

CASTLE ROCK WATER

ORDINANCE 2026-018 AMENDING SECTION 13.15.080 OF THE CASTLE ROCK MUNICIPAL CODE PROHIBITING COMMON INTEREST COMMUNITIES FROM ENFORCING WATERING REQUIREMENTS FOR LANDSCAPING DURING DROUGHT CONDITIONS (FIRST READING) [CASTLE ROCK WATER SERVICE AREA]

RESOLUTION 2026-060 DECLARING AN ADVISORY DROUGHT STAGE (STAGE 1) WITHIN THE CASTLE ROCK WATER SERVICE AREA [TOWN OF CASTLE ROCK AND EXTRATERRITORIAL SERVICE AREAS]

RESOLUTION 2026-061 APPROVING REVISIONS TO THE 2024 DROUGHT MANAGEMENT PLAN

MAY 19, 2026



DROUGHT CONDITIONS

STATEWIDE CONDITIONS

DOUGLAS COUNTY DROUGHT

D0 (ABNORMALLY DRY): 100%

D1 (MODERATE DROUGHT): 100%

D2 (SEVERE DROUGHT): 92%

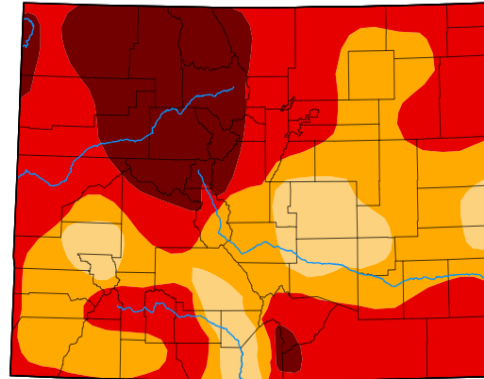
D3 (EXTREME DROUGHT): 25%

CURRENT DROUGHT RESTRICTIONS (DENVER METRO & NORTHERN COLORADO)

- MANDATORY RESTRICTIONS: AURORA, ARVADA, BRIGHTON, DENVER, EDGEWATER, GOLDEN, NORTHGLENN, THORNTON, WOODLAND PARK, PINERY WWD
- VOLUNTARY RESTRICTIONS: BROOMFIELD, BOULDER, ERIE, EVERGREEN, LONGMONT

SOURCE: COLORADO PUBLIC RADIO

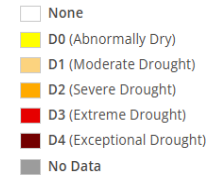
Colorado



Map released: Thurs. April 30, 2026

Data valid: April 28, 2026 at 8 a.m. EDT

Intensity



Authors

United States and Puerto Rico Author(s):

[Brad Rippey](#), U.S. Department of Agriculture

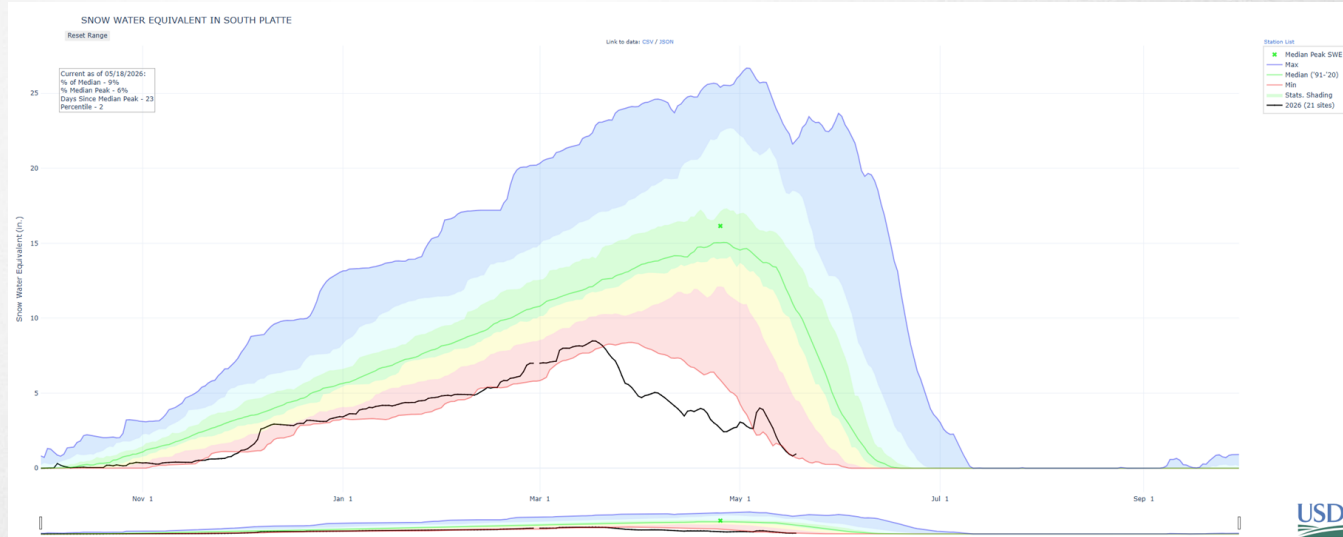
Pacific Islands and Virgin Islands Author(s):

[Daniel Whitesel](#), National Drought Mitigation Center

DROUGHT CONDITIONS

STATEWIDE CONDITIONS

SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN COLORADO CONTINUES TO BE HISTORICALLY LOW.
SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT (SWE) IN SOUTH PLATTE IS AT 19% MEDIAN.
YEAR-TO-DATE PRECIPITATION IS AT 67% OF MEDIAN.

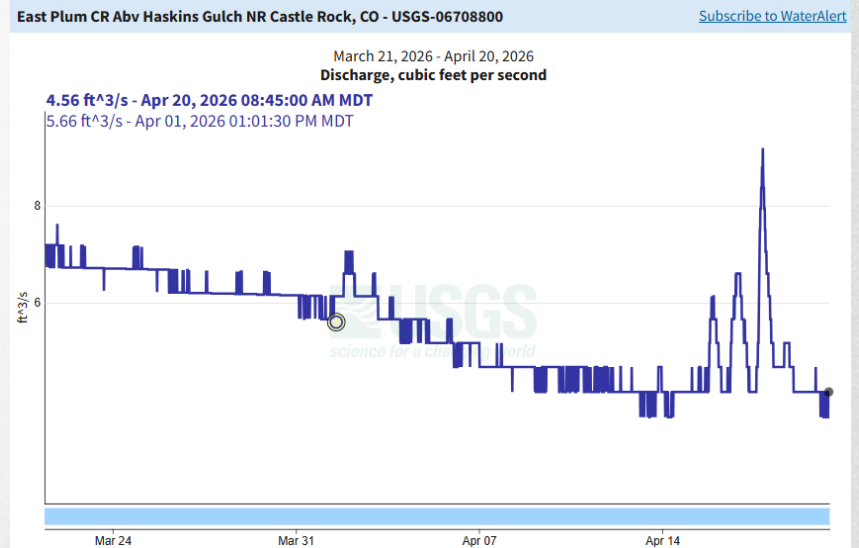
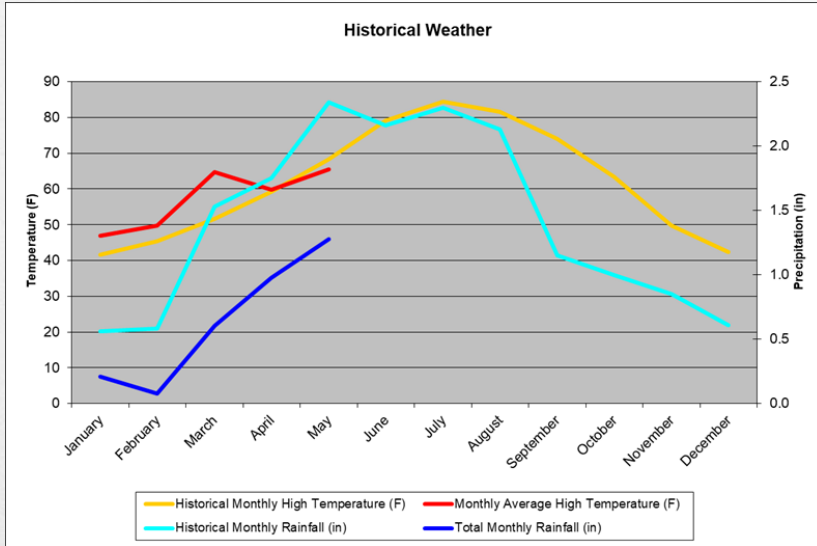


DROUGHT CONDITIONS

CASTLE ROCK CONDITIONS

Storage	AF	% Full
CRR-1 & CRR-2	1,188	87%
Walker Reservoir	13	9%
Chatfield Reservoir	1,847	92%
Rueter-Hess Reservoir	627	8%

10-Day WSI	3.35
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CASTLE ROCK WATER

**ORDINANCE 2026-018 AMENDING SECTION 13.15.080 OF THE CASTLE
ROCK MUNICIPAL CODE PROHIBITING COMMON INTEREST
COMMUNITIES FROM ENFORCING WATERING REQUIREMENTS FOR
LANDSCAPING DURING DROUGHT CONDITIONS (FIRST READING)
[CASTLE ROCK WATER SERVICE AREA]**

MAY 19, 2026



PROPOSED ORDINANCE

PURPOSE AND NEED

Clearly defined ordinance is needed to prevent common interest communities from penalizing residents for complying with drought declarations.

- Drought Management Plan establishes staged drought responses and restrictions on outdoor irrigation.
- During declared drought, compliance with these measures may result in brown or dormant turf.
- HOAs and Metro Districts may have covenants to require green or well-maintained turf and can impose fines or enforcement actions.
- Town code prevents restrictive covenants that require turf or limiting drought tolerant landscape, but allows enforcement of watering and maintenance at any time.
- State law requires HOAs to allow water-wise landscaping and limits their ability to enforce aesthetic standards that conflict with conservation goals.

PROPOSED ORDINANCE

SUMMARY AND KEY POINTS

Ordinance prohibits enforcement of a restrictive covenant during drought that:

- Requires watering or regular maintenance of turf grass.
- Prohibits brown or dormant grass.
- Imposes minimum watering requirements or mandates minimum landscaping conditions inconsistent with drought stage restrictions.

Key Points:

- Narrowly tailored to apply only during declared drought conditions.
- Will not regulate general HOA/Metro District governance or financial authority.
- Prevents fines/enforcement on residents complying with drought requirements.
- Supports the Drought Management Plan
- Will reduce confusion and conflict between public regulations and private HOA requirements.

CASTLE ROCK WATER

**RESOLUTION 2026-060 DECLARING AN
ADVISORY DROUGHT STAGE (STAGE 1) WITHIN
THE CASTLE ROCK WATER SERVICE AREA
*[TOWN OF CASTLE ROCK AND
EXTRATERRITORIAL SERVICE AREAS]***

MAY 19, 2026



STAGE 1 DROUGHT DECLARATION

DROUGHT PLAN PRIORITY WATER USES AND MONITORING

Priority	End Use	Description
1	Health and Safety	Indoor residential, water treatment plant, hydrants (for emergency use), wastewater treatment plants, schools, hospitals and other emergency services.
2	Business Indoor Use	Indoor use by the commercial and public sector including stores, offices, hotels, restaurants, etc.
3	Outdoor Irrigation – Public Spaces	Parks, sports fields, landscapes, swimming pools, homeowners' association parks, and open/recreational spaces. Trees are prioritized over turf. Outdoor commercial business or business enterprise (including golf courses), as well as construction purposes.
4	Outdoor Irrigation – Residential and Commercial	Outdoor irrigation in the single- and multi-family residences, and public and commercial sectors (including car wash facilities). HOA streetscapes / greenbelts. Reasonable environmental protection.

Monitoring of Drought Indicators

- Water Supply Index
- Storage tank levels and reservoirs
- Precipitation and temperature records
- Higher than anticipated water demands
- Streamflows
- Major infrastructure or water supply interruptions
- US Drought Monitor

STAGE 1 DROUGHT DECLARATION

DROUGHT PLAN STAGES

Stage	WSI Trigger	Goal	Primary Action
Stage 1 – Advisory	1.09 – 1.05	10% water savings through voluntary use reductions	Strict adherence to standard irrigation practices that promote efficient water use.
Stage 2 – Watch	1.04 – 1.00	25% savings	Outdoor watering limited to two days per week, including hand watering, and no exemptions for Water Wiser participants.
Stage 3 – Warning	0.99-0.95	40% savings	Outdoor watering limited to one day per week, including hand watering, and no exemptions for Water Wiser participants.
Stage 4 – Emergency	0.94 – 0.90	50% savings	All outdoor watering / irrigation is banned.
Stage 5 – Crisis	<0.90	60%+ savings	All outdoor watering is banned along with identified indoor restrictions.

STAGE 1 DROUGHT DECLARATION

SUMMARY OF KEY MEASURES

Declaration of Stage 1 Drought (Advisory)

- Voluntary conservation and early demand reduction targeting 10% water savings.
 - ✓ *What does 10% water savings look like for the average customer?*
- No mandatory restrictions and no drought surcharges.
- Continued enforcement of existing outdoor watering schedules and time-of-day restrictions.
 - ✓ *Castle Rock Water's normal restrictions are among the most strict in the State.*
- Preventing water waste, repairing leaks, encouraging use of water efficient practices, and discouraging installation of new sod.

STAGE 1 DROUGHT DECLARATION

SUMMARY OF KEY MEASURES

- **Voluntary Measures for Residential and Town-owned Facilities**
 - ✓ Minimize power washing and hand-washing personal vehicles.
 - ✓ Limit washing of Town-owned field vehicles to once every two weeks and washing of all other vehicles to once per month.
 - ✓ Covering private swimming pools and hot tubs when not in use.
 - ✓ Adjust room temperatures to reduce use of water-cooled air conditioning.
- **Voluntary Measures for Commercial and Institutional**
 - ✓ Conserve and prevent wasting of bulk water and construction water
 - ✓ Covering swimming pools and hot tubs when not in use.
 - ✓ Encourage commercial carwash facilities to reduce water by 10% if technically feasible and dealerships hand-washing vehicles.
 - ✓ Restaurants encouraged to serve water only when requested
 - ✓ Lodging establishments encouraged limit frequency of linen washings.

STAGE 1 DROUGHT DECLARATION

PUBLIC NOTICE AND OUTREACH

Outreach Activities

- Public notice through website and news release.
- Outreach on Town websites, email, and social media.
- Provide guidance on voluntary conservation measures.
- Continue customer education through existing outreach programs.
- Coordinate with regional partners.
- Continue to monitor drought indicators.

CASTLE ROCK WATER

RESOLUTION 2026-061 APPROVING REVISIONS TO THE 2024 DROUGHT MANAGEMENT PLAN

MAY 19, 2026



DROUGHT MANAGEMENT PLAN

PURPOSE AND OVERVIEW

- Implemented first Drought Management Plan in 2018,
- Utilized mandatory conservation measures since the 1980s.
- Focused Plan on long-term drought mitigation and strategies that provide short-term responses to temporary drought-related water supply shortages.
- Provides water use decision-making including:
 - Planning for droughts before they occur;
 - Protecting public health and safety and minimizing effects of drought.
 - Providing guidance for drought response, allowing for a range of actions.
 - Identifying and determining the severity of droughts through clear definitions of triggers;
 - Providing effective communication to customers, the public and governmental departments/agencies.

DROUGHT MANAGEMENT PLAN

UPDATES

- Incorporates the proposed ordinance to prohibit common interest community from enforcing watering requirements during declared drought conditions.
- Updates to the plan to cover the new ordinance include:
 - **Section 5.4:** Added ordinance to public information and education campaign outreach.
 - **Section 7:** Added ordinance language to the staged drought response program
 - **Table 25:** Included ordinance and impacted customer classes in the mitigation action plan.
 - **Section 8.2:** Added notice of the ordinance during publication of drought declarations.
 - **Section 8.4.1:** Added new section detailing new ordinance and how it applies.
 - **Section 9.2.1:** Reference relevant section of Code for the new ordinance.



- PROPOSED MOTION:

- *“I move to approve Ordinance 2026-018 as introduced by title.”*

- ALTERNATIVE MOTIONS:

- *“I move to approve the Resolution as introduced by title, with the following conditions: (list conditions).”*
- *“I move to continue this item to the Town Council meeting on ___ date to allow additional time to (list information needed).”*



- PROPOSED MOTION:

- *“I move to approve the Resolution 2026-060 as introduced by title.”*

- ALTERNATIVE MOTIONS:

- *“I move to approve the Resolution as introduced by title, with the following conditions: (list conditions).”*
- *“I move to continue this item to the Town Council meeting on ___ date to allow additional time to (list information needed).”*



- PROPOSED MOTION:

- *“I move to approve the Resolution 2026-061 as introduced by title.”*

- ALTERNATIVE MOTIONS:

- *“I move to approve the Resolution as introduced by title, with the following conditions: (list conditions).”*
- *“I move to continue this item to the Town Council meeting on ___ date to allow additional time to (list information needed).”*