

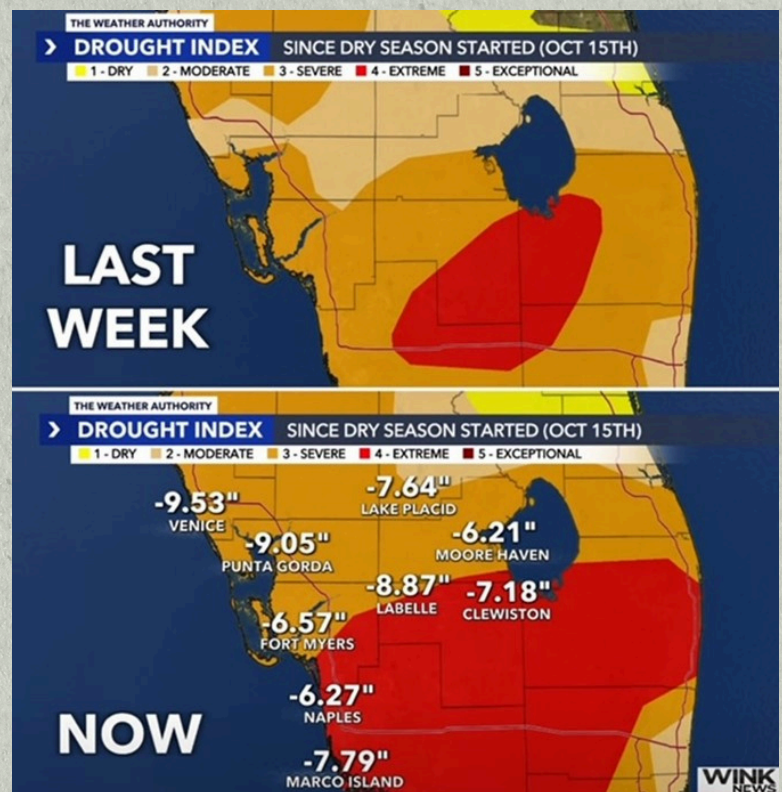
May 8, 2025

Water Restriction Info From the Superintendent

As of early May 2025, Florida is experiencing significant drought conditions, with over 20 wildfires reported across the state. Some counties have received only 40% of their average rainfall over the past six months, leading to increased fire risk and water stress. For residents in Bonita Springs and surrounding areas, it's advisable to stay informed through local weather updates and be prepared for water restrictions or fire hazards.

These adverse dry conditions are currently affecting Worthington and its water supply to a point where we must now make efforts to conserve water before we run out. Much of Southwest Florida and Bonita Springs are now under extreme drought conditions whereas a week ago we were at a severe level. This rapid increase in drought conditions and continued weather patterns with limited rain

has brought us to extremely low water levels in our lakes. We received no rain 0.0" in the month of April, .40" of rain in March, 1.49" of rain in February and .68" in January for a yearly total of 2.57". The average



amount of rainfall for our area January through April is 8.21" and with our 2.57" so far this year that leaves Worthington 5.64" below normal or a deficit of 69% for the year.



Figure 1 Driving Range Fountain Sitting on the Bottom of the Lake

All 9 associations as well as the golf course pump water from the lakes in Worthington for irrigation. There are currently 8 shallow ground water recharge wells that provide water to refill the lakes. Because those wells are shallow and next to the lakes they don't produce as much water when the water table

drops. These dry conditions and decreased capacity of the wells have led to our low water levels and at this time won't support irrigation of Worthington at the current water usage rates. To prevent running out of water before our weather pattern transitions into the rainy season we must take action to reduce the amount of water being used. All 9 associations will be limited to watering one day per week from 12:00 AM to 9:00 AM in the morning and or 5:00 PM to 12:00 AM in the evening with No irrigation between 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM. Each association will be assigned one day (schedule) per week for their irrigation; there will be two irrigation schedules the same as our normal year-round watering restrictions with the first being on [Wednesday (ODD addresses) or Thursday (EVEN addresses)] and the second being on [Saturday (ODD addresses) or Sunday (EVEN addresses)]. This split schedule between the associations will help to moderate the water usage within the community over the entire week. The golf course and common ground will also reduce water usage, limiting common grounds irrigation and

the irrigation of the rough. Please see the attached watering schedule for your neighborhood.



Currently the main pump station for the golf course has 58" of water in the wet well when it is not pumping. While running that level drops to about 54" as of yesterday, the system is designed to self-protect and shut down at 42" and restart at 44" affectively meaning there is about 10" – 12" of water left for the golf course. The course pumps are a four-stage turbine pump which simply explained are four little pumps attached to a pipe submersed in water vertically;

as the water level drops the pump at the top of the pipe is no longer in water. The system can run with two pumps or stages out of the water. Currently on our three pumps one stage is out of the water on each. It is hard to calculate the total amount of water left for irrigating the golf course as not all of the lakes are connect at this time as most of the water levels are below the large concrete pipes that go between lakes and wells; but with no action I would anticipate running out of water in 14-21 days. n addition to reducing water, it is important to look for other methods to conserve water. One of those methods is to postpone planting any new plants or flowers as they require additional water until



they are established. The summer annuals within the common grounds and golf course have been postponed and won't be planted until we see a shift in the weather.

Additionally, we have turned off the fountains to protect them from sucking up any mud/silt or debris

from the bottom of the lakes which could damage the pumps.

Homeowners can still water with a hose that has an automatic shutoff (spring-loaded garden nozzle) and will more than likely need to do so to supplement the irrigation of sensitive plants and flowers. The grass will turn brown, but with once-a-week irrigation it will still survive in a brown dormant state until an increase of rain or irrigation is available. As lawns turn brown it will be suggested that the height of cut be raised when they are mowed and that once they go dormant all traffic and mowing cease, this will help to protect plant parts as they are under stress. It will also become more important to report broken or mis adjusted sprinklers in your landscaping to maximize the efficiency of the once-a-week irrigation.

