

Stages of Seattle's Water Shortage Contingency Plan
We are in the Voluntary Stage which was activated on August 11, 2015

Water System Operational Highlights

September 14, 2015 – September 21, 2015

The Message on Our Water Supply

After moving to the voluntary stage of their water shortage response plans on August 11, Everett, Seattle and Tacoma asked customers to reduce their water use by 10 percent to stretch water supplies, for people and fish, to the rainy season.

As reported on September 9, the region has collectively cut back on water use by 14 percent. The cities are grateful for the actions residents and businesses have taken to reach that point and ask customers to continue to reduce their water use.

While the recent rains have helped, it has not been enough to return our supplies to normal levels. More rain and continued water reductions by customers are needed to replenish our water supplies for people and fish.

Ways residents and businesses can continue to reduce water use:

- Let your lawn go dormant and limit plant watering to twice a week.
- Water plants before 8 a.m. or after 7 p.m.
- Reduce your showering time.
- Check for and fix leaks, including checking your toilets for silent leaks.
- Wash only full loads of laundry and dishes.
- Turn off the tap while brushing teeth or shaving
- If purchasing fixtures or equipment, choose water-efficient models.

Find more water saving tips at www.savingwater.org.

We are making operational changes and activating supplementary water supplies – all in an effort to stretch our water supply as far as possible.

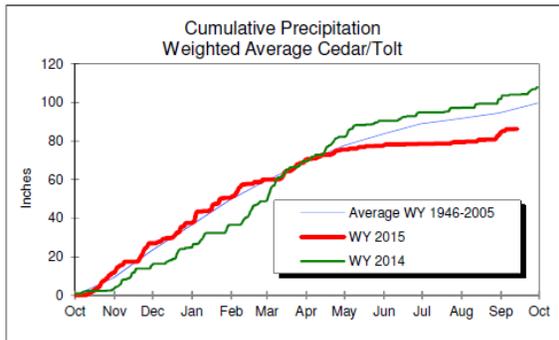
If conditions worsen, we may move to the mandatory phase of water shortage response and require customers to further reduce the amount of water they normally use each day.

Last week, 0.04 inches and 0.01 inches of precipitation were recorded in our Cedar River and South Fork Tolt River watersheds, respectively.

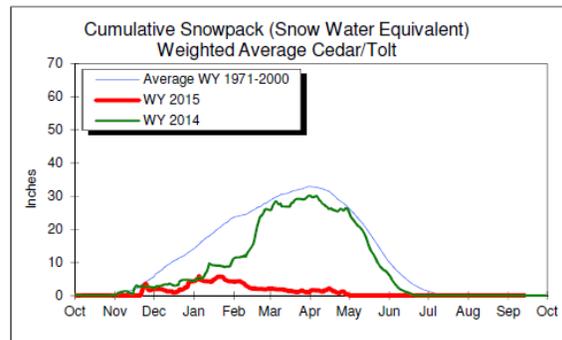
Chester Morse Lake at the Overflow Dike is at elevation 1548.7 feet, about 0.2 feet lower than last week, and about 0.6 feet below its long term average (based on the years 1989 to 2005). Masonry Pool Reservoir at Masonry Dam is at elevation 1514.1 feet, about 0.5 feet higher than last week, and about 24.6 feet below its long term average. The South Fork Tolt Reservoir at the South Fork Tolt Dam is at elevation 1720.2 feet, about 2.0 feet lower than last week, and about 23.4 feet below its long term average. Water releases from reservoir storage are actively being managed for water supply, hydropower and fish habitat management objectives for both the Cedar and South Fork Tolt Rivers.

Water consumption for the previous seven days averaged approximately 128 mgd. That is less than the 146 mgd consumed during the same period last year, and less than the average of 162 mgd used during the same period over the years 1999-2008.

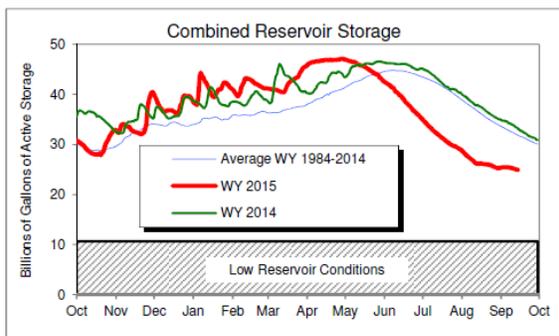
Seattle Public Utilities Water System Synopsis as of September 14, 2015



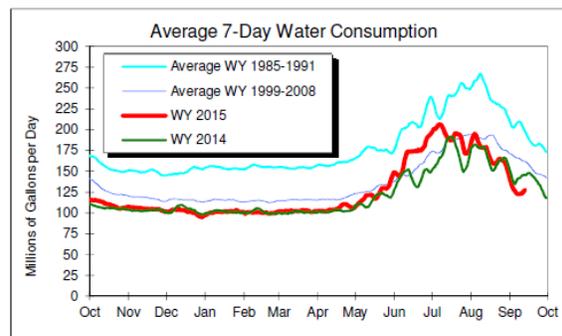
Little precipitation was recorded in the Cedar River and South Fork Tolt River Watersheds over the past week.



The average snow accumulation across the sites that we monitor is estimated to be about 0.0 inches snow water equivalent which is at the long term average for this time of the year.



The combined reservoir storage of Chester Morse Lake, Masonry Pool, Lake Youngs and South Fork Tolt Reservoir is below the long term average for this time of the year.



Water use over the past week averaged about 128 million gallons per day (mgd), which is less than the 162 mgd used during the same period over the years 1999-2008.

All data is provisional and subject to revision.

Figure 1. Seattle Public Utilities Water System Synopsis Graphs