

Drought notice
October 2022

WONDERFUL ON TAP

SEVERN
TRENT

DROUGHT PERMITS – FILLING YOUR RESERVOIRS

We want to be sure everyone has enough water over the coming months, which is why on 3rd October 2022 we applied to the Environment Agency (EA) for a Drought Permit. 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).

The Drought Permit will allow us to release less water than normal from our Upper Derwent Valley reservoirs into the River Derwent over the next few months. Keeping more water in our reservoirs will help us to serve our customers in the local area.

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?

By spring this year our reservoirs were full. But since then, we've seen the driest six months since 1850. 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 has had an impact on our reservoir levels. Whilst we've had a bit of rain recently, it's not enough and the forecast is still looking dry. So, we need to ask you to continue the great efforts we saw over summer.

Please think about how much water you're using at home. We're also doing our bit to help and support people reduce their water usage.

WHY DO THIS NOW?

We decided to apply for a permit now, in the winter months, when the river levels are naturally at their highest so any impact on rivers will be minimal. We will continue monitoring the river to ensure that is the case.

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

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

For simple ways to save water visit: stwater.co.uk/savingwater



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SEVERN TRENT WATER LIMITED

NOTICE OF A DROUGHT PERMIT

TAKE NOTICE that on **14 October 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 an abstraction licence (“the Licence”), allowing the Company to abstract water from specified locations on the Derwent Valley Reservoirs (“the reservoirs”), for supply to its customers and for supply to Yorkshire Water. The Licence also includes conditions relating to maintenance of compensation flows from the reservoirs to the River Derwent.

The drought permit aids the winter refill of the reservoirs and helps to safeguard public water supplies within Severn Trent’s wider strategic water supply grid and to southern Sheffield in Yorkshire Water’s supply area, by amending the terms of the Licence. It does this by allowing the Company to temporarily reduce the minimum combined quantity of compensation water required to be discharged to the River Derwent from Ladybower Reservoir and to the Jaggars Clough. The drought permit will also allow the Company to temporarily add a new abstraction point (but not to increase the volumes of water abstracted) for the purpose of supply to Yorkshire Water. The drought permit also reduces the volumes of water that the Company may abstract from the reservoirs, during the period of the permit.

The drought permit commenced on **14 October 2022** and expires on **31 March 2023**.

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

- Hathersage Post Office, Main Road, Hope Valley, S32 1BB. Tel: 0345 722 3344
- Matlock Library, Steep Turnpike, Matlock, Derbyshire, DE4 3DP. Tel: 01629 533837
- Belper Library, Bridge Street, Belper, Derbyshire, DE56 1BA. Tel: 01629 533192
- Severn Trent Water, Raynesway, Derby, DE21 7JA
- Environment Agency, Trentside Offices, Scarrington Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 5BR. Tel: 03708 506 506
- Severn Trent Water, 2 St John’s Street, Coventry, CV1 2LZ. Tel: 02477 715000

The drought permit is also published on Severn Trent’s website at stwater.co.uk

Dated: **17 October 2022**

Bronagh Kennedy General Counsel and Company Secretary, Severn Trent Water Limited, 2 St John’s Street, Coventry CV1 2LZ

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