



Mandatory Outdoor Water Usage Restrictions Issued for FCWSA Water Systems

***Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ) has Issued
A Drought Warning Advisory for 94 Counties, including Fauquier
County, based on the presence and severity of hydrologic drought***

***Mandatory restrictions implemented due to continued reduced
rainfall, resulting in declining groundwater levels in our region***

Irrigation with sprinklers or irrigation systems is PROHIBITED.

For more information, visit www.fcwsa.org/drought

WARRENTON, VIRGINIA, June 5, 2026: Following the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality's (DEQ) continuation of a Drought Warning Advisory for Fauquier County and the continued decline in groundwater levels in our region, the Fauquier County Water and Sanitation Authority (FCWSA) is issuing mandatory outdoor water restrictions for all customers. Among the restrictions, irrigation using sprinklers or irrigation system is PROHIBITED.

FCWSA continues to monitor groundwater levels and precipitation in our region. Although recent rains have provided much needed water in our region, the US Drought Monitor continues to classify Fauquier County as Moderate to Severe Drought, and total precipitation remains significantly below normal.

Drought conditions are expected to persist throughout June and into the summer, resulting in a continued decline in groundwater levels. To try and prevent impacts to water service, including reduced pressure and fire protection, ALL FCWSA CUSTOMERS ARE UNDER THE FOLLOWING MANDATORY RESTRICTIONS:

- Irrigation with a sprinkler or irrigation system prohibited.
- Washing of automobiles, trucks, trailers, or other mobile equipment prohibited, except in vehicle wash facilities operating with an effective and efficient water recycling system with a prominently displayed sign in public view so stating.

- Washing of streets, driveways, parking lots, service station aprons, the exterior of commercial or residential buildings, or any other outdoor surfaces prohibited, unless such washing is required to eliminate a safety or health hazard.
- Operation or use of all water-demanding amenities located within FCWSA's service area, such as ornamental fountains, waterfalls and reflecting ponds prohibited, unless such water use is necessary to aerate for a short period to preserve habitat for aquatic species.
- Refrain from filling any swimming and/or wading pool that is empty or is less than three-quarters full.

FCWSA relies solely on groundwater from about fifty wells throughout Fauquier County, primarily in the Service Districts, which collect water from fractures in the bedrock deep beneath our water systems. During an average year, it's estimated that less than 25% of rainfall migrates through these fractures to be captured by FCWSA's groundwater wells. In drought years, the amount might be less than 15% of all rainfall, which is why it's important to restrict our water use now.

FCWSA would like to thank our customers in advance for their assistance during the drought warning advisory. For more information and our latest updates, visit FCWSA's drought information webpage at www.fcwsa.org/drought.