



Central Iron County Water Conservancy District
710 S Westview Dr.
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PRESS RELEASE

February 14, 2025

Iron County Faces Drought Conditions, Water District Urges Conservation Efforts

Iron County, UT – As of February 14, the Snow Water Equivalent (SWE) at Webster Flat stands at a concerning 35% of the median. Recent storms have brought the SWE up slightly, but this year still marks the driest year to date in the past 131 years in Iron County. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, all of Iron County is in drought status, with the majority being classified as extreme or severe drought.

To address the drought and other local water challenges, the Central Iron County Water Conservancy District (District) is urging all residents, businesses, agricultural producers, and government organizations to prioritize water conservation efforts.

"Without significant precipitation, we are facing a record drought, and it's important that our community work together to conserve and manage our resources," said Paul Monroe, General Manager of the District. "While we are actively pursuing solutions due to water challenges, we need everyone to contribute to making every drop count."

In response to the drought, the District is taking several steps, including:

1. Conservation

- **Residential Water Efficiency:** Community members can make a large impact by focusing on outdoor water conservation. They can take advantage of rebates through [Utah Water Savers](#), which will pay residents to remove lawn in their yard. Water-efficient landscape classes are a great way to learn about conservation as well. The District is hosting two landscape classes this spring, and community members can register on the District's website.
- **Agricultural Efforts:** The District is collaborating with Southern Utah University (SUU) Farm and Utah State University (USU) to study best practices for agricultural irrigation that optimize water use.

2. Recharge & Reuse

- **Recharge:** The District is working on capturing every available drop of water and replenishing the aquifer to reduce evaporation losses. Unfortunately, in a low-

precipitation year like this, extra water to recharge is sparse, but the District continues to evaluate the best places to recharge water when the water is available.

- **Reuse:** In coordination with Cedar City, Enoch City, and Iron County, the District is working on an Effluent Reuse Project. This project will allow treated effluent water to be used for irrigation, reducing groundwater pumping and providing a sustainable water supply for agricultural and landscape irrigation.

3. Source/Supply

- **Local Water Sources:** The District is continuing work on its Water Improvement Project to enhance and diversify local water infrastructure. This project has included waterlines along Iron Springs Road, 4000 N, and 6000 N. It will also include new wells, and currently the District is constructing a 4 million gallon water tank, the largest tank in Iron County, in the Eightmile Hills area, near Desert Mound Road.
- **Pine Valley Water Supply:** The Pine Valley (Basin 14) Water Supply Project is another critical initiative to bolster the county's long-term water availability. Environmental Studies are currently in progress to ensure that the project can sustainably provide water to Cedar Valley.

“We ask everyone to actively participate in conservation measures. While we continue to explore long-term solutions, conservation efforts will determine how well we navigate this drought in the coming months,” Monroe emphasized.

The Central Iron County Water Conservancy District encourages all residents to educate themselves on water conservation, reuse, and the importance of sustainable water management. For further details, please visit the District's website at cicwcd.org.

For updates on local snowpack conditions, please visit <https://nwcc-apps.sc.egov.usda.gov/awdb/site-plots/POR/WTEQ/UT/Webster%20Flat.html>.

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Who We are:

The Central Iron County Water Conservancy District is charged with conserving, developing and stabilizing the Cedar Valley water supply for the benefit of all current and future water users and consumers in the region. The Water District educates residents about conservation, recharge, reuse, and water supply strategies as it strives to meet the challenges of declining water levels and community growth. To ‘Get to Know Your H2O’ and learn more about how to water less, visit www.cicwcd.org.

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