



**COUNTY OF FAUQUIER  
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

**JANELLE J. DOWNES**  
*County Administrator*

10 Hotel Street, Suite 204  
Warrenton, Virginia 20186  
PHONE 540-422-8001  
FAX 540-422-8022

**ERIN M. KOZANECKI**  
*Deputy County Administrator*

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
September 1, 2023

**VIRGINIA DEQ ISSUES DROUGHT WATCH ADVISORY FOR FAUQUIER COUNTY**

**Warrenton, Virginia** – The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) on August 30, 2023, issued drought watch and warning advisories across Virginia. A Drought Watch Advisory was issued for Fauquier County. According to the Virginia Drought Monitoring Task Force, surface and groundwater indicators such as precipitation, groundwater, stream flows have continued to decline throughout the past fourteen-day monitoring period, with near or at record low observations already this year. Additionally, forecasts in the upcoming ten days indicate high heat and no projected precipitation.

In accordance with the Fauquier County Comprehensive Drought Management and Emergency Preparedness Plan and Fauquier County Code Chapter 19, Article II, when DEQ issues a drought watch, Fauquier County in consultation with the Fauquier County Water and Sanitation Authority (FCWSA) and Towns, will implement voluntary water conservation practices and provide access to ways individuals can conserve water usage. At this time, Fauquier County Government encourages all citizens to limit and conserve water usage particularly our citizens on private wells.

- Avoid watering during the hottest part of the day, which is typically 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Avoid noncommercial washing of vehicles, boats, or other equipment.
- Run dishwashers and washing machines when full and avoid handwashing dishes.

For citizens on a public water system through FCWSA or a Town water system, please refer to their specific guidance at:

- <https://www.fcwsa.org>
- <https://www.warrentonva.gov>
- <https://www.remington-va.gov>

The County will continue to monitor DEQ guidance and advisory over the coming weeks. The County will issue updated guidance and restrictions, as advised by DEQ and in consultation with FCWSA and our Towns. The following provide specific guidance and protocols for Statewide and County level drought planning.

For DEQ: <https://www.deq.virginia.gov/our-programs/water/water-quantity/drought>

For Fauquier County's Comprehensive Drought Management and Emergency Preparedness Plan: <https://www.fauquiercounty.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/12951/638139461778070000>.

(ENDS)