

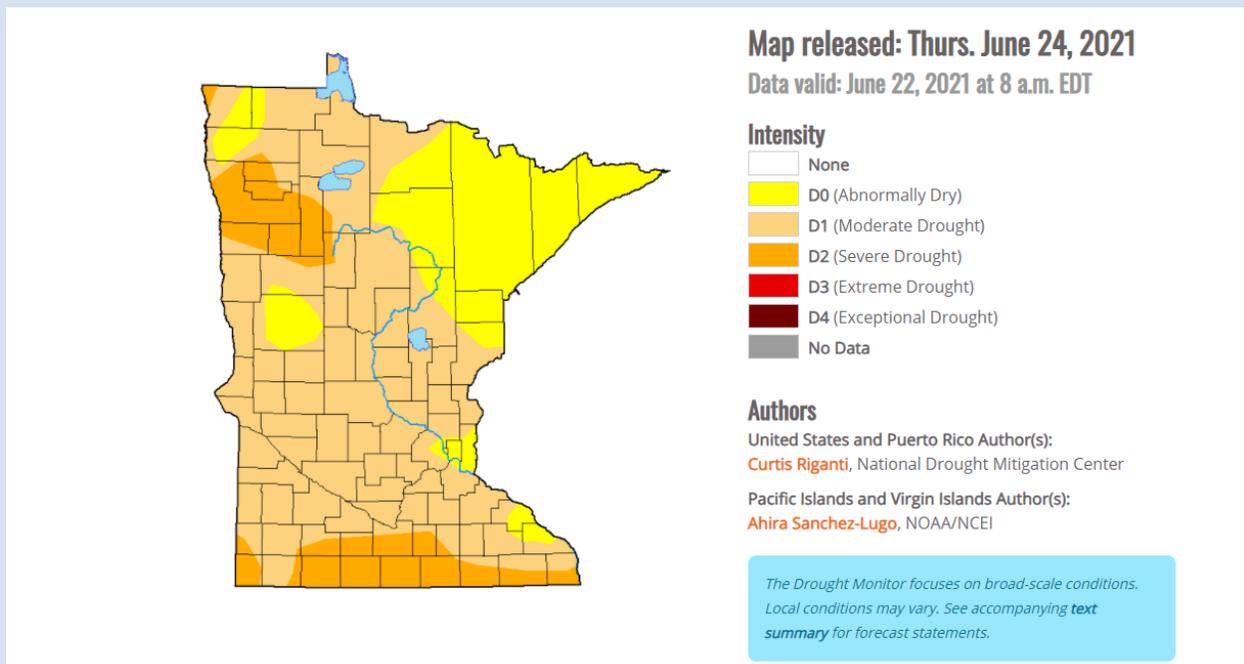
# Drought Conditions, Water Conservation, and the City of Minnetrista's Emergency Outdoor Water Ban

On June 24, 2021 the City of Minnetrista reinstated the Emergency Outdoor Water Ban effective immediately until further notice. This applies to all City residents on City water supply.

## Drought Conditions in Minnesota

According to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, we have seen just two thirds of the rain amount that we see in a typical year to date, just approximately 3.3" above the driest year to date (1997).

The Drought Monitor map (below) shows the drought conditions throughout the state. The seven-county metro is in at a "moderate drought" level, while some parts are in the "abnormally dry" level.



## How does this affect Minnetrista?

Over the last 30 days, Minnetrista has only seen 1.5-2.0 inches of total rain with an average temperature of 88.3 degrees; with 12 of the 30 days over 95 degrees. In the past three years, we have seen 4-6 inches of rain and an average temperature of 80.7 in June. When there is less precipitation, the water demand increases, and the ability to keep the water tower levels where they need to be for fighting fires is compromised.

***When will the outdoor watering ban be lifted?***

The duration of the outdoor watering ban is largely dependent on the weather, resident cooperation with the ban, and other water conservation efforts. The City's Public Works Department is continuously monitoring the water tower levels and once we get a break from this drought like weather, we may be able to lift the outdoor watering ban.

***What is prohibited with the outdoor watering ban?***

This outdoor watering ban prohibits all outdoor watering by mechanical or automatic means. It also includes all non-essential water use, including but not limited to, watering lawns, washing vehicles, power washing of homes, filling pools, etc. The use of sprinklers, irrigation systems or any other device that operates automatically is prohibited. This does not include the watering of small gardens, flowers, and shrubbery by means of a handheld hose on the odd/even schedule. Residents may also fill small kiddie swimming pools. The outdoor watering ban is aimed at decreasing the amount of water usage from irrigation. For residents with a water permit for new sod or seed, it is recommended that you not water in the "heat" of the day (10:00am – 6:00pm)

***How is the City communicating the water ban to residents?***

The Emergency Outdoor Water Ban effective June 24, 2021, was posted to the City's website, social media platforms, sent to residents subscribed the email alert groups, and sent to the Laker newspaper for immediate release. If you would like to sign up for similar email alerts for the future, please visit our website: <https://www.cityofminnetrista.com/newsletters> and select "Public Works Alerts"

## Other Water Conservation Resources

- DNR [Water Conservation](#) webpage
- University of Minnesota [Turfgrass Science](#) irrigation resources
- EPA [WaterSense Program](#)
- Metropolitan Council [Water Conservation Toolbox](#)
- [Minnesota Rural Water Association](#) downloadable ads

### Resources

<https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/CurrentMap/StateDroughtMonitor.aspx?MN>  
<https://water.weather.gov/precip/>