



# EXETER PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

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## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Town of Exeter Mandatory Water Restrictions**

EXETER, NH - The Department of Public Works and Select Board are requiring town residents and water customers to conserve water and refrain from using water outdoors such as watering of landscape areas and lawns, pool filling and washing down of paved surfaces until precipitation mitigates drought conditions.

The southern half of the state of New Hampshire, including all of Rockingham County, is in a severe drought. Low snowpack this past winter and spring, precipitation 50% below normal, and high evaporation rates during warm summer days have all contributed to the severe drought conditions. The National Weather Service is predicting below normal precipitation through October.

Saving water for essential uses, such as fire suppression, drinking, cooking, sanitation and cleaning of clothes and dishes is paramount. A temporary ban of non-essential uses such as watering lawns, washing vehicles outdoors and hosing down the driveway is key to conserving water supplies until enough rain is received to replenish water sources. Instead, let the lawn go dormant and use a commercial car wash facility that practices water recycling.

Additional information about current drought conditions, water efficiency tips and drought guidance is available online at [www.des.nh.gov](http://www.des.nh.gov) and the Drought Management Program.

For more information contact Jennifer Perry, Director of Public Works, or Michael Jeffers, Water/Sewer Managing Engineer at 773-6157.