

East Anglia remains in Prolonged Dry Weather

22 September 2025

Situation

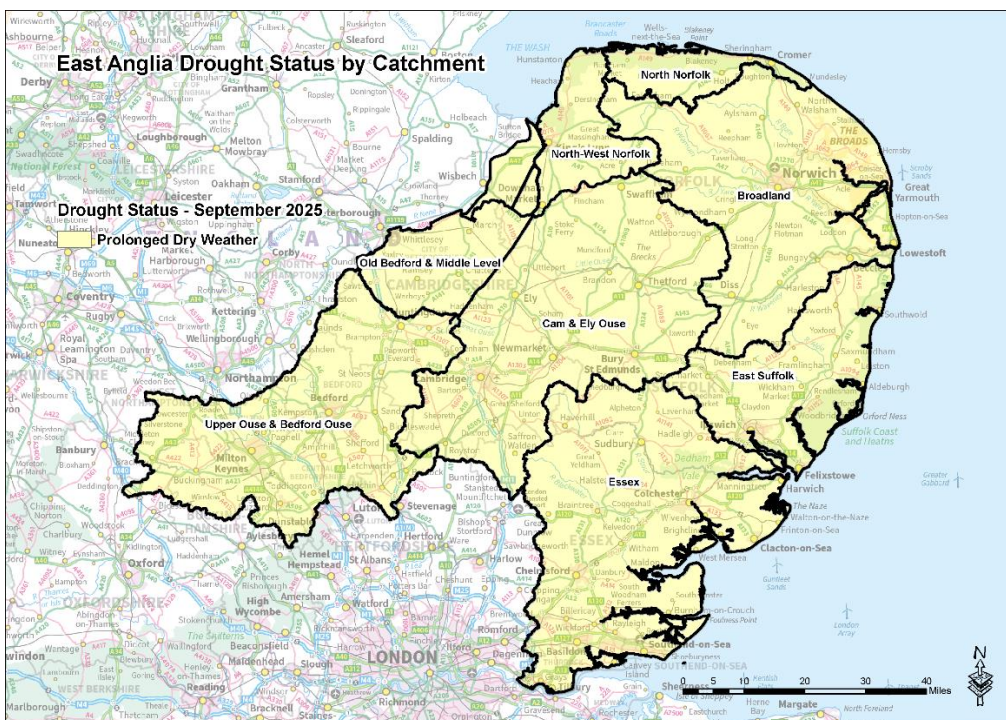
Since March 2025, East Anglia has received just half of the rainfall that we would usually expect for the time of year. In July, we declared Prolonged Dry Weather (PDW) across the East Anglia area. August continued to be very dry, with only 29-46% of long-term average rainfall.

Whilst the start of September has seen 40-60mm of welcome rain, it provides limited environmental benefits due to the exceptionally dry soils from the summer. Further rainfall, usually associated with autumn and winter, is required before our rivers, groundwater and ecology can be considered to have recovered.

Looking ahead, we currently expect to remain in Prolonged Dry Weather into the winter months, depending on future rainfall and improved environmental conditions. We will keep you informed of any changes to this outlook as they occur.

The following catchments remain in 'Prolonged Dry Weather':

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| Old Bedford & Middle Level | North-West Norfolk |
| Cam & Ely Ouse | Upper Bedford Ouse |
| North Norfolk | Broadland Rivers |
| East Suffolk | Essex |



customer service line
03708 506 506

incident hotline
0800 80 70 60

floodline
03459 88 11 88

What we are doing

The National Drought Group continues to meet monthly with Minister Hardy often attending. Chaired by the Environment Agency, this group brings together water companies, the Met Office, government departments, farming organisations, and environmental experts.

[Drought expected to continue through autumn despite recent rain - GOV.UK](#)

We are analysing samples from our increased monitoring and have noted evidence of dry weather affecting the ecology in our rivers. Our officers continue to respond to reports of dry weather-related environmental incidents, including fish in distress and damage to riverbanks.

We continue working closely with partners, including Internal Drainage Boards, the National Farmers Union and their members, Abstractor Groups, and water companies. With the agricultural irrigation season coming to an end, we are looking ahead to the winter season when water is needed to refill storage reservoirs.

Working with water companies

Water companies operating in East Anglia are following their Drought Plans. They have advised us that high customer demand for water over the summer has now reduced. However, they are still encouraging their customers to take steps to save water and use it as carefully and efficiently as possible.

How you can help

We can all do our part to use water wisely and manage this precious resource, and there are useful water saving tips for us all at [Waterwise](#).

We encourage the public to report sightings of fish in distress or other impacts on the environment by telephoning our 24hr Incident Hotline: 0800 80 70 60.

More information is available at [Dry Weather Information 2025 | Engage Environment Agency](#)

Kind regards

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More information can be found here:
www.gov.uk/government/organisations/environment-agency

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