

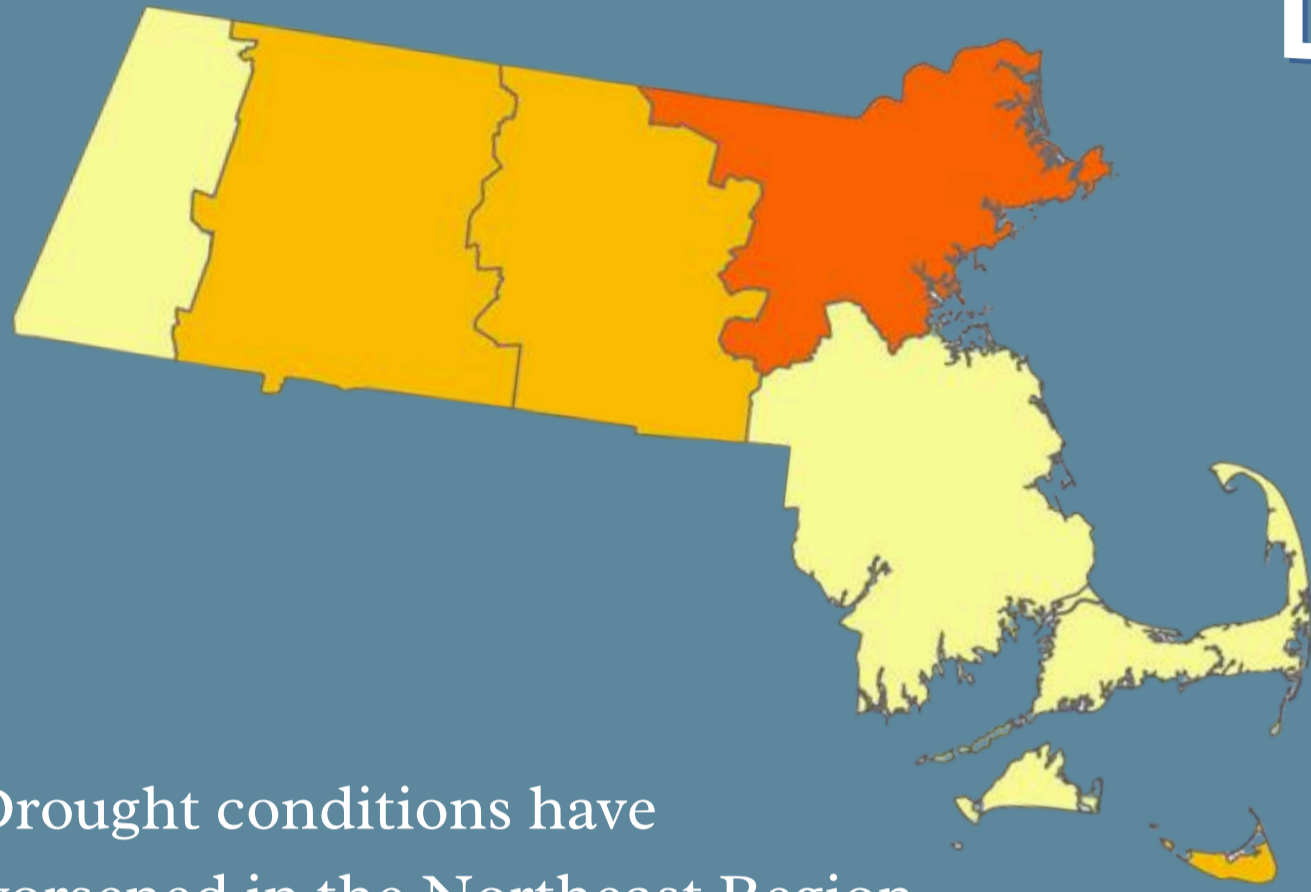
Massachusetts Drought Alert

May 22, 2026

Northeast Region



Drought Conditions Worsen in the Northeast Region



Drought conditions have worsened in the Northeast Region to **Level 3-Critical Drought**.

The Connecticut River Valley, Central Region, and Nantucket County are at **Level 2-Significant Drought**.

The Western, Southeast, and Cape Cod Regions, and Dukes County are at **Level 1-Mild Drought**.

Drought Alert Issued by:

Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs: **Rebecca L. Tepper**

Director of MEMA: **Dawn Brantley**

Drought Impacts

- Drought is a **Look Back** on conditions over time.
- Precipitation in the Northeast Region is well below normal for the past 12 months, causing extremely low streamflow, groundwater & impacts to fish and habitat.
- Forecasts indicate **dry conditions could persist**.
- Despite difficult conditions, **Public Water Suppliers are working hard** to maintain reliable water supplies for communities.
- **Outdoor watering restrictions** help to ensure that enough water will be available for essential uses such as drinking, washing, fire protection, and businesses, even if drought conditions persist.

Drought Video Series:

[Video 1: What does drought mean in MA?](#)

[Video 2: Why outdoor watering restrictions?](#)

[Water Conservation Tips & Tools](#)

[Private Well owners information](#)

[Drought FAQ](#)

What YOU can do

- STOP all non-essential outdoor use (e.g., lawn/landscape watering, washing cars/driveways/decks, filling pools); follow all other local water use restrictions
- Fix any toilet or faucet leaks immediately by checking water meters for constant dial movement, using dye tabs for toilet leaks & inspecting pipes/fixtures regularly
- Continue to minimize overall water use by:
 - Taking shorter showers (5 minutes or less)
 - Running dishwashers and washing machines only on a full load
 - Evaluating household water use & identify leaks with the [MA Home Water Use Calculator tool](#)

[Share your local drought impacts with us!](#)

Additional Resources

www.mass.gov/drought

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Boards of Health - report [here](#) on conditions of local private wells

