

Stage 2: Severe Drought

A Severe Drought has been declared by the Drought Preparedness Committee because indicators point to conditions that are further intensifying. This is a more severe level of drought and recommendations from the Drought Preparedness Committee will be more stringent.

Indicators and Triggers

- The [US Drought Monitor Index](#) has Grand County in severe drought (D2) conditions.
- [Snow-water equivalent](#) is between 50% - 69% of median on April 30th and precipitation accumulation for the water year is between 50% - 69% of average.
- [Standardized Precipitation and Evapotranspiration Index](#) is between -1.3 to -1.5.
- [QuickDRI](#) is orange - even further intensification of drought conditions.
- [VegDRI](#) is indicating severe drought.

Recommended Actions

The following recommendations are voluntary and not regulatory in nature. Suggested actions go above and beyond the 'Routine Water Conservation Practices' recommended for everyday indoor and outdoor water use.

Drought Pricing: Municipal water providers may choose to use drought pricing as a tool to help reduce water use.

Well Users: In all cases, please review the well permit and/or water court decree for the legal uses of the well. For more information, see the Division of Water Resources website <https://dwr.colorado.gov/services/well-permitting>. To search for a well permit visit <https://dwr.state.co.us/Tools/WellPermits>.

Element	Stage 2: Severe
Outdoor watering and irrigation	
Lawn grass (residential, HOA, commercial, industrial, institutional)	No more than 1 day per week watering from 6:00 pm to 10:00 am. <i>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</i>
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 1 day per week between 6:00 pm and 10:00 am.
New landscape establishment	Discouraged June through August.
Municipal streetscape	Handheld watering or drip irrigation no more than 1 day/week before 10:00:00 AM
Flowers gardens (private)	Water efficiently no more than one day 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 20% reduction.
Water Features	
Swimming pools, hot tubs & water features	Single-family residential pools or hot tubs shall not be filled or refilled.
Washing / Events	
Cars - washing at home and charity events	Not permitted. Must use commercial car wash.
Fleet vehicle washing	Once per month.
Street cleaning	Use water gained from flushing of hydrants.
Driveway and sidewalk washing	Washing and spraying on impervious surfaces is prohibited.
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	Hydrant flushing is prohibited unless necessary for public health and safety reasons. Use of all water for fire training and use of water from hydrants is not permitted unless necessary for public safety.