

North Carolina Drought Update

For the assessment period ending October 5, 2021

Statewide Condition Summary

What's Changed: Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions have expanded in the western Piedmont and Coastal Plain.

What's New? After a dry September, a dry start to October has left lawns, gardens, and streams in need of moisture.

What's Next? A low pressure system should bring a half-inch to two inches of rain through Saturday night before we return to a warmer and drier pattern next week.

The Bottom Line: A few more dry weeks and growing seasonal rainfall deficits **could see Moderate Drought (D1) return**. Impacts could include a more severe fall fire season and voluntary local water use restrictions.

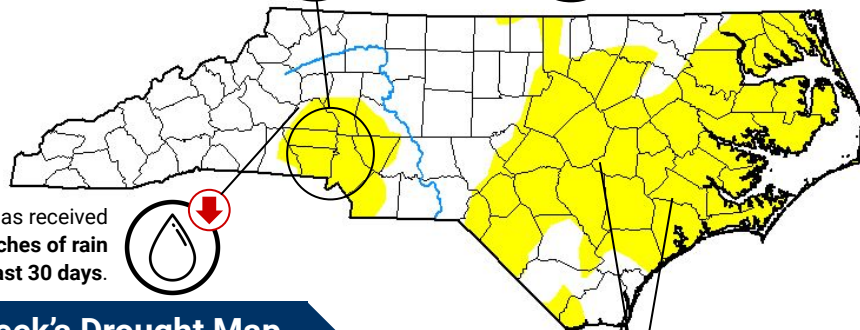
This Week's Drought Monitor of North Carolina Map

From the US Drought Monitor, authored by Brian Fuchs (*National Drought Mitigation Center*) with input from the *North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council* (ncdrought.org)

In Gaston, Lincoln, and Mecklenburg counties, **28-day average streamflows have now fallen below normal.**



Fire danger is ramping up across eastern North Carolina as dry leaves fall early and humidity levels decrease.

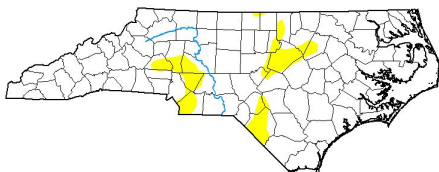


Hickory has received only **0.49 inches of rain** in the past 30 days.



At wells in Wayne and Jones counties, **groundwater is below its normal seasonal levels** following declines since early August.

Last Week's Drought Map



Statewide Coverage By Category

Category	Coverage This Week	Change Since Last Week
D0: Abnormally Dry	48.44%	+39.71%
D1: Moderate Drought	0.00%	0.00%
D2: Severe Drought	0.00%	0.00%
D3: Extreme Drought	0.00%	0.00%
D4: Exceptional Drought	0.00%	0.00%

This infographic was created by

