



Water Conservation Tips

for farmers during a drought

LOW WATER CONDITIONS



are slow to occur and caused by a combination of factors such as **lack of rain, high temperatures and increased demand for water.**



DROUGHTS

can be stressful for farmers as dry seasons could lead to **loss of commercial, industrial, and agricultural production.**

Agricultural water consumers can make the most of their water supplies and **mitigate the impacts** of low water conditions by **implementing efficiencies** and **limiting non-essential water use.**

1

Check your irrigation systems regularly for **leaks** and ensure they **don't water faster** than what the ground can absorb.



2

Irrigate **in the evening** or **later in the day** when temperatures are lower and there is **less evaporation loss.**



3

Avoid irrigating during **windy conditions.**



4

Use **rain gauges** to measure how much water your crops are getting.



5

Follow your local municipality's **instructions** for obtaining water.



6

Consider using **controlled tile drainage** to help keep more water and nutrients on crops during dry periods.



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CONSERVATION
DE LA NATION SUD

Visit **www.nation.on.ca**
for current low water conditions
and more information.



Water Conservation Tips

for inside your home during a drought

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DID YOU KNOW?

 The average daily water use per person in Canada is

251 litres

Domestic, commercial, or agricultural water consumers can all help **mitigate the impacts** of low water conditions by **implementing efficiencies** and **limiting non-essential water use.**

1

Take **shorter** showers.



2

Don't let the tap run when brushing your teeth, doing the dishes, or washing fruits and vegetables.



3

Only run full loads in your washing machine or dishwasher and **use shorter wash cycles.**



4

Fix **leaky** taps and toilets.



5

Install **low consumption** toilets, dishwashers, shower heads, etc.



6

Follow municipal water use **restrictions.**



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Managing Your Well

in times of low water

LOW WATER CONDITIONS



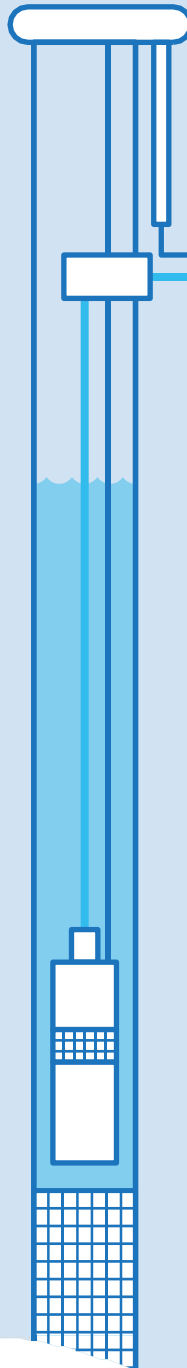
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Low water conditions can be a stressful time for rural homeowners who rely on

PRIVATE WELLS

Why? Aquifers cannot be easily seen or monitored, and **can become depleted** when more water is pumped out of it than is replenished by rainfall or other water sources.



Indications that the well may go dry:

- drop in water pressure
- water that looks cloudy or dirty
- air bubbles in your water
- no water at all

Wells that are more susceptible to failing during drought conditions include:

- dug wells
- wells located near topographic high points
- shallow bedrock wells
- wells constructed in areas where bedrock is close to the ground surface

Implement **water conservation practices** to save water.

Monitor your pump. If it's cycling on and off, or sucking air, turn it off and call a licensed well contractor.

Never add water to your well, it could contaminate your supply and will not alleviate water shortage problems.

Always contact a licensed well contractor:

- To have your pump and pressure system checked if this the first time you have experienced low water.
- To fix any issues relating to your well, including modifications to the existing well and pump or drilling a new well.



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Visit www.nation.on.ca
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Visit www.ontario.ca/environment
for more information on managing your well.



Water Conservation Tips

for outside your home during a drought

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1

Use a **broom or blower**, not a hose, to clean driveways and sidewalks.



2

Choose **drought resistant** trees and plants.



3

Add **mulch** on soil surfaces and around trees and plants to reduce evaporation.



4

Set **mower blade higher** to encourage deeper roots.



5

Don't over water the lawn as soil cannot retain extra moisture, and **adjust sprinklers** to reduce runoff.



6

Water lawns, plants, and gardens **early in the morning** or **later in the evening** when temperatures are cooler.



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