Drought: how it is managed in England

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How the Environment Agency works with government, water companies and others to manage water resources during a drought in England.

This document sets out:

- the impacts of drought in England
- who is involved in planning, managing and responding and how we work together
- the actions we and others take to effectively manage droughts
- how we report on drought and communicate with others
- our role in recovery and learning from drought events

Related publications include:

- Water situation reports for England
- Water resources planning: managing supply and demand
- Drought: how water companies plan for dry weather and drought
- Water company drought plan guideline, 2025

Area drought plans

Environment Agency area drought plans are available on request from their National Customer Contact Centre.

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/drought-management-for-england