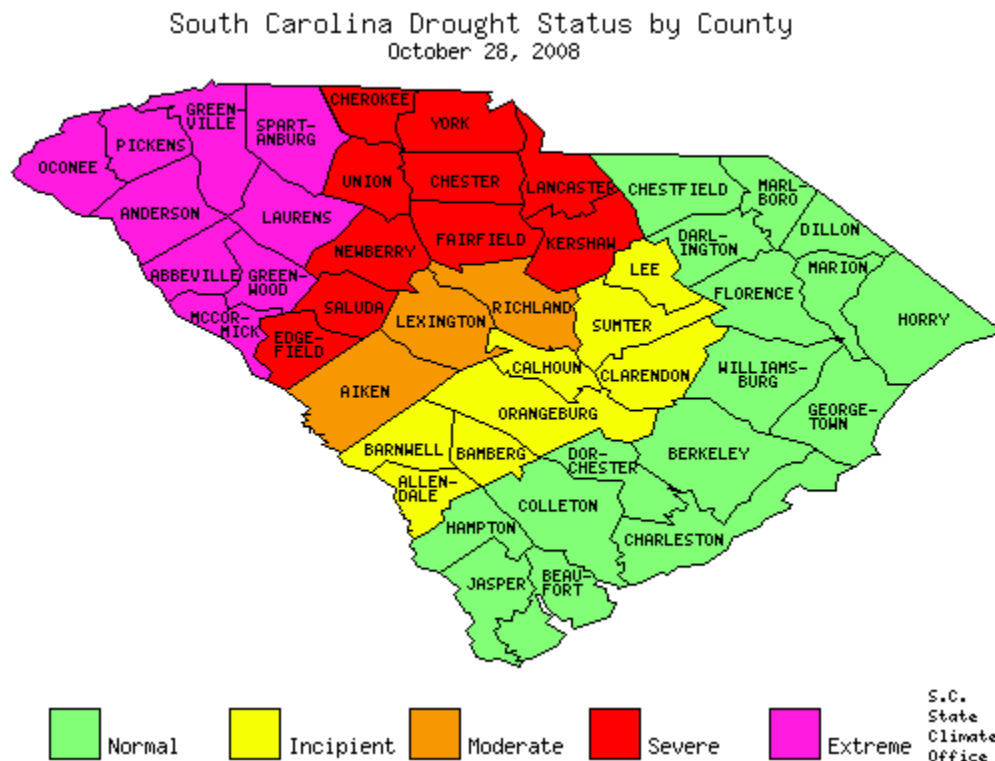


South Carolina Current Drought Status

State Climate Office 803-734-9100
SPECIAL NEWS RELEASE #08 DNR News 803-734-3815
October 28, 2008

Governor, DNR urge voluntary water conservation

Extreme Drought Continues for 9 Western South Carolina Counties.



Discussion:

The S.C. Department of Natural Resources convened the S.C. Drought Response Committee on Oct. 28, 2008 in Columbia and nine Upstate counties still remain in extreme drought. Ten counties were maintained at severe and three remain at moderate status. Recent rains prompted the Drought Response Committee to remove the drought declaration for five counties: Beaufort, Chesterfield, Darlington, Hampton and Jasper. Eleven counties remained at no drought status.

The counties remaining in the extreme category are: Oconee, Pickens, Greenville, Spartanburg, Anderson, Abbeville, Laurens, Greenwood and McCormick counties. For more information about drought and to see a drought status by county map, visit the Office of State Climatology drought Website at: www.dnr.sc.gov/climate/sco/Drought/drought_current_info.php.

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 www.dnr.sc.gov. 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 Incipient	ANDERSON Extreme	BAMBERG Incipient
BARNWELL Incipient	BEAUFORT Normal	BERKELEY Normal	CALHOUN Incipient	CHARLESTON Normal
CHEROKEE Severe	CHESTER Severe	CHESTERFIELD Normal	CLARENDON Incipient	COLLETON Normal
DARLINGTON Normal	DILLON Normal	DORCHESTER Normal	EDGEFIELD Severe	FAIRFIELD Severe
FLORENCE Normal	GEORGETOWN Normal	GREENVILLE Extreme	GREENWOOD Extreme	HAMPTON Normal
HORRY Normal	JASPER Normal	KERSHAW Severe	LANCASTER Severe	LAURENS Extreme
LEE Incipient	LEXINGTON Moderate	MARION Normal	MARLBORO Normal	MCCORMICK Extreme
NEWBERRY Severe	OCONEE Extreme	ORANGEBURG Incipient	PICKENS Extreme	RICHLAND Moderate
SALUDA Severe	SPARTANBURG Extreme	SUMTER Incipient	UNION Severe	WILLIAMSBURG Normal
YORK Severe				