



## **WATER & NATURAL RESOURCES NEWS**

# **JULY 2025**

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## **SGMA NEWS**

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# **COUNTY GSA COMMITTEE MEETING**

## **Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) Committee Meeting**

(for the Madera, Chowchilla, and Delta-Mendota Subbasins)

**July 1, 2025**

**1:30 p.m.**

Meeting Location: Madera County Government Center  
200 W. 4th Street, Madera CA 93637  
Board of Supervisors Chambers

### **REMOTE PARTICIPATION**

<https://zoom.us/j/83035126482>

The Madera County GSA Committee, consisting of the Chair and Vice Chair of the Board, will be meeting on the first Tuesday of the month at 1:30 p.m. in the Madera County Board of Supervisors Chambers.

The purpose of this committee is to receive public input on the County GSA items. We will have public presentations on measurement methods and accounting platforms as well as a discussion of rates for domestic well mitigation. This meeting will be followed by a questionnaire being sent to all growers in the subbasin for additional grower feedback about measurement methods and accounting platform choices.

This is a public meeting, and all are welcome to join.

The agenda and packet for this meeting are on the County website at:

[Search - PrimeGov Portal](#)

These documents are also available at the Office of the Clerk of the Board of

Supervisors, acting on behalf of the Madera County GSAs.

*We will also have cake to celebrate the Chowchilla Subbasin GSP  
returning from the State Board!*

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## FLOOD NEWS

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### Upcoming Lunch-MAR Sessions

Join us on the **first Wednesday of each month from 12:30–1:30 PM PST.**

[\[Details here.\]](#)

- **July 2:** Regenerative Agriculture and Flood-MAR
- Presentation: **Regenerative Agriculture, Water, and Nitrogen in the California Central Valley**
- Sneak Peek:
- *What does California's new definition of regenerative agriculture mean for water quality and recharge efforts?* This session explores how the state's landmark move to define regenerative agriculture could influence groundwater programs—especially efforts to manage nitrate contamination. Learn how Managed Aquifer Recharge (MAR) may support both soil health and cleaner water when paired with smart nitrogen strategies.
- When: Wednesday **July 2, 12:30 – 1:30 pm PST**
- Link to join (always the same ☺): <https://csus.zoom.us/j/83904333987>

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## DROUGHT

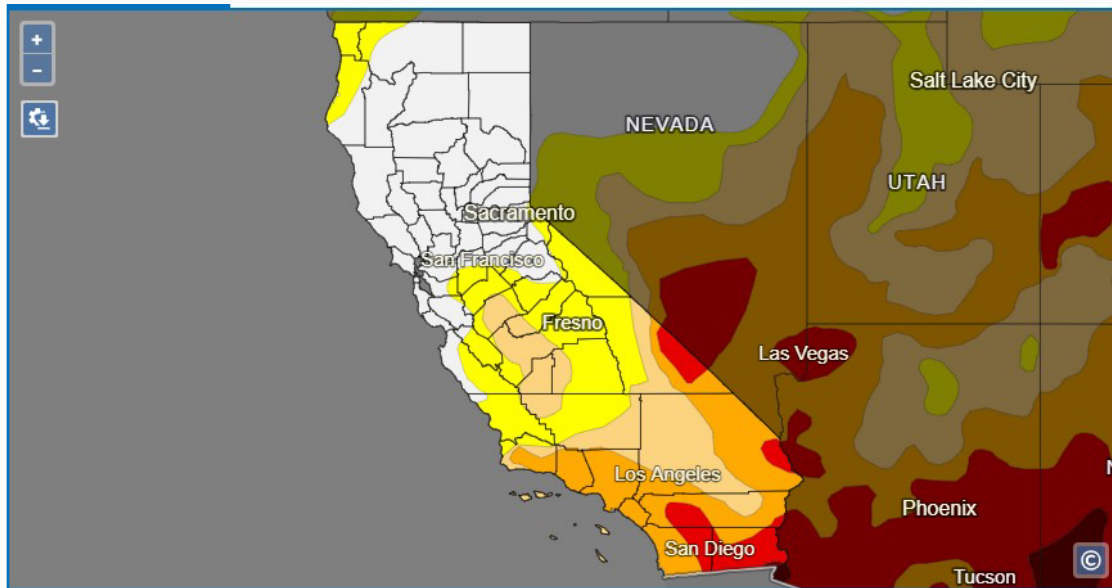
# Drought Work Group

July 18, 2025

10:00 a.m.

The Drought Work Group will educate, coordinate,  
and conduct outreach regarding the drought.

[For More on Drought](#)



The U.S. Drought Monitor depicts the location and intensity of drought across the country. The map uses 5 classifications: Abnormally Dry (D0), showing areas that may be going into or are coming out of drought, and four levels of drought (D1–D4). The map is jointly produced by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and National Drought Mitigation Center. Authors from these agencies rotate creating the map each week, using both physical indicators and input from local observers.

This map is used by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to trigger some disaster declarations and loan eligibility. Individual states and water supply planning may use additional information to inform their declarations and actions. [Learn more](#) <sup>et</sup>.

## Legend

Drought & Dryness Categories		% of CA
	D0 – Abnormally Dry	23.0%
	D1 – Moderate Drought	16.3%
	D2 – Severe Drought	17.1%
	D3 – Extreme Drought	5.8%
	D4 – Exceptional Drought	0.1%
	Total Area in Drought (D1–D4)	39.3%



[Flash drought](#) is set in motion by lower-than-normal rates of precipitation, accompanied by abnormally high temperatures, winds, and radiation. These changes increase evapotranspiration and lower soil moisture. Flash droughts can cause extensive damage to agriculture, economies, and ecosystems if it is not predicted and discovered early. [New research](#) describes an early detection method that identifies flash drought by calculating changes in the Soil Water Deficit Index, a measure of plant water stress based on soil moisture and soil properties. This method defines flash drought based on when the Soil Water Deficit Index falls from measurements indicating moderately dry conditions to measurements indicating severely dry conditions in under a month and remains severe for 15 days. At this point, most crops reach a sustained level of water stress.

[Learn More](#)

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## EVENTS

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THE PRIVATE WELL  
**CLASS**

*Partners*  
AN OUTREACH NEWSLETTER

The Private Well Class webinars are live enrichment sessions, in addition to the [main email course](#) material. Webinar registration is separate from enrollment in the email class. Both are free and you must register for any of our webinar dates separately.

### **Upcoming Webinars – Private Well**

Septic Systems 101

July 9, 2025, 1pm Central

[Registration](#)

Is My Water Safe to Drink? - Common Questions about Private Wells

August 5, 2025, 1pm Central

[Registration](#)



## **Water Education Foundations 2024 Annual Report now Online**

The Water Education Foundation's [2024 Annual Report](#) is now available in a new interactive, digital format. The report revisits its successful international groundwater conference in San Francisco; water issues covered by the [Water Education Foundation](#) in 2024, particularly those involving the Colorado River Basin, which provides water to approximately 40 million people; 44 Project WET (Water Education Today) workshops held across the state for K-12 educators to bring lessons on water into the classroom; and, among other important events, recaps a big anniversary in California: The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) turning 10. Learn more about these and other accomplishments by checking out the [2024 Annual Report](#) and find out which journalist received the Rita Schmidt Sudman Award for Excellence in Water Journalism.

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## **WILDFIRE & HEAT**



If a wildfire threatens your home or community, you may need to leave quickly 🔥... See more



## Everyday Wildfire Prevention



*Most wildfires are caused by humans — many everyday things can create sparks. Keep ignition sources far away from dry vegetation, wood, and other fuel.*



Have a clear 10 foot radius around campfires, burning brush, etc. Never leave fires unattended, and always properly extinguish.



Use grills/smokers on gravel or paved surfaces.



Never toss lit cigarettes on the ground. Put ashes in a metal container with a tight lid.



Keep water stored near campfires, fire pits, grills, smokers, burning brush, etc.



Maintain vehicle brakes & tires, and secure tow chains to avoid dragging. Don't drive on dry grass or brush.



Water your lawn & keep grass cut. Mow lawn early in the morning and when it's not windy or excessively dry.

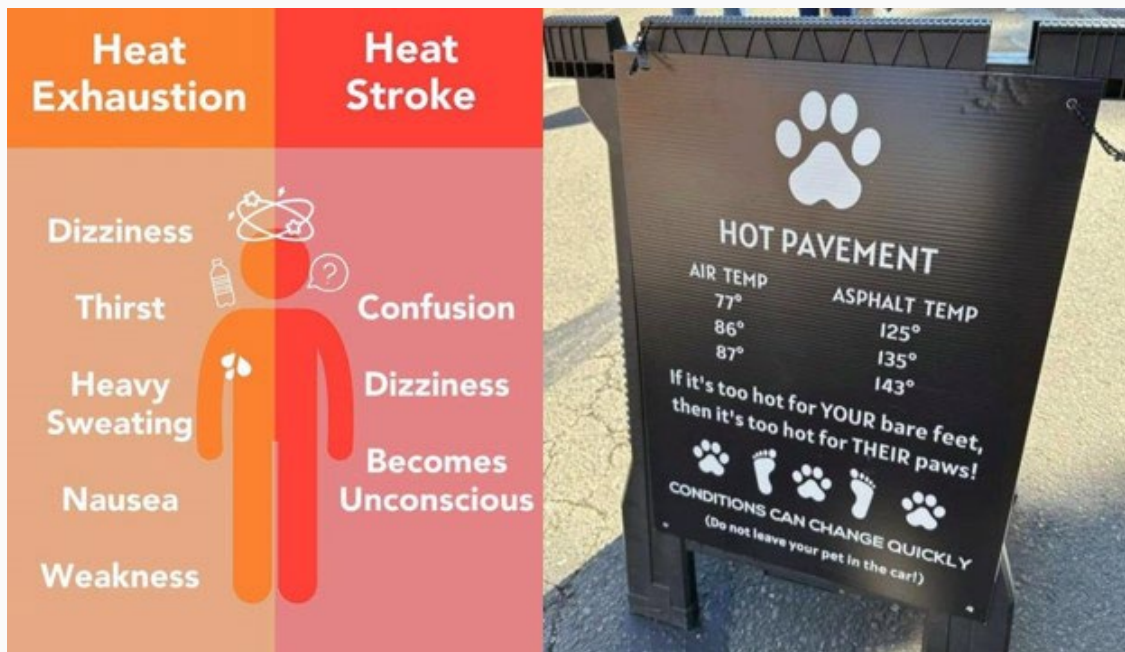
Always follow burn bans & regulations.

Be aware of weather conditions. Low humidity, heat, drought and winds are conducive to fires.

weather.gov



## Wildfire Prevention Information



## [For More on Heat Illness](#)

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Visit our website at:  
[maderacountywater.com](http://maderacountywater.com)

Have questions on your allocation, measurement, or any other GSA concern? [Schedule an appointment](#) with us! We can also be reached at (559) 662-8015, at the County Government Building on the third floor, or you can visit us online at [maderacountywater.com](http://maderacountywater.com).

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