

# EPD Declares Drought Response Level 1

On April 27, 2026 the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) declared a state-wide Drought Response Level 1. This applies to all EPD-permitted public water systems, such as the Hart County Water and Sewer Authority (HCWSA) and many privately-owned, larger community water systems.

As has been in effect for many years, outdoor watering is only allowed between 4:00pm and 10:00am with some exceptions per EPD regulations.

In an effort to reduce water consumption, HCWSA urges its customers to conserve their usage as much as possible. Some suggestions:

- ! Consider taking quick showers rather than baths.
- ! Don't leave the water running when brushing your teeth or shaving.
- ! Only run your dishwasher and washing machine when you have a full load.
- ! Sweep or blow off your driveway rather than cleaning with a garden hose.
- ! Check for leaky faucets and toilets and repair as necessary. HCWSA has free dye tablets that can be dropped into your toilet tanks to help find leaks.

Help us conserve water by doing your part! Feel free to call or email HCWSA at 706-377-4387 or [water@hartwatersewer.com](mailto:water@hartwatersewer.com) if you have any questions.

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