



SURPRISE'S WATER SUPPLY IS SECURE.

On August 16, 2021, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation elevated the Colorado River System to a "Tier 1" shortage, which will reduce water supplies in Arizona starting in January 2022.

Due to Arizona's priority system, our city supplies will not experience a reduction. This shortage declaration does not mean a shortage at your tap.

KEY POINTS

- 1 OUR SUPPLY IS SECURE.** Surprise water managers have been planning for, and are prepared for, this Colorado River water shortage. Surprise has a robust water portfolio and adequate water supply to serve its customers and will not face any reductions during the "Tier 1" stage.
- 2 WE HAVE A PLAN.** The city's Drought Preparedness Plan outlines short- and long-term strategies for managing and sustaining water supplies in our community to ensure sufficient supplies. View the plan online at surpriseaz.gov/droughtmgmt.
- 3 CONSERVATION IS KEY.** While the city is prepared for water shortages, our collective commitment to conserving water allows us to sustain this natural resource for future generations.

PREPARATION & PLANNING

Drought is a normal occurrence in the desert southwest. The Western United States, including Arizona, has been experiencing a drought for more than 20 years, with an official drought declaration in June 1999.



Surprise, together with the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) and the Central Arizona Project (CAP), have been preparing for a shortage on the Colorado River System for years.



Surprise has a 100-year assured water supply designation from the State to ensure reliable water supplies that support responsible growth. This designation means that Surprise has shown continuous, physical, and legal availability of water, along with water quality and financial capability standards, to maintain water supplies.

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Surprise has invested in our water infrastructure, water supplies and conservation programs. The city has built a diverse and robust water portfolio, including renewable surface water, groundwater and reclaimed water.





HOW YOU CAN HELP

Water conservation is a lifestyle, not a short-term solution, for desert dwellers.

Surprise provides water conservation programs, rebates and resources to guide the conservation efforts of our water users.

Conserving water now will help mitigate water restrictions in the event of a prolonged drought or deeper shortages.

Visit surpriseaz.gov/waterconservation for information.

YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

Q&A

What is a Tier 1 Shortage on the Colorado River?

When the elevation of Lake Mead falls to 1,075 feet or lower, the federal government will declare a Tier 1 Shortage. This reduction is part of a broader plan to protect the overall health of the Colorado River system.

Why is there a Tier 1 Shortage happening in 2022?

For the last two decades, the Colorado River Basin has been in a historic drought and experiencing a warmer climate, stressing the already over-allocated Colorado River.

What happens if conditions on the Colorado River worsen?

Surprise has been and will continue to invest in diverse and reliable water portfolios, infrastructure and technology improvements, building conservation programs and enhancing drought and shortage preparedness plans.

Why is Surprise continuing to develop new projects if Arizona is experiencing water shortages?

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Will there be water restrictions?

Currently, there is no immediate impact to Surprise's water supplies, therefore there are no water restrictions for our customers. Residents are encouraged to visit surpriseaz.gov/waterconservation and wateruseitwisely.com to view water efficiency resources and best practices.



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