

# Stage 1: Drought Warning

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 and Triggers

- The [US Drought Monitor Index](#) has Grand County in moderate drought (D1) conditions.
- [Snow-water equivalent](#) is between 70% - 89% of median on April 30<sup>th</sup> 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.
- [VegDRI](#) is indicating moderate 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.

**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	Water Conservation Recommendations
<b>Outdoor watering and irrigation</b>	
Lawn grass (residential, HOA, commercial, industrial, institutional)	No more than 2 days 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:</i> <a href="https://www.co.grand.co.us/1341/Drought-Preparedness-Program">https://www.co.grand.co.us/1341/Drought-Preparedness-Program</a>
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.
<b>Water Features</b>	
Swimming pools, hot tubs & water features	Discourage frequent refilling.
<b>Washing / Events</b>	
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.
<b>Commercial-Institutional Processes</b>	
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.