

How a Drought Can Affect Your Well

While the Lake County Health Department has no authority to limit water usage, the Department recommends that all water well owners, both residential and commercial, keep water conservation in mind. During the summer months, especially during extremely dry periods such as what we are experiencing currently in Lake County, it is important to conserve groundwater resources as much as possible. During extremely dry periods, there is a tendency for people to use greater amounts of water outdoors. This, combined with a lack of replenishment from rainfall, can cause fluctuations in groundwater levels in the County's shallow aquifers. It is also important to note that these aquifers are not replenished immediately by rainfall, and will only recover over time, or when the withdrawal of groundwater is reduced.

If you are experiencing low water pressure issues or sputtering (air mixing with water) in any of your fixtures (faucets, toilets, etc.), you should immediately stop using the water and contact your local water well contractor to evaluate your well. The well contractor can check the depth of your water well to be sure that the pump is set sufficiently below the current static water level to avoid running the well dry and burning out the pump. The best thing you can do during this time of drought is to conserve as much water as possible both indoors and outdoors. For additional information, contact the Lake County Health Department's Water Well program at: (847) 377-8020.

