

Drought notice
January 2023

WONDERFUL ON TAP



DROUGHT PERMITS – FILLING YOUR RESERVOIRS

- We want to be sure everyone has enough water over the coming months, which is why on 28th November we applied to the Environment Agency (EA) for a Drought Permit to increase the amount of water we can pump this winter out of our Foremark and Staunton Harold reservoirs near the River Dove. The drought permit has now been granted, but we don't want anyone to worry, we are not putting in place a temporary usage ban (hosepipe ban).
- This will help preserve everyone's water supply and allow other reservoirs, such as Derwent Valley and Charnwood reservoirs (Cropston and Swithland), to refill over the coming months.
- There won't be any changes to your water supply. In fact, doing this should help make sure there's enough for everyone.

WHAT'S HAPPENED?

We've seen some rain recently, but this has come after one of the driest six months since 1850. During the summer we worked hard to keep everyone's water flowing, by moving it around the network and fixing burst pipes and leaks quicker than ever.

Our customers have helped hugely, by reducing their water use. Between us, we've kept the water network working through some of the driest and hottest temperatures on record. We haven't had to announce any hosepipe bans. Thank you to all our customers for helping us with this.

THE SITUATION TODAY

The long dry period had an impact on our reservoir levels. While they are recovering, we need to plan for next year and the medium-range forecasts are still looking dry. Our stocks are still currently lower than normal at Derwent Valley and Charnwood due to the very dry summer and early autumn.

At the same time, the recent rainfall has also helped increase flows in rivers, which means we are able to keep pumping water into our reservoirs from the River Dove.

WHY DO THIS NOW?

This will allow us to increase the amount of water we abstract this financial year from our Staunton Harold and Foremark reservoirs from 73,200 ML to 76,700 ML - an increase of 3,500 ML. By abstracting more water from these reservoirs, we'll be able to reduce what we take from others such as Derwent Valley, helping them to refill more quickly this winter.

THE ENVIRONMENT

We expect the reservoirs to remain within their historical levels while the permit is in place, so there should be little impact on the environment. You may notice the levels being a little lower than normal across the spring, but we aim to have them back up to normal before the summer.

LOOKING AHEAD

We're still hopeful there will be more rain through the winter. However, the responsible thing to do now is not to leave anything to chance, making sure we have plenty of water ready for next summer.

In the meantime, you can help by continuing the great efforts we saw over summer. For simple ways to save water visit: stwater.co.uk/savingwater

Thank you once again for helping us make the most of our wonderful water.

Drought notice
January 2023

SEVERN TRENT WATER LIMITED NOTICE OF A DROUGHT PERMIT FOREMARK AND STAUNTON HAROLD RESERVOIRS

TAKE NOTICE that on 19 December 2022 the Environment Agency granted a drought permit to Severn Trent Water Limited ("the Company") following the Company's application under Section 79A of the Water Resources Act 1991.

The Company holds abstraction licences ("the Licences"), allowing the Company to abstract water from Foremark Reservoir in Derbyshire and Staunton Harold Reservoir in Derbyshire for supply to its customers.

The drought permit helps to safeguard public water supplies within Severn Trent's strategic water supply grid, by amending the terms of the Licences. It does this by allowing the Company to increase the quantity of water that the Company can abstract from Staunton Harold and Foremark reservoirs. The drought permit increases the aggregate quantity of water that the Company can abstract from 73,200,000 cubic metres per year to 76,700,000 cubic metres per year, from 1st April 2022 until 31st March 2023 (there are no changes in the daily abstraction rates). This will allow the Company to reduce its use of other reservoirs and so will be an aid to the refill of the other reservoirs that supply the Company's strategic water supply grid. Conditions requiring the Company to release a volume of water from the Staunton Harold and Foremark reservoirs to support downstream watercourses will not be affected by the drought permit.

The drought permit was issued on 19 December 2022, effective from 1 January 2023, and expires on 30 June 2023.

Anyone may inspect the drought permit at the following locations, free of charge, during normal working hours:

- **Swadlincote Library**, Civic Way, Swadlincote, DE11 0AD, 01629 533013, Mon- Fri 9.30am-5pm, Sat 9.30am-4pm
- **Staunton Harold Reservoir National Trust Cafe**, Calke Rd, Windmill Hill, Melbourne, Derby DE73 8DN, 01332 865685. Mon-Sun 10.30am-2.30pm.
- **Environment Agency**, Trentside Offices, Scarrington Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 5BR, 03708 506 506, Mon-Fri 8.30am-5pm.
- **Severn Trent Water**, Riverside Park East Service, Raynesway, Derby DE21 7BQ. 0843 837 019, 8am-4pm
- **Severn Trent Water**, 2 St John's Street, Coventry, CV1 2LZ, Tel:02477 715000, Mon-Fri 8am-4pm

The drought permit is also published on Severn Trent Water's website at <https://stwater.co.uk/>

Dated: **9 January 2023**

Didar Dhillon General Counsel,
Severn Trent Water Limited,
2 St John's Street,
Coventry CV1 2LZ

WONDERFUL ON TAP

