

North Carolina Drought Update

For the assessment period ending May 19, 2020

Note: updates will be issued monthly when the state is **not** experiencing dry or drought conditions.

Statewide Condition Summary

This Week's Drought Monitor of North Carolina Map

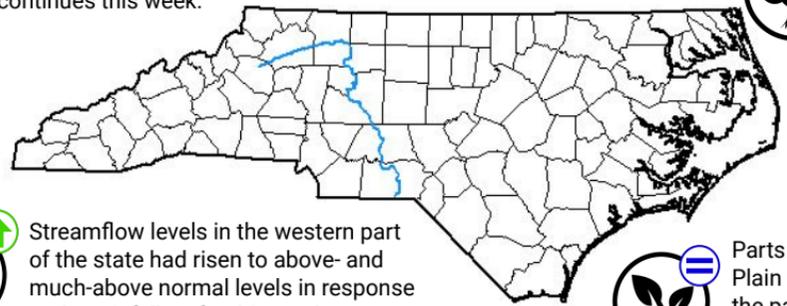
From the US Drought Monitor, authored by Brian Fuchs (*National Drought Mitigation Center*) with input from the *North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council* (ncdrought.org)



Reservoirs in the state are close to their guide curves. Operators are preparing for flood control as heavy rain continues this week.



Vegetation across the state is completing green-up this week. Combined with the recent rain, this effectively ends the spring fire season.



Streamflow levels in the western part of the state had risen to above- and much-above normal levels in response to the rainfall so far this week.



Parts of the Piedmont to northern Coastal Plain were experiencing slight dryness over the past week, including lawn growth slowing and newly planted plants needing watering. Ongoing rains this week are likely to lead to improvements.

What's Changed? Though the past couple of weeks were drier for some parts of NC, slightly **below-normal temperatures** and **antecedent wet conditions** managed to keep the state drought map blank.

What's New? **Tropical Storm Arthur** brought 2 to 4 inches of rain at the immediate coast, and a **slow-moving low pressure system** continues to soak the state. Overall, most places are expecting at least 2.5 inches, with some areas in the Foothills and Mountains seeing as much as 7 inches.

What's Next? Localized flash flooding is possible through the weekend. **Scattered showers and storms** will linger for much of next week, with our temperatures and precipitation similar to the **typical summertime pattern**.

Last Week's Drought Map



A PRODUCT OF **PROJECT NIGHTHAWK**
<https://climate.ncsu.edu/nighthawk>



Statewide Coverage By Category

Category	Coverage This Week	Change Since Last Week
D0: Abnormally Dry	0.00%	0.00%
D1: Moderate Drought	0.00%	0.00%
D2: Severe Drought	0.00%	0.00%
D3: Extreme Drought	0.00%	0.00%
D4: Exceptional Drought	0.00%	0.00%