

Stage 1: Drought Warning

A Drought Warning has been declared by the Drought Preparedness Committee on XX/XX/XXX.

A Drought Warning has been declared by the Drought Preparedness Committee because indicators point to conditions that are worsening. Stage 1 recommends watering reductions and efforts on the part of all Grand County residents. This is the first stage during which the Drought Preparedness Committee will begin making recommendations to water providers and users.

Indicators:

- The US Drought Monitor Index has Grand County in moderate drought (D1) conditions.
- Snow-water equivalent is between 70% - 89% of median on April 30th and precipitation accumulation for the water year is between 70% - 89% of average.
- Standardized Precipitation and Evapotranspiration Index is between -0.8 to -1.2.
- QuickDRI is yellow - intensifying drought conditions.
- Other West Slope counties or Front Range entities that divert water from Grand County are already in a stage 1 response.
- Grand County residents believe that a drought warning and its corresponding actions are appropriate.

Use Reduction Target: Sport fields, parks, golf courses, and agriculture will be encouraged through education and outreach to reduce water use.

Element	Stage 1: Warning
<i>Outdoor watering and irrigation</i>	
Lawn grass (residential, HOA, commercial, industrial, institutional)	No more than 2 days per week watering from 6:00 pm to 10:00 am. Follow best management practices for Watering a Home Landscape During Drought as recommended in Appendix C of Final Drought Preparedness Plan: https://www.co.grand.co.us/1341/Drought-Preparedness-Program
Agricultural water, golf courses, and vegetable gardens	Voluntary reductions.
Water wise landscapes, native/adaptive, Trees, shrubs, and perennials (private)	Handheld watering or drip irrigation no more than 2 days per week between 6:00 pm and 10:00 am.
New landscape establishment	Not recommended.
Municipal streetscape	Handheld watering or drip irrigation no more than 2 days/ week before 10:00 am.

Flowers gardens (private)	Water efficiently no more than two days per week using handheld and drip irrigation only between 6:00 pm and 10:00 am.
Sport fields and parks	Irrigated per mandatory scheduling or water budget restrictions to achieve a 10% reduction.
Water Features	
Swimming pools, hot tubs & other water features	Discourage frequent refilling.
Washing / Events	
Cars - washing at home and charity events	With bucket or handheld hose with a nozzle that shuts off when not in use. If possible, ensure water runs off into landscape features.
Fleet vehicle washing	Once every 2 weeks.
Street cleaning	Reduce water used for street sweeping.
Driveway and sidewalk washing	Use dry clean methods and high efficiency equipment.
Commercial-Institutional Processes	
Restaurants	Water served only on request.
Lodging	Change linens and towels only on request.
Mag chloride application / grading	Grade only after rain events.
Bulk water / Construction water	No waste of water.
Hydrants	Utilize restrictive gated devices. Minimize water main flushing.

Routine Water Conservation Practices

Given that we live in a semi-arid desert, routine water conservation practices are best management principles that should be used all the time, even though we are experiencing a Drought Warning.

Element	Routine Water Conservation
Outdoor watering and irrigation	
Lawn grass (residential, HOA, commercial, industrial, institutional)	Water no more than 3 days a week. To reduce evaporative loss, water lawn from 6:00 pm to 10:00 am. Do not cause water to pool in gutters/streets. Adjust sprinklers to avoid spraying on concrete or asphalt. Repair leaking sprinkler systems immediately. Avoid cutting lawn grass shorter than 3". Do not water when raining or during high winds. Install smart irrigation systems and/or sensors that measure rain and/or soil moisture.
Agricultural water, golf courses, and vegetable gardens	Use only what you need. Repair faulty irrigation systems.
Water wise landscapes, native/adaptive, Trees, shrubs, and perennials (private)	Increased education to transition landscape plants to xeriscape & native/ adaptive plants.
New landscape establishment	Encourage xeriscape and native/adaptive plants with drip irrigation systems.
Municipal streetscape	Water efficiently. Repair faulty irrigation systems.
Flowers gardens (private)	Water efficiently.

Sport fields and parks	Water efficiently. Repair faulty irrigation systems.
<i>Water Features</i>	
Swimming pools, hot tubs & other water features	No waste of water. Repair faulty irrigation systems.
<i>Washing / Events</i>	
Cars - washing at home and charity events	With bucket or handheld hose with a nozzle that shuts off when not in use.
Fleet vehicle washing	No waste of water.
Street cleaning	Use only what you need.
Driveway and sidewalk washing	Discourage under all circumstances: use dry clean methods.
<i>Commercial-Institutional Processes</i>	
Restaurants	Water served only on request.
Lodging	No restrictions.
Mag chloride application / grading	Apply in springtime.
Bulk water / Construction water	No waste of water.
Hydrants	Utilize restrictive gated devices.