. The rainfall is helping us slowly move toward more normal conditions after last year's severe drought and fire risks. Streamflow remains low in the CTRV, Northeast and Southeast Regions. Groundwater levels are improving in all areas, except on the Cape where it is decreasing, even though it is in the normal range. We need to continue to practice indoor water conservation to fully recover from and reduce drought impacts.

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

Share your drought impacts with us!

www.mass.gov/wir

Residents, Facilities & Businesses (including private wells users)

- Minimize overall water use
- Efficiently use water **indoors**:
 - take shorter showers with timer
 - avoid water running while brushing/shaving, etc.
 - Run dishwashers & washing machines at full capacity
- Follow local water restrictions
- Fix indoor leaks (i.e., toilets, faucets, showers) which result in more than 60% indoor water use
- For larger buildings and businesses, conduct water audits to identify areas of leaks and potential water conservation opportunities

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