

AT-A-GLANCE: DROUGHT

What is Drought?

Drought is a deficiency in precipitation over an extended period. Droughts can develop quickly and last only for a matter of weeks, but more commonly drought can persist for months or years.



4 TYPES OF DROUGHT

Meteorological	Hydrologic	Agricultural	Socioeconomic
Is based on the degree of dryness (rainfall deficit) and the length of the dry period	Is based on the impact of rainfall deficits on the water supply such as stream flow, reservoir and lake levels, and ground water table decline	Is based on the impacts to agriculture by factors such as rainfall deficits, soil water deficits, reduced groundwater, or reservoir levels needed for irrigation	Is based on the impact of drought conditions (meteorological, agricultural, or hydrological drought) on supply and demand of some economic goods

Reduce Your Household and Outdoor Water Usage

- ❖ Identify and fix leaks
- ❖ Select energy- and water-efficient appliances and plumbing fixtures
- ❖ Take shorter showers
- ❖ Turn off the water while brushing your teeth or shaving
- ❖ Run the washer less frequently and only when you have a full load
- ❖ Heed local water use restrictions
- ❖ Water your lawn less frequently and do so when the temperature is cooler in the early morning or late evening
- ❖ Consult with your local government or nursery to select drought-tolerant plants and trees

