

**Bedford County Utility District** to Enact Voluntary Conservation Measures at Request of Duck River Agency

*BCUD to Join Other Duck River Water Users in Effort*

Shelbyville, Tn. At the request of the Duck River Agency (DRA), the **Bedford County Utility District** is enacting voluntary conservation measures due to drought conditions in the Duck River Watershed.

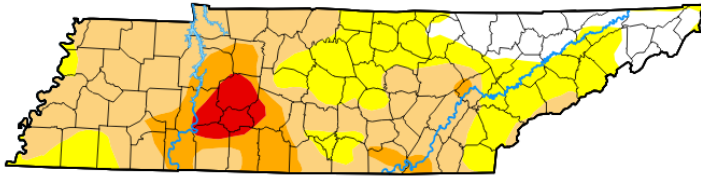
Per the U.S. Drought Monitor, far-west portions of the Duck River Watershed are currently in “D3 Extreme Drought” conditions. At D3 levels, expected impacts include a water supply that is inadequate for wildlife. **BCUD** is currently in the area of “D-1 Drought” conditions.

Map released: Thurs. September 5, 2024

Data valid: September 3, 2024 at 8 a.m. EDT

**Intensity**

- None
- D0 (Abnormally Dry)
- D1 (Moderate Drought)
- D2 (Severe Drought)
- D3 (Extreme Drought)
- D4 (Exceptional Drought)
- No Data



**Authors**

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In response, the Duck River Agency is initiating a Drought Response Team, consisting of **BCUD** leaders alongside other local and state officials, who will meet weekly to assess drought conditions and escalate the response if needed.

The Duck River Agency is declaring the river is in a “Stage 1 River Drought.” While the Normandy Reservoir is not seeing drought impacts currently, many downstream entities, including **BCUD**, are seeing low river flow levels. This means significant amounts of river water is being lost to groundwater replenishment.

At this Stage 1 designation, DRA is requesting all water users to voluntarily reduce all non-essential water usage. Non-essential water use includes irrigation, outdoor recreation, washing sidewalks and driveways, filling or refilling pools and hot tubs, non-commercial washing of vehicles and boats, and dust control measures during construction, among others.

These voluntary measures are to protect the delicate ecosystem of the Duck River Watershed, which has been declared one of the most bio-diverse ecosystems in North America, and to ensure all entities have sufficient waterflow for customers.

The **Bedford County Utility District** is thankful for your support in this request. DRA will continue to monitor the situation, and further announcements will be made in the coming weeks.