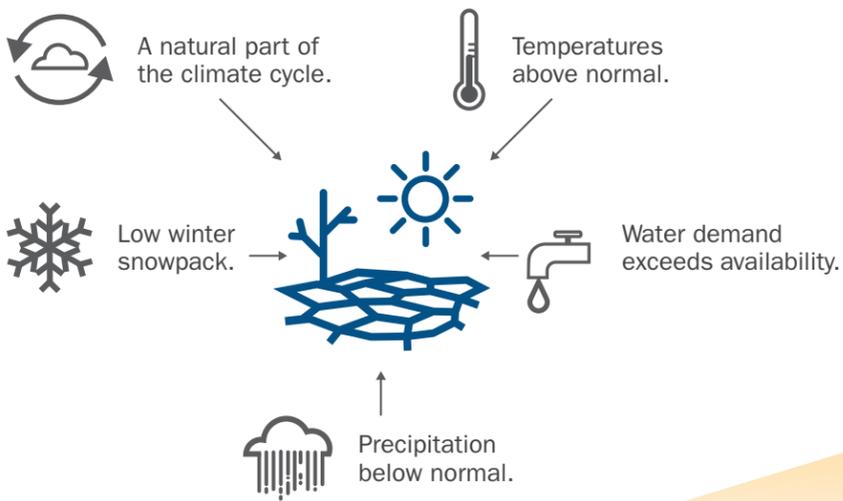


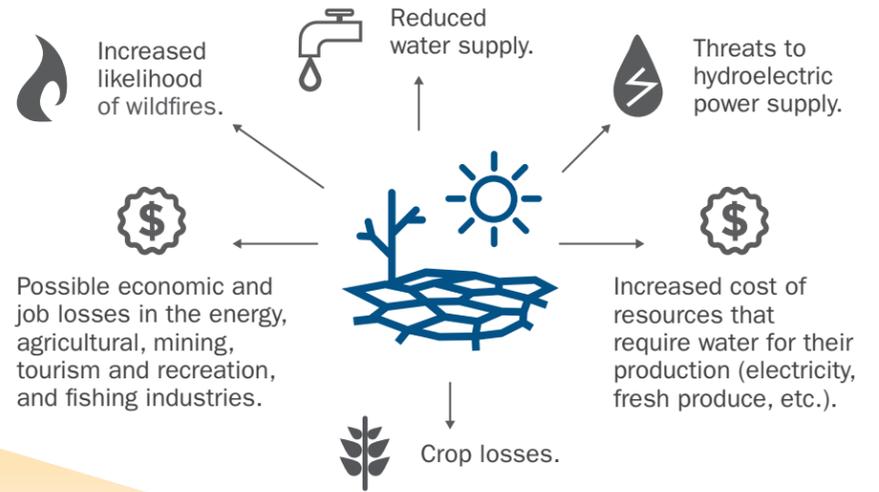
DROUGHT

Drought is a long period of below normal precipitation. It is severe enough to reduce soil moisture, streamflow, snowpack levels, groundwater levels, and water supply in reservoirs. All of these resources are crucial for sustaining plant and animal life and economic systems.

CAUSES



IMPACTS



How I Can Reduce My Risk



Install drought-tolerant landscaping and permeable driveways. These promote groundwater recharge.



For irrigation, install rain-capturing and graywater systems to reuse wastewater.



Adjust sprinklers to only water the lawn and not the sidewalk or street.



Reduce personal water usage. Shorten shower times, water the yard in the early morning, and reuse water when possible.



Install low-flow, water-saving showerheads and toilets.



Check and repair plumbing leaks or dripping faucets.



How Local Officials Can Reduce My Risk



Use the U.S. Drought Monitor to stay informed about drought conditions in your area. www.drought.gov



Develop a drought emergency plan.



Develop agreements for secondary water sources that may be used during drought conditions.



Develop water retention and detention structures.



Provide tax credits for low-flow and increased efficiency infrastructure for residents and developers.



Harvest rainwater.



Require water conservation during drought conditions.



Retrofit water supply systems to improve efficiency and minimize leaks.



Educate the public on water saving practices.



Incorporate permeable surfaces into future design plans.



Prevent overgrazing.

Additional Resources

Ready.gov
www.ready.gov/drought

National Drought Mitigation Center
www.drought.gov

American Planning Association
www.planning.org/research/drought/

Contact your local or state emergency management department for more information on drought risk reduction.