



Tips from our Water Action Team

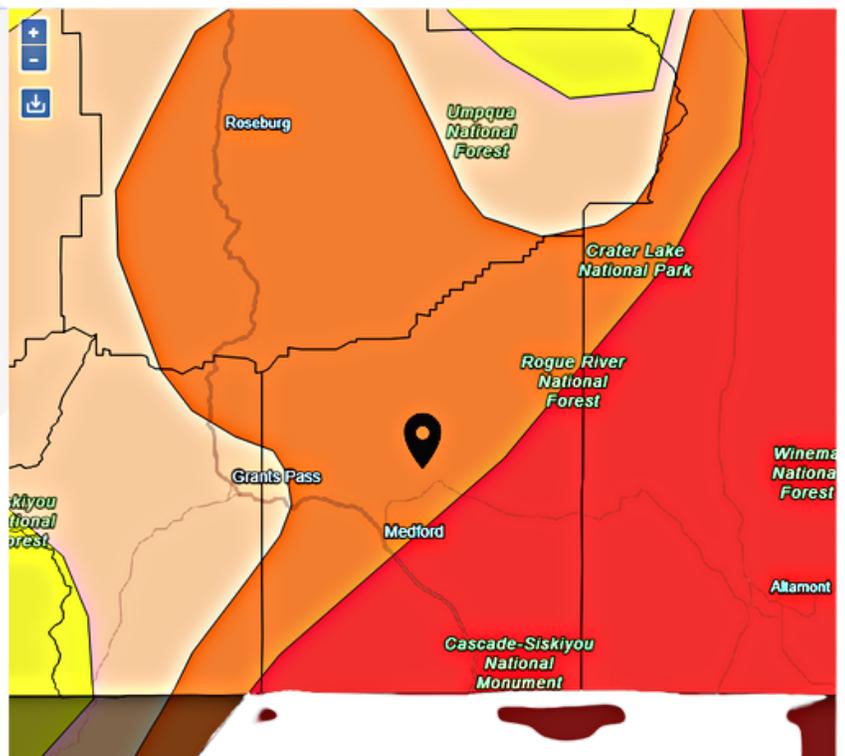
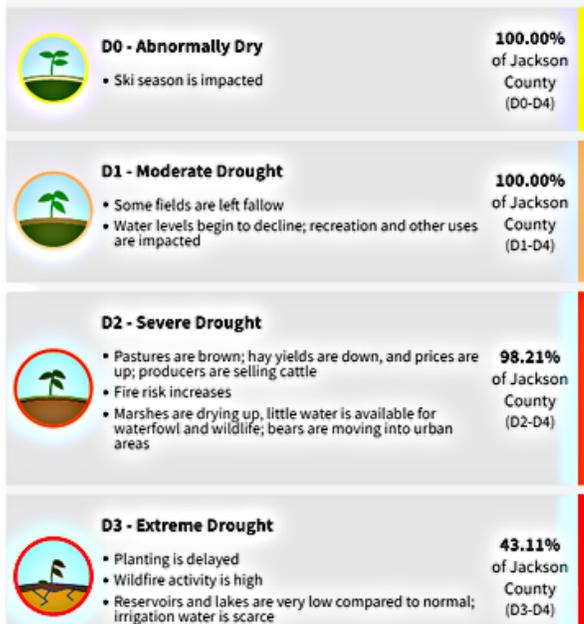
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Hurray for the Rain! But we're still in SEVERE DROUGHT

A moderately wet spring season brought Ashland needed relief after a very dry winter. Emigrant Lake finally looks like a lake. It still doesn't have enough water stored for a full irrigation season, but it has enough for a short season. Unfortunately, the recent rains have not changed our overall drought conditions.

Drought Monitor For Jackson County

The U.S. Drought Monitor (USDM) is updated each Thursday to show the location and intensity of drought across the country using a five-category system, from Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions to Exceptional Drought (D4). The USDM is a joint effort of the National Drought Mitigation Center, USDA, and NOAA. [Learn more.](#)



The Good News

There will be irrigation water deliveries from the Talent Irrigation District (TID) canals beginning around July 5. The limited supply is estimated to provide a bit more than a month of irrigation. TID will reevaluate and update the schedule as weather and repairs impact water deliveries.

The water supply for homes and businesses in Ashland from Reeder Reservoir and the TAP is in pretty good shape, but we need to stay mindful of our water use and make use of best landscape watering practices. Here's a good resource for guiding outdoor water use:

<http://www.ashland.or.us/weather>

Did you Know? You Can Get Cash Back for Replacing Your Lawn!

If you've been thinking about making your yard more "waterwise," this may be perfect time to make some changes. The City of Ashland offers Lawn Replacement Program (LRP) rebates when you replace your thirsty, green lawn currently watered with city water. There are many colorful waterwise, firewise, and pollinator plants to choose from. You can add character to your landscape and save water at the same time!

Will you actually save water? A recent two-year analysis showed that LRP participants saved an average 20,000 gallons (2,700 cubic feet) of water per year. Many are saving even more.

Visit www.ashland.or.us/LRP to learn more.

Right Plant, Right Place

Want to find the right plant for that sunny, shady, wet, or dry area of your landscape? Do you have ideas about height, color and shape of the "right" plant? The City of Ashland's Water Wise Landscaping Website www.ashlandsaveswater.org is just what you need to easily find the plants you're looking for.

On this website, you can search for plants based on type, size, color, sun requirements, soil type and blooming season. Click on the Plants category at the top of the screen then select Guided Search to get started. Among many other categories, the plant section's helpful plant list enables you to search a variety of categories such as Very Low Water Use, Bee Pollinators, and Screens and Hedges. There are also plant categories that list firewise and deer-resistant plants, photos of each plant, and detailed information on water needs, growth rates and planting instructions.

If you find a plant you like, you can save it to your List. Once you have selected the plants you want, you can organize them by water need and then email the list to yourself or your landscaper. In addition to plant information, there are Tours and Galleries highlighting gardens in our community. If you see a plant you like, click on it and find out what it is -- or add it to your list.

There are also pages on irrigation design, maintenance, how and when to water, and a watering calculator, making it easier for you to develop your own watering schedule.

Important City of Ashland Resources

The City of Ashland offers many resources to assist you in managing your landscape and irrigation system. Check out www.ashland.or.us/conserve for helpful tips. Also, the City currently rebates up to \$250 for installing a WaterSense-labeled smart irrigation controller. For more information visit the Ashland.or.us/weather and AshlandSavesWater.org