

Drought Information Statement for Central/Eastern Minnesota and Western Wisconsin

Valid September 14, 2023

Issued By: NWS Twin Cities / Chanhassen MN Contact Information: nws.twincities@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated Sept. 21, 2023 or sooner if drought conditions change significantly.
- Please see all currently available products at https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements.
- Please visit https://www.weather.gov/mpx/DroughtInformationStatement for previous statements.



NWS Twin Cities Drought Update

September 14, 2023 2:16 PM

Severe to Exceptional Drought Continues

Key Messages

- Very little rainfall over the past week.
- There has been 1 class degradation in drought conditions across much of the area since last week.
- Extreme Drought (D3) expanded in both the north and south portions.
- Mostly dry weather expected to continue for the next 7 days, but the potential for increasing rain is on the horizon.

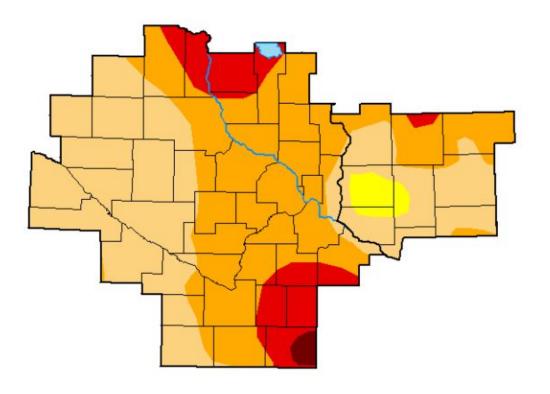
Important Updates

- One class degradation across much of the region this week.
- Exceptional drought remains in SE & NE MN

Next Scheduled Update

U.S. Drought Monitor

Twin Cities/ Chanhassen, MN WFO



September 12, 2023

(Released Thursday, Sep. 14, 2023) Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.00	100.00	97.83	54.14	11.63	0.76
Last Week 09-05-2023	2.17	97.83	67.35	46.12	3.67	0.76
3 Month's Ago 06-13-2023	33.03	66.97	35.03	4.99	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-03-2023	16.54	83.46	67.01	32.37	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-27-2022	20.14	79.86	33.95	11.27	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago	37.29	62.71	23.95	6.04	0.00	0.00



The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx

Author: Brad Pugh CPC/NOAA









droughtmonitor.unl.edu

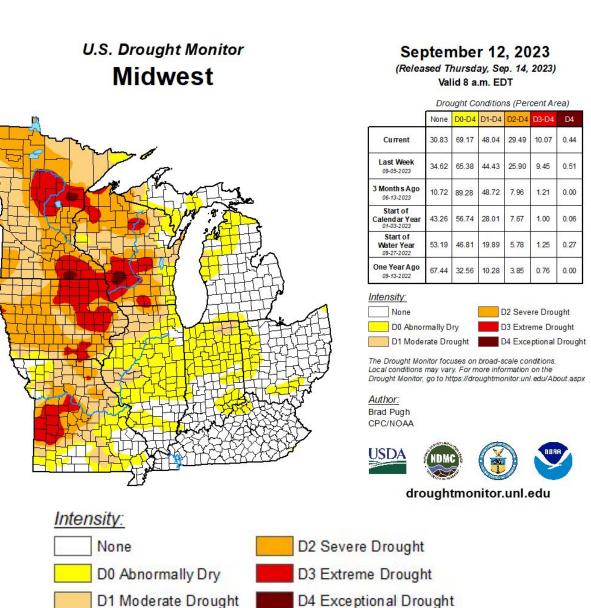


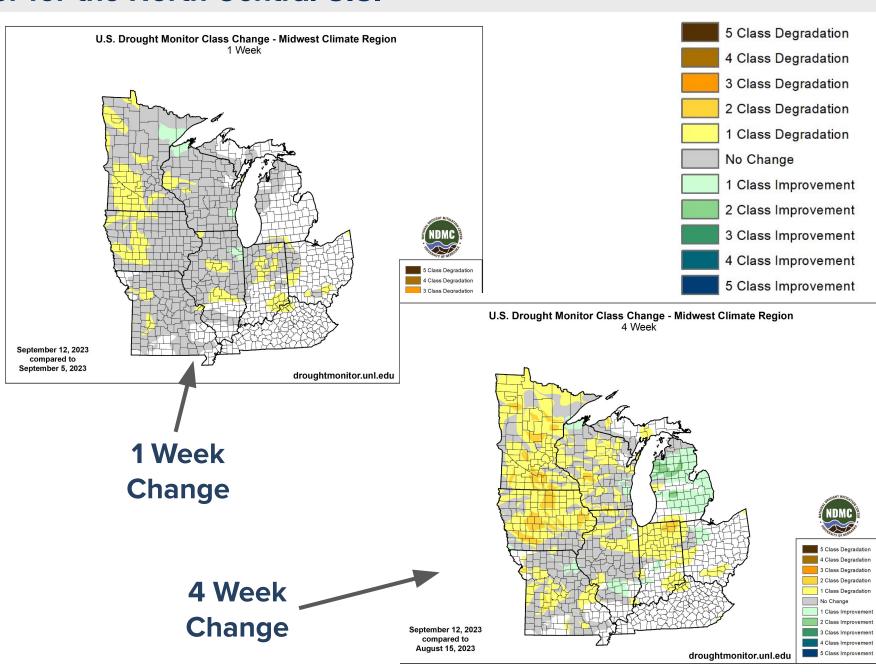
National Weather Service Twin Cities, MN



Drought Monitor Change

Latest Trend in the Drought Monitor for the North Central U.S.



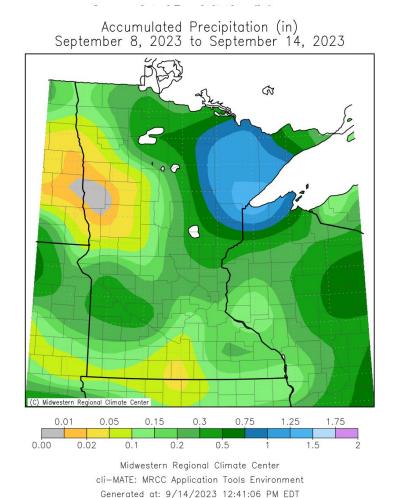


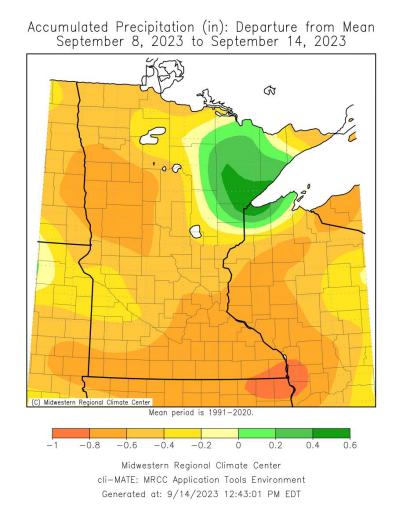




Recent Precipitation and Temperature September 14, 2023

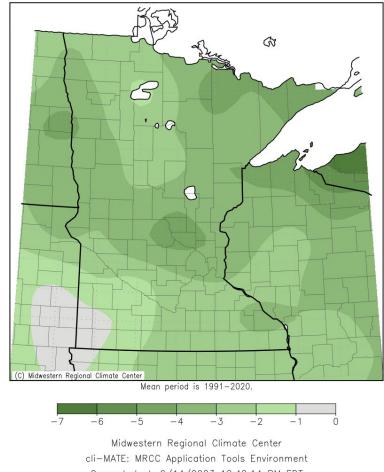
Last Week's Precipitation Totals/Departure





Last Week's Temperature Departure

Average Temperature (°F): Departure from Mean September 8, 2023 to September 13, 2023



- Generated at: 9/14/2023 12:42:14 PM EDT
- Much of the region saw little meaningful rainfall in the last week, while temperatures moderated toward a little below normal.
- With only light rainfall expected this week too, we can expect little improvement in drought conditions next week.

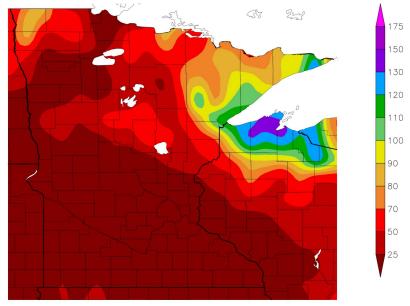




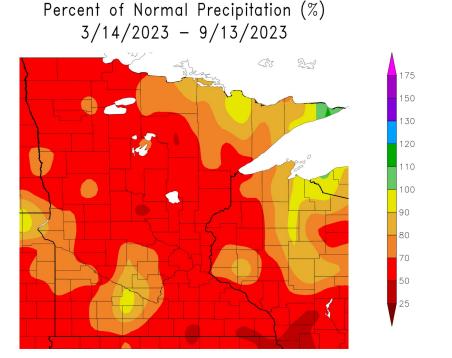
Precipitation Deficits

30 Day Percent Normal

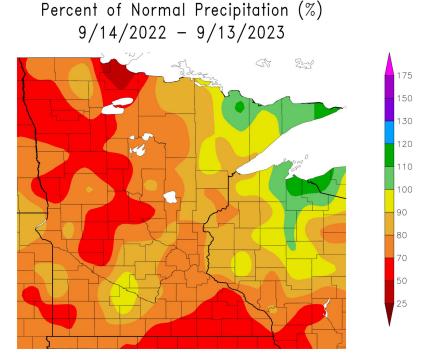
Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)8/15/2023 - 9/13/2023



6-Month Percent Normal



12-Month Percent Normal



Generated 9/14/2023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers Generated 9/14/2023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers Generated 9/14/2023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

- → Less than 25 percent of normal for the last 30 days over the entire MPX area.
- → Major precipitation deficits evident through the past 6 and 12 months as well, even including the heavy snowpack last winter.





Summary of Impacts

Hydrologic Impacts

- Many lakes and rivers near or at historic lows, leading to water restrictions. Minnesota DNR has suspended 107 surface water permits this summer.
- Minnesota Drought Task Force activated.
- Upper Mississippi Low Flow Management Plan in effect.

Agricultural Impacts

• Pasture and rangeland most affected so far, with 40 to 70 percent of pasture/rangeland rated poor to very poor.

Other Impacts

• Low lake and river levels are causing increased damage to boats and watercraft.

Mitigation Actions

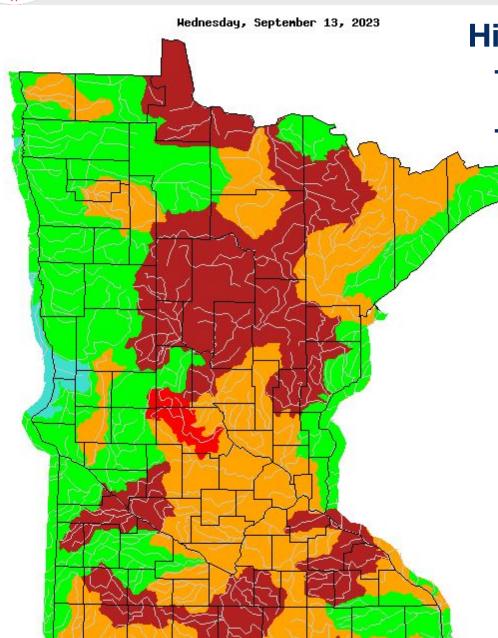
• Some localities have watering restrictions in place, including the city of St. Paul.





Hydrologic Conditions - MN and WI

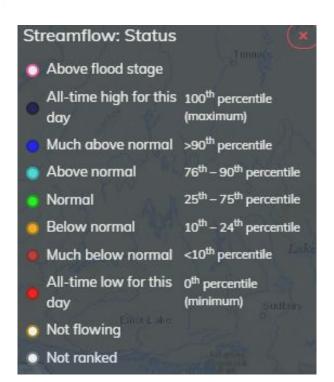
Average streamflow for the past 7 days

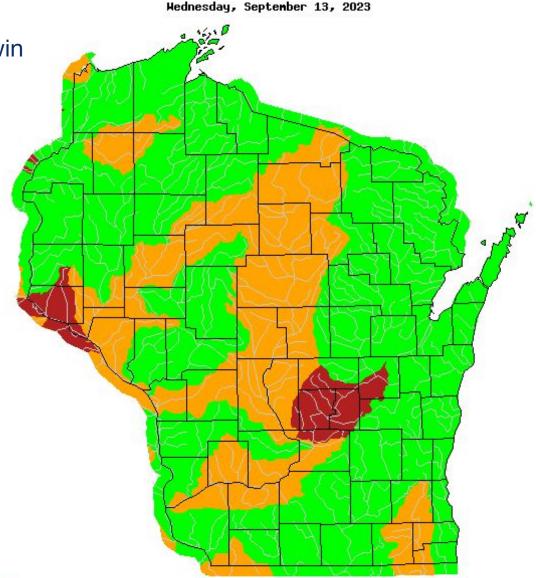


Highlights

USGS streamflows are mostly below normal for mid September.

The Upper Mississippi (above the Twin Cities) remains below low water thresholds.



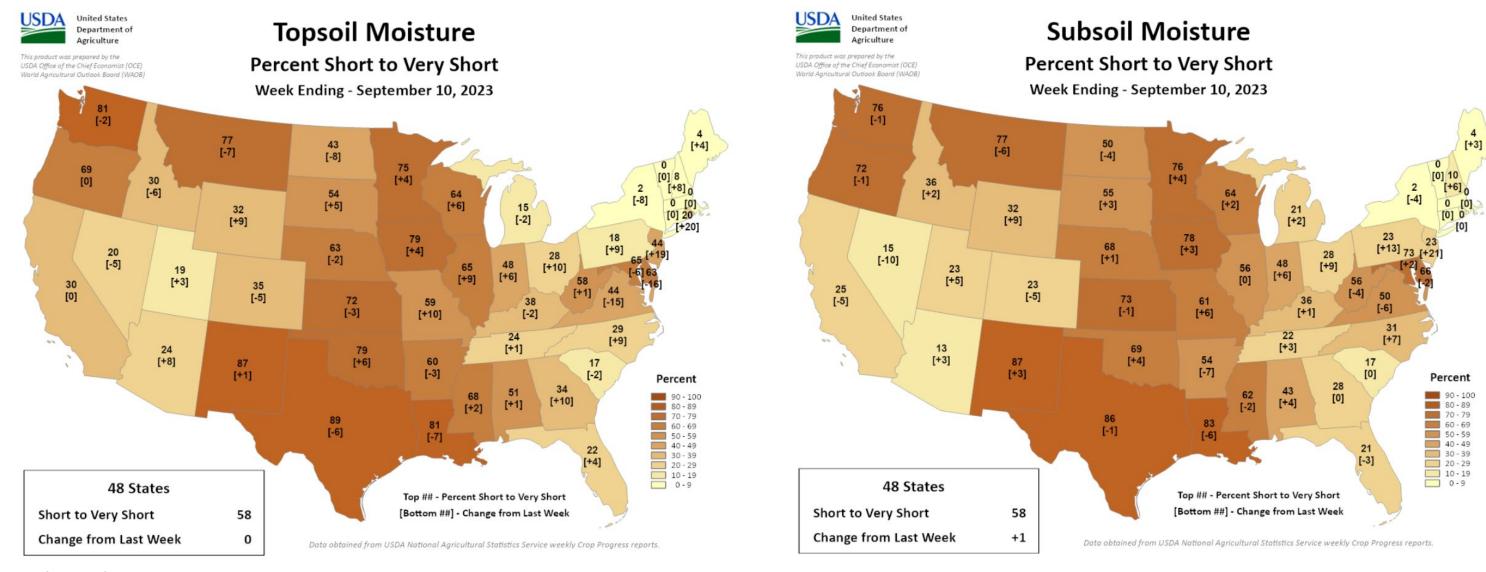








Soil Moisture Conditions



Highlights

→ Both Topsoil and Subsoil moisture conditions have decreased across MN/WI due to the recent dry weather this week.





Soil and Crop Conditions

Soil Conditions and Crop Conditions for September

Soil Moisture Condition

Minnesota (Entire State)	As of Sep 10	Very Short Moisture	Short Moisture	Adequate Moisture	Moisture Surplus
	Topsoil	31%	44%	25%	0%
	Subsoil	25%	51%	24%	0%

Wisconsin (Entire State)	As of Sep 10	Very Short Moisture	Short Moisture	Adequate Moisture	Moisture Surplus
	Topsoil	18%	51%	31%	0%
	Subsoil	17%	46%	37%	0%

Highlights

Crop conditions are fair to good, with pasture/hay bearing the worst of it. Corn and beans are in the 15 to 20 percent poor/very poor range.

Crop Condition as of September 10, 2023 MN

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Corn	7	17	37	32	7
Dry edible beans	1	9	32	53	5
Pasture and range	26	38	26	9	1
Potatoes	0	1	14	59	26
Soybeans	5	13	37	38	7
Sugarbeets	0	2	5	30	63
Sunflowers	0	4	37	58	1

Crop Condition as of September 10, 2023 WI

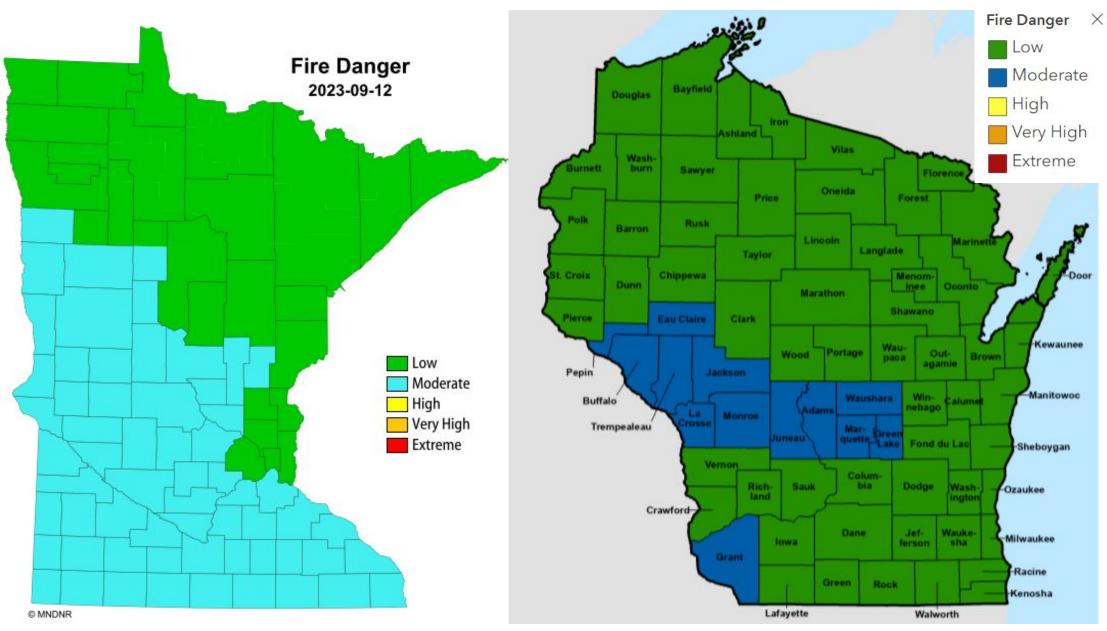
Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Corn	4	15	31	38	12
Pasture and range .	14	29	35	21	1
Soybeans	5	15	33	36	11





Fire Danger Condition

Fire Danger ratings for date specified ONLY



Current MN Fire Danger

Current WI Fire Danger

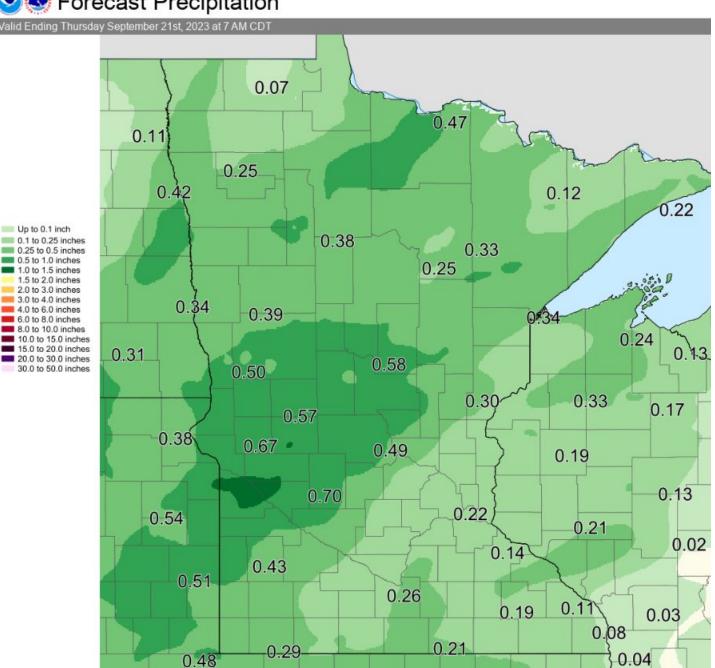
- → Areas of low to moderate fire danger persist over both states.
- → Recent dry weather will not help.



Forecast Precipitation

Next 7 Days





Highlights

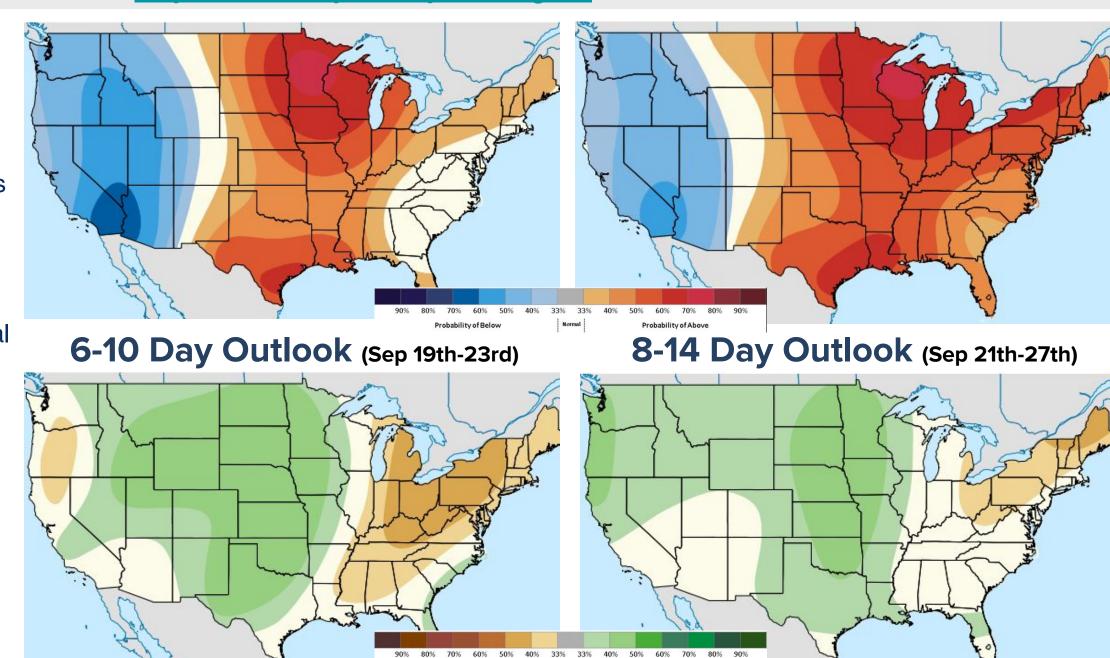
Very little rainfall is expected over the next seven days.



Short Term Climate Outlook

For more information visit: https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/

- Temperatures should be above normal for late September, which would mostly mean mild conditions rather than a heat wave.
- There is a potential shift in the pattern leading to probabilities of above normal precipitation in week 2.
- → Since this is a fairly dry time of year, this doesn't necessarily mean heavy rainfall, but it could at least provide some respite.



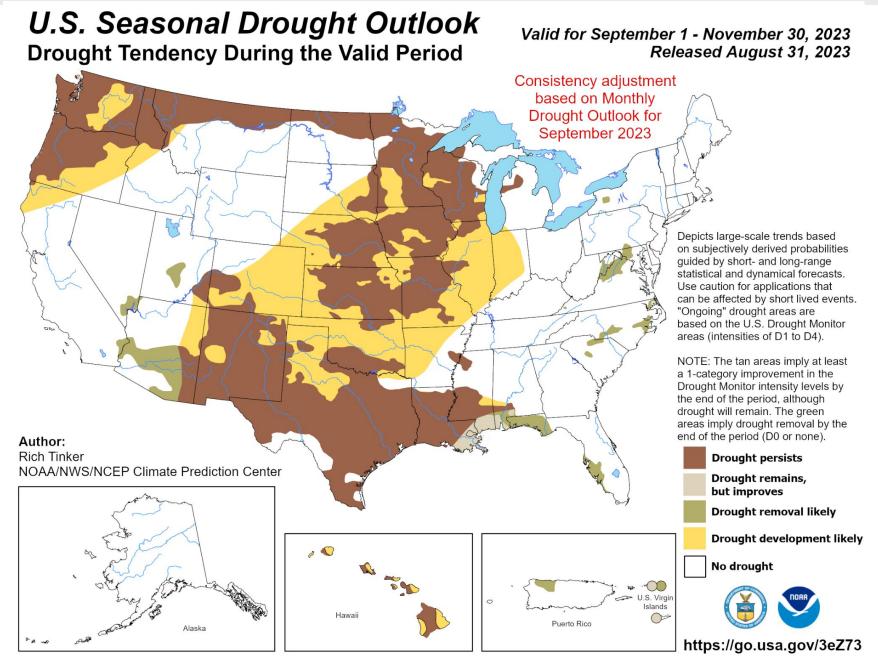




Drought Outlook

For more information visit: https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/

- → NOAA's Climate Prediction Center indicates that drought is expected to persist over the area through the autumn months.
- Drought conditions could worsen across western Minnesota and part of western Wisconsin.





Drought Category Definitions

VI					
DO	Abnormally Dry	Going into drought: Short-term dryness slowing planting, growth of crops or pastures	 Coming out of drought: Some lingering water deficits Pastures or crops not fully recovered 		
D1	Moderate Drought	Some damage to crops, pastures Streams, reservoirs, or wells low, some water shortages developing or imminent Voluntary water-use restrictions requested			
D2	Severe Drought	 Crop or pasture losses likely Water shortages common Water restrictions imposed 			
D3	Extreme Drought	 Major crop/pasture losses Widespread water shortages or restrictions 			
D4	Exceptional Drought	 Exceptional and widespread crop/pasture losses Shortages of water in reservoirs, streams, and wells creating water emergencies 			





Questions, Comments, and Resources 2:16 PM

Contact Information

If you have questions or comments about this information, please contact:

NOAA/National Weather Service Twin Cities/Chanhassen 1733 Lake Drive West Chanhassen, MN 55317

Phone: 952-361-6670

Email: nws.twincities@noaa.gov

Acknowledgments:

The drought monitor is a multi-agency effort involving NOAA's National Weather Service and National Climatic Data Center, the USDA, state and regional center climatologists and the National Drought Mitigation Center. Information for this statement has been gathered from NWS and FAA observation sites, cooperative and volunteer observations, USDAFS, the USDA and USGS.

Additional Resources

Additional information on current drought conditions may be found at the following web addresses:

U.S. Drought Monitor: www.droughtmonitor.unl.edu

Current MN drought conditions: www.drought.gov/state/minnesota Current WI drought Conditions: www.drought.gov/state/wisconsin

Climate Prediction Center (CPC): www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov

Midwestern Regional Climate Center: https://mrcc.illinois.edu/

MN Climatology Office: https://climateapps.dnr.state.mn.us/index.htm

WI State Climatology Office: www.aos.wisc.edu/~sco

MN DNR Fire Danger:

https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/forestry/fire/firerating_restrictions.html

WI DNR Fire Danger: https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/forestfire/restrictions.asp

NWS Precipitation Data: https://water.weather.gov/precip/

USGS Hydrologic data: https://waterwatch.usgs.gov/

USDA crop reports: https://www.nass.usda.gov/

