

Additional Drought Level 2 Response Information

Drought Conditions

- All of the Metro Water District is experiencing either “exceptional” or “extreme” drought conditions, according to the [U.S. Drought Monitor](#).
- From March through October, about 20 inches of rain fell in the Atlanta region, nearly 13 inches below normal. In October, the Atlanta region saw just 0.16 inches of rain.
- The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration is predicting that dry, warm weather will persist through the winter.

Level 2 Drought Response – Outdoor Watering Restrictions

- Outdoor watering of lawns, gardens and trees is limited to:
 - The hours of **4 p.m. to 10 a.m.**
 - Up to **twice a week (even addresses** and sites with no numbered address on **Wednesday and Saturday** and **odd addresses on Thursday and Sunday)**.
- Residents should only water as needed. In the fall and winter months, outdoor plants need less water. Water when plants show signs of distress (curling, wilting, graying foliage).
- Outdoor watering activities that are **NOT** allowed:
 - Washing streets, gutters, sidewalks and driveways
 - Ornamental uses, such as fountains and waterfalls
 - Washing vehicles (cars, boats, etc.) at home
 - Non-commercial washing or pressure washing
 - Charity or non-commercial fund-raiser car washes
- What **IS** Allowed
 - Irrigation of personal food gardens
 - Irrigation of new and replanted seed, turf or plants for a period of 30 days following installation
 - Watering with drip irrigation or soaker hose
 - Hand watering, including hoses with shut-off nozzles and watering cans
 - Use of water withdrawn from private water wells
 - Other [limited exceptions](#) are set forth in the Drought Management Rule

* A few additional exceptions to the Level 2 outdoor watering restrictions can be found at [link to <https://epd.georgia.gov/water-conservation>], which includes a copy of the state’s drought management rule.

Steps metro Atlanta residents can take to conserve water

It's important to note that dry periods are part of the normal weather cycle. We don't know how long this drought may last, so we all need to do our part to conserve. As a reminder, here are some ways metro Atlanta residents can save water:

- Check and repair leaks inside and outside the home.
- Shorten showers and turn off water when shaving or brushing teeth.
- Fill dishwashers and washing machines. Make sure there is a full load every time.
- Replace older toilets and shower heads with high efficiency models. If your home was built before 1993, you may qualify for a toilet rebate.
- Choose efficient appliances. Look for EPA WaterSense and ENERGY STAR labeled products when shopping for new appliances and fixtures.
- Scrape dishes before washing them. Avoid using the garbage disposal. It wastes a lot of water and can contribute to pipe clogs.

More conservation tips can be found at [MyDropCounts.org](https://www.mydropcounts.org).

Find updated drought status and information about specific cities and counties at northgeorgiawater.org/current-water-stats/drought-status/.