



Drought and Water Shortages

Drought conditions and water shortages can seriously affect local water supplies and the environment. Conserving water is vital to protect these resources and ensure there's enough for everyone during dry periods. Make small changes at home to reduce pressure on local water systems.

Stay Informed

Follow your local municipality for updates on water restrictions, drought conditions, and alerts. Here are some practical tips and important actions Nova Scotians can take to conserve water.

Save Water Indoors

- Only run full loads of laundry and dishes
- Cut shower time by a few minutes
- Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth or shaving
- Thaw frozen food in the fridge instead of under running water
- Install low-flow shower heads and dual-flush toilets
- Upgrade to water-efficient appliances
- Regularly check for and fix leaks

Save Water Outdoors

- Follow local watering restrictions and water only in the early morning or late evening to reduce evaporation
- Let your lawn go dormant (brown) during drought. It will recover after a good rainfall
- Use mulch to retain soil moisture
- Group plants with similar watering needs
- Collect rainwater in barrels for outdoor use
- Reuse greywater for irrigation, where safe
- Avoid washing vehicles
- Skip filling pools or hot tubs during drought

Resources:

- Water Shortage for Well User – <https://novascotia.ca/watershortage/>
- Save Water in Your Home – <http://novascotia.ca/nse/water/docs/SaveWaterInYourHome.pdf>
- Government of Canada – Hydrometric Network Data: http://wateroffice.ec.gc.ca/index_e.html
- Agriculture Canada – Drought Watch: <https://agriculture.canada.ca/en/agricultural-production/weather/canadian-drought-monitor>