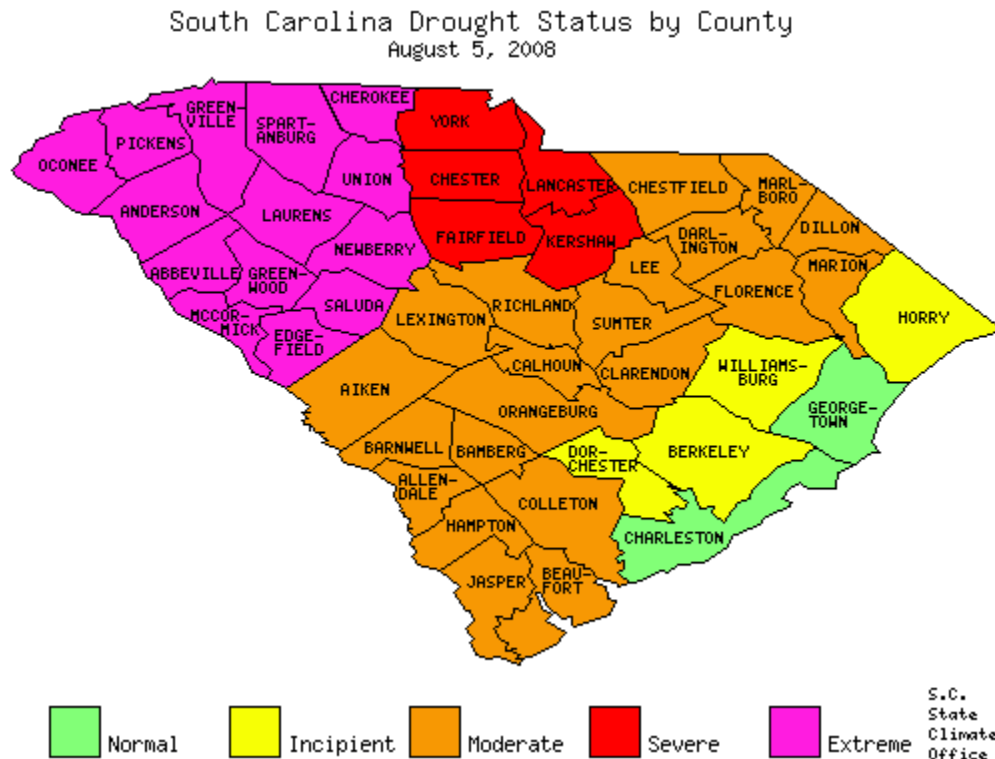


South Carolina Current Drought Status

State Climate Office 803-734-9100
NEWS RELEASE DNR News 803-734-3815
August 15, 2008

[Governor, DNR urge voluntary water conservation](#)

Governor Continues to Urge Water Conservation.



Discussion:

GOVERNOR ASKS CITIZENS TO HEED CALL FOR VOLUNTARY CONSERVATION

Columbia, S.C. - August 15, 2008 - Following his tour earlier this week of Pickens County in the state's most severely drought-stricken region, Governor Sanford again today urged citizens to take water conservation measures upon themselves and voluntarily conserve water in advance of any state requirement.

"Whether or not you're being impacted right now with any restrictions, it's important for people to know that this drought situation is very real and that folks in the Upstate, particularly farmers, are hurting right now," Gov. Sanford said. "To that end, I'd again urge all South Carolinians - particularly those in the Upstate - to take individual initiative to conserve

water. I can't emphasize enough the importance of doing so now if we want to avoid restrictions later on."

On Wednesday, the governor asked that all but two of South Carolina's counties be declared federal disaster areas. Gov. Sanford noted in a letter to U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Ed Schafer that more than 30 percent of this year's harvest of corn, hay and pasture crops have already been lost because of the drought.

The state Drought Response Committee has also asked residents in the 14-county extreme drought area to voluntarily conserve water, and some water systems imposed mandatory restrictions on certain water usage. The state Department of Natural Resources has also issued a number of tips for water conservation, which can be found at http://www.dnr.sc.gov/climate/sco/Drought/Drought_press/release_Jul21_2008.php.

For more drought information contact State Climatologist Hope Mizzell in Columbia at (803) 734-9568 or e-mail MizzellH@dnr.sc.gov.

Drought Status: 08-05-2008

County	Status
Abbeville	Extreme
Aiken	Moderate
Allendale	Moderate
Anderson	Extreme
Bamberg	Moderate
Barnwell	Moderate
Beaufort	Moderate
Berkeley	Incipient
Calhoun	Moderate
Charleston	Normal
Cherokee	Extreme
Chester	Severe
Chesterfield	Moderate
Clarendon	Moderate
Colleton	Moderate
Darlington	Moderate
Dillon	Moderate
Dorchester	Incipient
Edgefield	Extreme
Fairfield	Severe
Florence	Moderate
Georgetown	Normal
Greenville	Extreme
Greenwood	Extreme
Hampton	Moderate
Horry	Incipient
Jasper	Moderate
Kershaw	Severe
Lancaster	Severe
Laurens	Extreme
Lee	Moderate
Lexington	Moderate
Marion	Moderate

County	Status
Marlboro	Moderate
McCormick	Extreme
Newberry	Extreme
Oconee	Extreme
Orangeburg	Moderate
Pickens	Extreme
Richland	Moderate
Saluda	Extreme
Spartanburg	Extreme
Sumter	Moderate
Union	Extreme
Williamsburg	Incipient
York	Severe