# North Carolina Drought Update

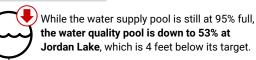
For the assessment period ending November 14, 2023

### This Week's Drought Monitor of North Carolina Map

From the US Drought Monitor, authored by Brad Rippey (US Department of Agriculture) with input from the North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council (<u>ncdrought.org</u>)



More towns in the western Piedmont have **requested voluntary water conservation**, including Hickory, Morganton, and Statesville.



The Collett Ridge fire has **spread to 5,335 acres**, but is now **79% contained with help from weekend rain and fog**.

### Last Week's Drought Map



Scotland County Extension noted limited growth of small grains so far this fall due to the ongoing dry weather.

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## **Statewide Condition Summary**

**What's Changed?** Extreme Drought (D3) has emerged in NC for the first time since March 2017. Severe Drought (D2) has also expanded into the northern Mountains.

What's New? Up to half an inch of rain in the southern Mountains last weekend offered some help for wildfire containment, but our seasonal precipitation deficits continue to grow. The 71.56% of the state in D1 or worse is the most area in drought since late December 2021.

What's Next? Scattered showers are possible on Friday night and Saturday, but better rain chances should come with a cold front next Tuesday and Wednesday. Half an inch to two inches of rain are possible from that event.

#### Statewide Coverage By Category

Category	Coverage This Week	Change Since Last Week
<b>D0</b> : Abnormally Dry	22.05%	-8.41%
D1: Moderate Drought	39.39%	-0.49%
D2: Severe Drought	27.38%	+5.11%
D3: Extreme Drought	4.80%	+4.80%
D4: Exceptional Drought	0.00%	0.00%