

Private Citizens

Agreement with neighboring communities: Set verbal or written agreements with your neighbors (i.e., water use, emergency management, conservation practices).

Air quality testing kits: Testing kits for indoor and outdoor air pollution and contamination.

Best management practices: These can bring benefits during a drought (better water retention, less water needed, prevention of nitrate leaks to surface and groundwater).

Citizen volunteers: Become a volunteer for drought-related services in your community (firefighter, task force, leadership team, etc.)

Deepen wells: Deeper wells can reach to lower levels of groundwater.

Dredge water holes for cattle: Ensuring that cattle will have more water available during a drought.

Drill new wells: Drilling more wells means higher water supply. Having your own well can benefit you during a municipal water pump failure.

Drip irrigation: A type of irrigation that has the potential to save water and nutrients by dripping slowly to the roots of plants.

Drought plan: A plan for your household/business/community that prepares you to deal with a drought.

Emergency kits: Household first aid kit, essential medications, canned food, battery-powered radio, at least three gallons of water per person, etc.

Fire extinguishers: Extinguishers on hand to contain fires.

Household emergency plan: Helps alleviate fears about potential disasters, and can help you respond safely and quickly when a disaster happens.

Installing a spraying system for cattle: Alleviating heat stress on cattle.

Modify recreational activities: Do not engage in activities that require excessive water consumption, could start a wildfire, or stress the environment.

Partnerships with local businesses: Established relationships and agreements that can help in the initial response phase of drought.

Regular vegetation maintenance: Maintaining vegetation around buildings can prevent rapid wildfire spread.

Strong interpersonal relationships (2x): A close association among your neighbors and community can help you during a natural disaster.

Tractors and disks for fire lines: Tractors and disks can be utilized for diverting a fire from spreading in a particular direction.

Updated water infrastructure: Fix all water leaks on your property. Install water efficient appliances and faucets with flow restrictions.

Up-to-date water meters: Water meters can help you reduce your water consumption.

Volunteer firefighters: Become part of a volunteer fire department that performs fire suppression and other related emergency services for local jurisdictions.

Water monitoring: Become a member of EPA's volunteer monitoring program - analyze water samples for dissolved oxygen, nutrients, pH, temperature and more.

Water testing kits: Household kits for testing the quality of drinking water.



Community

Additional water storage: Store additional water in water tanks in community buildings.

Agreement with neighboring communities: Set verbal or written agreements with similar neighboring communities to help each other during a natural disaster.

Air quality testing kits: Testing kits for indoor and outdoor air pollution and contamination.

Citizen volunteers: Find volunteers for drought-related services in your community (firefighter, task force, leadership team, etc.)

Defensible space around buildings: Creating vegetation-free spaces around buildings can protect them from wildfire.

Education on conservation practices: Hold community meetings on how to conserve water and electricity.

Emergency kits: Prepared first aid kits, essential medications, canned food, battery-powered radio, at least three gallons of water per person, etc.

Fire extinguishers: Extinguishers on hand to contain fires.

Information about vulnerable population (2x): Identify vulnerable groups that might need your help during a natural disaster.

Information signs: Prepared signs with information about the current drought situation, recommendations, and restrictions.

Law enforcement: Establish a community watch to ensure that residents follow water restrictions and other drought recommendations.

Mobile traffic signs: Prepared mobile signs for traffic redirection due to drought impacts.

Partnerships with local businesses: Partner with local businesses to get donations of supplies needed during a drought.

Public educational workshop: Hold a public workshop for your community members to educate them on drought-related issues.

Regular vegetation maintenance: Maintaining vegetation around buildings can prevent rapid wildfire spread.

Strong interpersonal relationships(2x): A close association among your community members can help during a natural disaster.

Temporary housing for 10 people: Prepare housing for 10 people in your community building.

Up-to-date water meters: Water meters can help you reduce water consumption.

Volunteers trained in first aid: Ensure that your community has the necessary number of volunteers trained in first aid.

Volunteer firefighters: Volunteer fire department in your community with trained firefighters.

Water purification system: Individual filter systems in community buildings that make water safe to drink.

Water testing kits: Have a supply of household kits for testing drinking water quality that you can distribute to the disadvantaged in community.



Local Decision Makers

Agreement with neighboring communities: Strong working relationships with nearby communities similar to yours can reinforce support during a disaster.

Declaring emergency haying and grazing on CRPs: Ranchers are able to use grass from land enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program.

Drought plan: Drought plan includes mitigation and response strategies for your community.

Drill new wells: Drilling more wells means higher water supply. Having more municipal wells can lower the pressure on the entire water system.

Efficiency tax breaks (2x): Incentivize people and businesses with tax breaks to reduce their water or electricity consumption.

Emergency response training: Develop critical skills needed to survive an emergency. Establish a training program teaching individuals a range of response procedures including building evacuations, shelter-in-place, and active threat survival.

Evacuation plan: Prepared plan for evacuation of various parts of your community in case of fire.

Fish relocation: In case of poor water quality (pollution, temperature) or quantity in streams/lakes, you can relocate fish to locations with better conditions.

Health assessment: Evaluation of the health status of your citizens. This can target health issues related to drought impacts and specific populations as well.

IT backup systems: Off-site, hard copy, or secured electronic storage for contact lists and other information critical for your community.

Mandatory restrictions on outdoor water use: Implement and enforce restrictions on outdoor water use (watering plants, washing cars, swimming pools, etc.)

Modify recreational activities: Implement recommendations and restrictions on activities that require excessive water consumption, could start a wildfire, or stress the environment.

Multi-hazard mitigation plan: A plan that addresses multiple hazards including drought using comprehensive mitigation strategy.

Partnerships with local businesses: Partner with local businesses to get donations of supplies needed during a drought.

Regular vegetation maintenance: Maintaining vegetation around public buildings and in parks can prevent rapid wildfire spread.

Specialized spraying trucks (2x): Trucks that are adjusted for spraying water, fertilizers or insecticides.

Training for spokespeople: Train your staff to be able to deliver important natural disaster messages to the public.

Updated water infrastructure: Ensure that the city's water infrastructure is up to date, maintained and without leaks.

Upgraded gas infrastructure: Ensure that gas pipes are leak free.

Water supply tanks: Tanks for transportation of potable water to locations without access to clean water.

Water use maps: Accessible and up-to-date maps of water use, municipal and private wells.

Watershed restoration plan: A tool designed by a watershed group to guide them in planning and implementing restoration activities in their watershed.



Federal government agencies

Declaring emergency haying and grazing on CRPs: Ranchers are able to use grass from land enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program.

Education on conservation practices: Offer meetings on how to conserve water and electricity.

Efficiency tax breaks: Incentivize people and businesses with tax breaks to reduce their water or electricity consumption.

Environmental health monitoring: Monitoring air, soil and water quality.

Established command structure: Established common hierarchy within which responders from multiple agencies can be effective.

Fish relocation: In case of poor water quality (pollution, temperature) or quantity in streams/lakes, you can relocate fish to locations with better conditions.

Funding for climate change policy: Develop a grant that would fund the development of new climate change policy.

Funding for drought research: Develop a grant that would fund research connected to drought monitoring, mitigation and planning.

Funding for water-efficient crops: Develop a grant that would fund research on and planting of water-efficient crops.

Groundwater maps: Up-to-date maps of the depth of groundwater and nitrate concentrations.

Hay hotline: Established hotline for assistance to ranchers that have either a lack or surplus of hay.

Health assessment (2x): Evaluation of the health status of citizens. This can target health issues related to drought impacts and specific populations as well.

Incident command center: Prompts mobilization and coordination of personnel, equipment and supplies during a disaster.

Incident command vehicle: A vehicle that can operate like a fully equipped Emergency Operations Center from nearly any location. It can facilitate effective unified command with response partners like local police and fire.

Information signs: Prepared signs with information about the current drought situation, recommendations, and restrictions.

Loan or grant assistance: Helps people affected by drought with financial resources.

National Guard convoy: Trucks with National Guard personnel to move supplies and people and to protect public safety.

Public educational workshop: Organize a public educational workshop on best management practices, conservation, or other activities that benefit the public during drought.

Specialized spraying trucks: Trucks that are adjusted for spraying water, fertilizers or insecticides.

Training for spokespeople: Train your staff to be able to deliver important natural disaster messages to the public.

Water monitoring (2x): Monitoring the quality and quantity of surface and groundwater.

Water supply tanks: Trucks with the capability to transport, store, and dispense large amounts of potable water.

Responders

Additional resource supply (2x): Prepare for a supply shortage (e.g., water or electricity) by storing additional water, procuring diesel generators for hospitals, etc.

Air quality testing kits: Testing kits for indoor and outdoor air pollution and contamination.

Air tankers: Airplane with water storage for fighting fire.

Brush truck: A 4x4 car that is equipped to fight fire in rough terrain.

Cooling shelter: Air-conditioned public space set up by local authorities to temporarily deal with health impacts of excessive heat.

Defensible space around buildings: Creating a clear vegetation-free space around buildings can protect buildings from wildfire.

Emergency response training: Develop critical skills needed to survive an emergency. Establish a training program teaching individuals a range of response procedures including building evacuations, shelter-in-place, and active threat survival.

Emergency shelter: Provides temporary shelter, food, and support groups for the homeless.

Emergency supply depot: A storage center for emergency supplies.

Enhanced lab capabilities: The ability to analyze an enhanced number of water or bodily fluid samples.

Excessive heat watch: The National Weather Service issues this watch if the heat index is expected to be over 105°F across the northern states or 110°F in southern states.

Fire trucks (2x): Specialized vehicles for firefighting.

Health assessment: Evaluation of the health status of your citizens. This can target health issues related to drought impacts and specific populations as well.

Helicopter: Helicopter specialized and equipped for firefighting.

Informing citizens about locations with drinking water: A system of communication with various communities that informs about drinking water locations.

Public educational workshop (2x): A public workshop that educates people on various topics related to drought and its impacts (i.e., fire or mosquito protection).

Redirection of traffic: Plan, infrastructure and resources for a smooth, safe and quick redirection of traffic in case of fire or dust storm.

Temporary road signs: Supply of temporary road signs that can help with emergency situations when traffic is impacted.

Trained 1st responders: Professional crew of firefighters, paramedics, and police officers that are trained to respond quickly to emergency situations.

Up-to-date immunizations: Ensure that people are up to date with all vaccines that are recommended in your area.

Water supply tanks: Trucks with the capability to transport, store and dispense large amounts of potable water.



Business & Industry

Additional resource supply: Prepare for a supply shortage (e.g., water or electricity) by storing additional water, procuring diesel generators for hospitals, etc.

Additional water storage: Store additional water in water tanks in office buildings.

Boat ramp extensions: Boat ramps that are adjusted for low water levels.

Deepen wells: Deeper wells can reach lower levels of groundwater.

Drill new wells: Drilling more wells means higher water supply. Having your own well can benefit you during a municipal water pump failure.

Education on conservation practices: Educate public about water and/or energy conservation.

Emergency kits: Prepared first aid kits, essential medications, canned food, battery-powered radio, at least three gallons of water per person, etc.

Environmental health monitoring: Monitoring air, soil and water quality.

Fire extinguishers: Up-to-date, certified, and correct type of portable device that extinguishes fire.

Groundwater maps: Up-to-date maps of the depth of groundwater and nitrate concentrations.

IT backup systems: Off-site, hard copy, or secured electronic storage for contact lists and other information critical for your community.

Licensed well driller: A licensed well driller that knows the area and has experience with previous droughts.

Loan or grant assistance: Helps people affected by drought with financial resources.

Modify recreational activities: Prevent your business from engaging in activities that require excessive water

consumption, could start a wildfire, or stress the environment.

Prepared public media messages (2x): Prepared messages for radio, TV and internet broadcast that inform about risks connected to drought and its impacts.

Specialized spraying trucks: Trucks that are adjusted for spraying water, fertilizers or insecticides.

Trained utility personnel: Utility companies should have highly trained personnel that can quickly deal with infrastructure emergencies.

Updated water infrastructure: Fix all water leaks on your property. Install water-efficient appliances and faucets with flow restrictions.

Up-to-date water meters: Water meters can help you reduce your water consumption.

Water monitoring: Monitoring the quality and quantity of surface and groundwater.

Water purification system: Water filter systems in office buildings that make water safe to drink.

Water use maps (2x): Accessible and up-to-date maps of water use, municipal and private wells.

