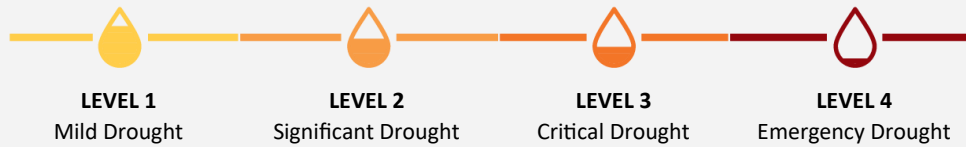


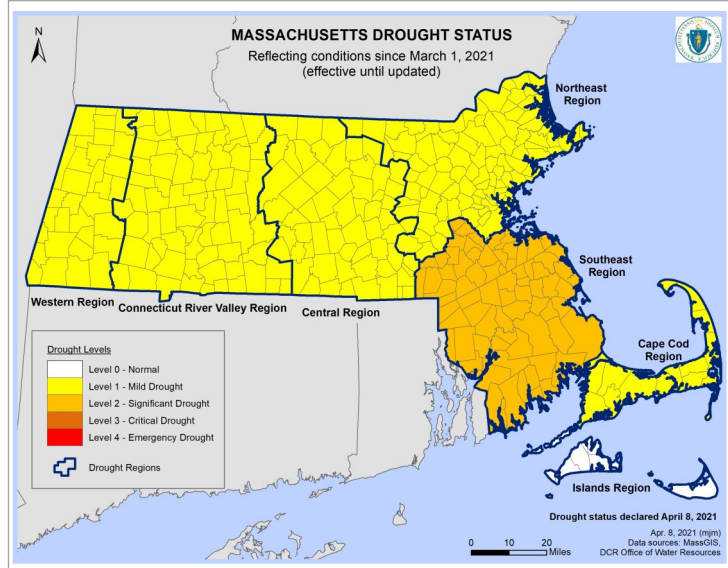
MASSACHUSETTS DROUGHT ALERT

April 2021



DROUGHT STATUS

Massachusetts has declared a **Level 2—Significant Drought** in the Southeast Region, and a **Level 1 – Mild Drought** in the Western, Connecticut River Valley, Central, Northeast, and Cape Cod regions.



Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs:
Kathleen A. Theoharides

Director of MEMA:
Samantha C. Phillips



CURRENT CONDITIONS

Due to over two months of below normal rainfall and above normal temperatures, and despite recent rainfall at the end of March, the State has once again started to experience drought conditions. The last drought was from May-December 2020. As drought conditions continue to worsen and we enter our growing season, it is important for residents and businesses to conserve water both outdoors and indoors, restrict new plantings to native and drought resistant plants, fix leaks, and for communities to prepare for long-term resiliency to droughts.

WHAT YOU SHOULD DO

In Level 1-Mild Drought Areas	In Level 2-Significant Drought Areas
<p>Residents & Businesses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus water conservation indoors Fix Leaks Reduce outdoor watering to one-day/week Plant only native and drought-resistant 	<p>Residents & Businesses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimize water use Limit outdoor watering to hand-held 5:00 pm-9:00 am Conserve water indoors Fix Leaks Plant only native and drought-resistant
<p>Cities & Towns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limit outdoor watering to no more than once a week and b/w 5:00 pm-9:00 am Limit new landscapes and outdoor washing Implement drought or seasonal water rates Check emergency connections Develop local drought plan 	<p>Cities & Towns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limit outdoor watering to at least hand-held only b/w 5:00 pm-9:00 am Limit new landscapes and outdoor washing Implement drought or seasonal water rates Establish water use reduction targets Establish a leak detection program

Learn more at www.mass.gov/ma-drought-management