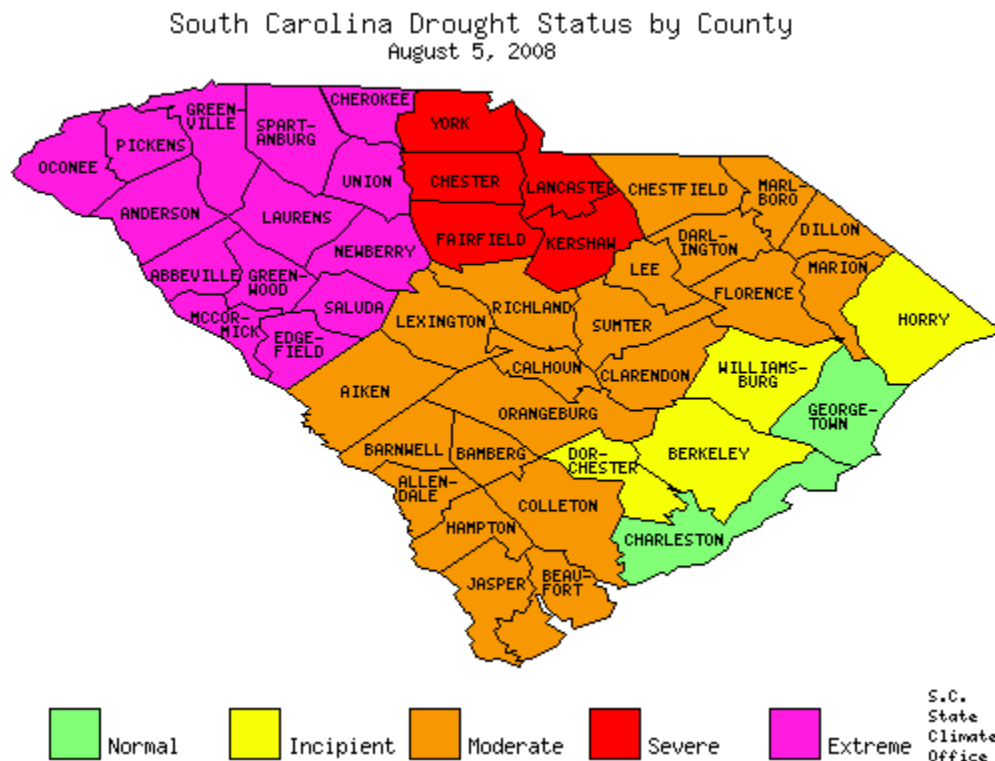


South Carolina Current Drought Status

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 Table

Current Drought Status by County				
Normal	Incipient	Moderate	Severe	Extreme
County Status	County Status	County Status	County Status	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	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				