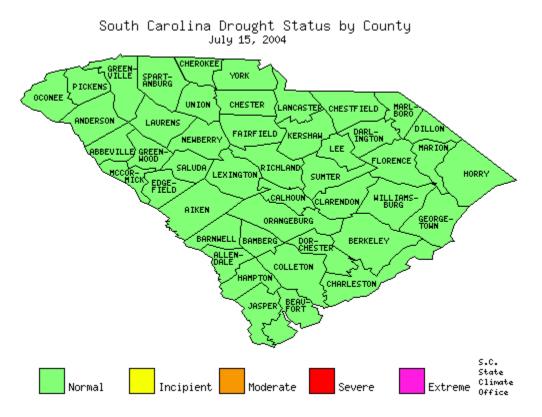
South Carolina Current Drought Status

State Climate Office NEWS RELEASE

DNR News 803-667-0696

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DROUGHT DOWNGRADED FOR FOR REMAINING 18 COUNTIES



Increased rainfall frequency and coverage have alleviated the incipient drought conditions for those counties remaining in drought. According to Hope Mizzell, SC State Climatologist, the 18 counties reporting below normal June rainfall have received enough rainfall to reduce drought concerns at this time. On June 28th the incipient drought declaration was removed for most South Carolina counties. The remaining 18 counties being downgraded today are Berkeley, Calhoun, Charleston, Chesterfield, Clarendon, Darlington, Dillon, Dorchester, Florence, Georgetown, Horry, Kershaw, Lee, Marion, Marlboro, Orangeburg, Sumter, and Williamsburg. Mizzell points out that isolated locations within South Carolina have received below normal rainfall for the past two months, but no impacts have been reported. A pattern of near normal precipitation is forecasted statewide for July 19-24, 2004. The SC Department of Natural Resources will continue to monitor the situation and provide updates as needed.

Contact Dr. Mizzell in Columbia at (803) 734-9568 or e-mail at mizzellh@dnr.sc.gov for more information.

DNR protects and manages South Carolina's natural resources by making wise and balanced decisions for the benefit of the state's natural resources and its people. Find out more about DNR at the DNR Web site.

Drought Status Table

Current Drought Status by County				
Normal	Incipient	Moderate	Severe	Extreme
County	County	County	County	County
Status	Status	Status	Status	Status
ABBEVILLE	AIKEN	ALLENDALE	ANDERSON	BAMBERG
Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal
BARNWELL	BEAUFORT	BERKELEY	CALHOUN	CHARLESTON
Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal
CHEROKEE	CHESTER	CHESTERFIELD	CLARENDON	COLLETON
Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal
DARLINGTON	DILLON	DORCHESTER	EDGEFIELD	FAIRFIELD
Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal
FLORENCE	GEORGETOWN	GREENVILLE	GREENWOOD	HAMPTON
Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal
HORRY	JASPER	KERSHAW	LANCASTER	LAURENS
Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal
LEE	LEXINGTON	MARION	MARLBORO	MCCORMICK
Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal
NEWBERRY	OCONEE	ORANGEBURG	PICKENS	RICHLAND
Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal
SALUDA	SPARTANBURG	SUMTER	UNION	WILLIAMSBURG
Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal
YORK Normal				