

North Carolina Drought

Update

For the assessment period ending **July 23, 2024**
From the US Drought Monitor, with input from the NC DMAC

Created By:

North Carolina
Drought Management Advisory Council

www.ncdrought.org

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The Main Takeaway

Frequent heavy rain events reversed our recent drying trend and brought widespread improvements, including a sharp reduction in Severe Drought (D2) coverage.

This Week's Summary

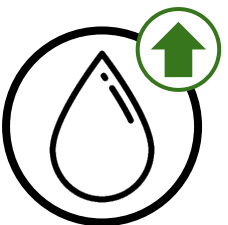
Long-awaited rainfall finally arrived last week, and it brought 2 to 3 inches – with locally higher amounts – across much of the state. Surface water conditions have surged after the rain, although some western reservoirs haven't seen much improvement yet. Topsoil moisture has also bounced back, but some deeper soils remain dry across the northwestern Piedmont.

Next Week's Outlook

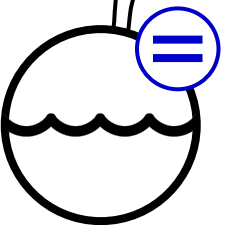
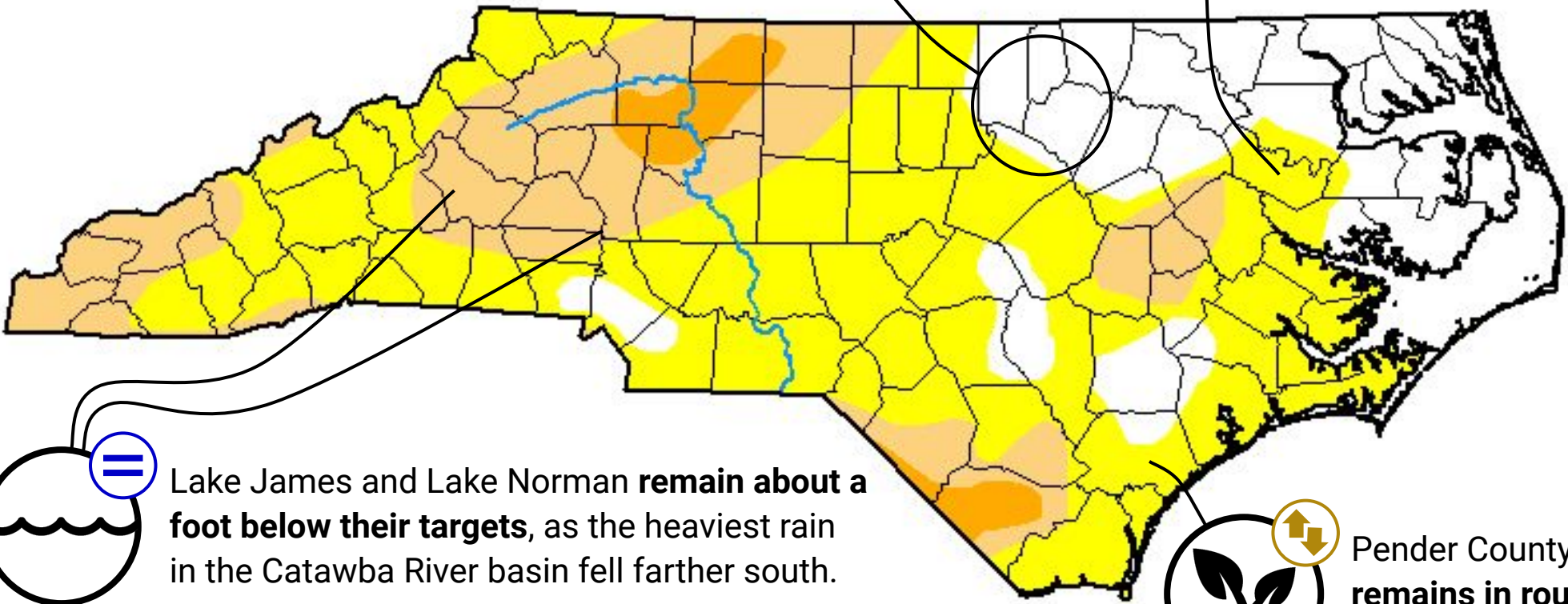
Showers and storms will continue through Friday as a cold front sags southward. Rainfall totals of an inch or more are possible across eastern North Carolina.

For your local drought status, visit www.ncdrought.org

Over the past 7 days, **streamflows along the upper Tar River have surged** above their historical 90th percentile for this time of year.



Following its 2nd-driest June on record, **Williamston is on pace for its 2nd-wettest July**, with 9.06 inches so far this month.

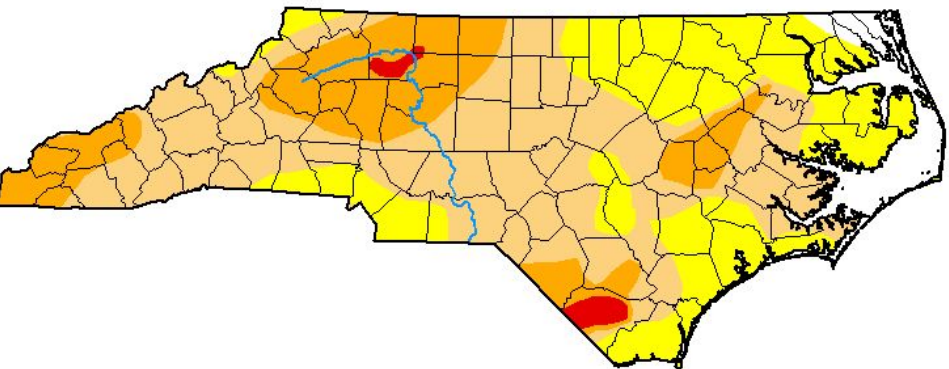


Lake James and Lake Norman **remain about a foot below their targets**, as the heaviest rain in the Catawba River basin fell farther south.



Pender County Extension notes **corn remains in rough shape**, but rain has helped soybeans, hay, and other crops.

Last Week's Drought Status



Statewide Coverage by Category

Category	Current Coverage	Change Since Last Week
D0: Abnormally Dry	51.56%	+21.52%
D1: Moderate Drought	22.67%	-24.50%
D2: Severe Drought	3.58%	-16.36%
D3: Extreme Drought	0.00%	-1.34%
D4: Exceptional Drought	0.00%	0.00%