

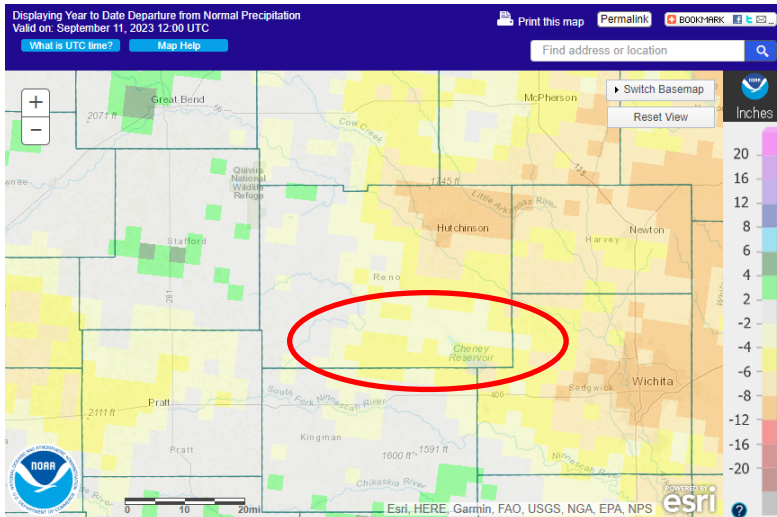
Water Conservation Progress Report



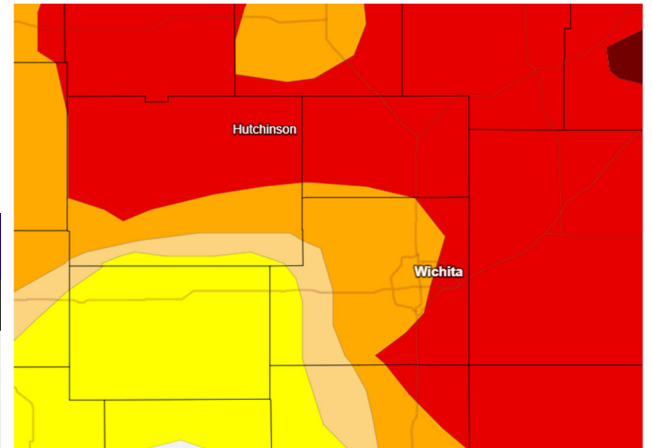
September 2023

Rainfall Update

- Reno County rainfall is the biggest contributor to our water resources. Below average rainfall in the watershed basin, and 2-6 inches less than normal in South Reno County, has reduced runoff into Cheney Reservoir.
- The Cheney Lake Watershed (North Fork Ninnescah River) shown within the red oval in the graphic (below left) covers 633,000 acres within five counties in south central Kansas.
- Recent rains have removed some portions of south central Kansas from Extreme Drought status, but significant portions of the Cheney Lake Watershed are still designated as an “Extreme” to “Severe” drought condition.



U.S. Drought Monitor: Kansas



Drought & Dryness Categories	% of KS
D0 - Abnormally Dry	13.9%
D1 - Moderate Drought	21.6%
D2 - Severe Drought	27.8%
D3 - Extreme Drought	18.8%
D4 - Exceptional Drought	1.7%
Total Area in Drought (D1-D4)	69.8%

Source(s): NDMC, NOAA, USDA
Data Valid: 09/05/23

Drought.gov

Internal Conservation

- City operated, decorative fountains were shutdown 6.12.23 to support water conservation. Although the majority of the decorative fountains recycle water we have realized over 4.3 million gallons of water savings since they have been decommissioned in June.

Conservation Partnerships

- To promote water conservation, PWU partnered with local NPR affiliate KMUW to supply the public with low flow showerheads. Over 60 showerheads were given out as part of KMUW’s “Be a Low Flow Hero” campaign. Remaining showerheads will be distributed at the upcoming Open Streets event on 9/17 at the Public Works and Utilities tent in front of East High School while supplies last.



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Drought Outreach

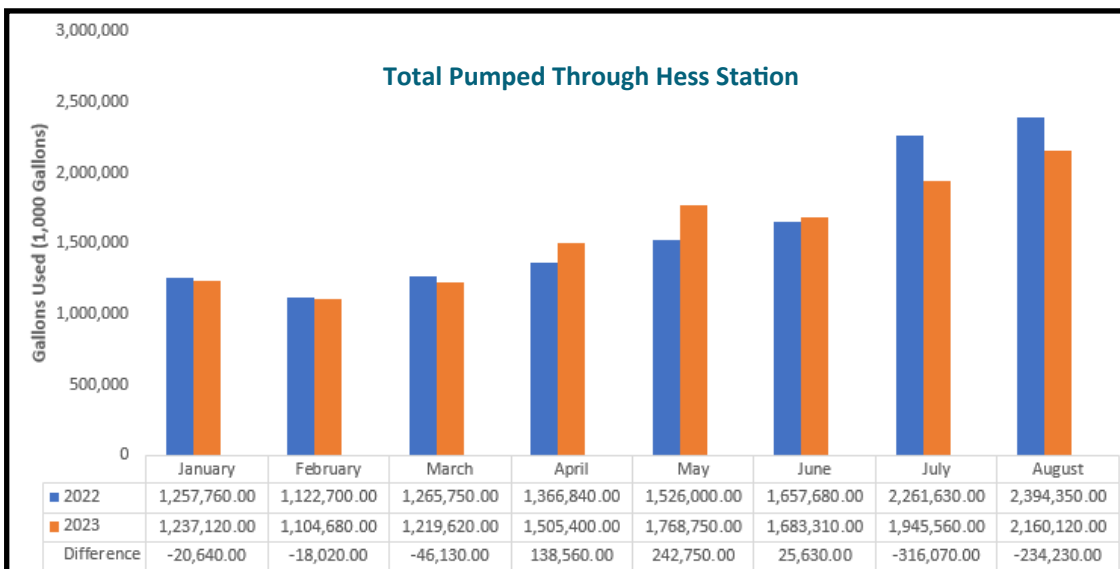
The City of Wichita has been working with HOA Management Services, who manages 175 association communities in South Central Kansas, to alert area HOA's of our current drought situation. Some HOA covenants have strict watering provisions to ensure that their neighborhood's lawns are lush and green. The City is encouraging these HOAs to ease their enforcement when residents choose to conserve water used for irrigation. It is also important that HOAs are clear about their expectations for watering ahead of Phase 2 of the Drought Response Plan when outdoor watering will be restricted to one day per week and will prohibit watering from 10:00am to 8:00pm. Although the City cannot stop HOAs from fining their members when watering restrictions are in place, it is our hope that they will make an exception during this period of drought. For more information about the stages of drought visit www.savewichitawater.com.

Water Conservation Rebate Status (as of 9/12/2023)

- The City has approved rebates for 1,350 devices totaling \$125,000.
- There is \$0 of remaining funds out of the \$125,000 allotted for the Rebate Program by City Council. The initial amount for the program was \$100,000 with an additional \$25,000 available when the original amount was depleted.
- There is \$20,611.80 remaining funds out of the \$25,000 allocated to the Wholesale Rebate Program. Rose Hill has requested and received \$469.94. Derby has requested and received \$3,918.26.

Water Production Comparison

Despite record setting temperatures across the state, water consumption did not significantly increase and actually represents a reduction when compared to last August. Recent efforts such as the irrigation post cards sent out last month and public education outreach have made a significant impact. A big thanks to all residential and commercial customers who made adjustments to irrigation in August.



Residential Usage

	2022	2023
January	515,984	662,160
February	555,334	532,499
March	579,332	503,003
April	521,466	540,044
May	602,134	683,178
June	667,197	748,140
July	788,786	796,662
August	950,816	801,443

City of Wichita Internal Usage

	2022	2023
January	21,199	24,881
February	22,937	34,115
March	20,326	25,427
April	31,242	25,708
May	27,214	30,915
June	30,810	100,134*
July	36,068	33,476
August	44,337	30,500

*Necessary leak testing performed in newly constructed basins at the Northwest Water Facility resulted in higher than normal internal water usage for June of 2023