

DROUGHT RESOURCES

Are you or someone you know experiencing drought conditions? Here are some tips and resources that focus on national and state specific drought resources.

- i** Reach out to your lender or other partners sooner rather than later when experiencing challenging conditions.

DROUGHT RESOURCES BY STATE

VIRGINIA

Virginia Department of Environmental Quality

- <https://www.deq.virginia.gov/our-programs/water/water-quantity/drought>

Drought.gov

- <https://www.drought.gov/states/virginia>

Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

- Hay Clearing House: <https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/pdf/hay.pdf>

WEST VIRGINIA

West Virginia Department of Agriculture

- <https://agriculture.wv.gov/divisions/executive/drought-assistance-resources/>

WVU Extension

- Farm Family Wellness Alliance Quick Guide to Drought Management: <https://extension.wvu.edu/agriculture/pasture-hay-forage/pasture-based-livestock/quick-guide-to-drought-management>

Drought.gov

- <https://www.drought.gov/states/west-virginia>

MARYLAND

Maryland Department of the Environment

- <https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/water/droughtinformation/pages/index.aspx>

Drought.gov

- <https://www.drought.gov/states/maryland>



ADDITIONAL DROUGHT RESOURCES

Drought Monitor

- University of Nebraska-Lincoln: <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

Drought Protection and Recovery

- USDA: <https://www.farmers.gov/protection-recovery/drought>
- USDA: [Drought Resources for Producers](#)

Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program

- USDA: <https://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/disaster-assistance-program/noninsured-crop-disaster-assistance/index>

Risk Management Agency

- USDA: <https://www.rma.usda.gov/en>
- FAQs: [Pasture, Rangeland, Forage](#)

IMPORTANT NOTICE AND DISCLAIMER

These materials are provided for educational and informational purposes only and do not constitute legal, financial, tax, or investment advice on any matter. We do not warrant that the materials provided are current and up-to-date with applicable laws and practices. You should not act or refrain from acting based on these materials or the information they contain without seeking legal advice from an attorney licensed in your jurisdiction or other appropriate professional. To the fullest extent provided by law, Farm Credit of the Virginias, ACA will not be liable for any loss or damage caused by your reliance on these materials or any information contained in these materials. Your use of the materials is at your own risk, and by accessing the materials, you hereby waive and hold harmless Farm Credit of the Virginias from any claims resulting therefrom.

6-2026

i Drought and other crisis situations can induce stress. It is important to remember the warning signs of stress and be willing to have a conversation about it.

WARNING SIGNS OF STRESS

Physical

Headaches
Ulcers
Frequent Sickness
Backaches
Sleep Disturbances

Emotional

Sadness
Anger
Anxiety
Bitterness
Loss of Humor

Behavioral

Irritability
Withdrawal
Alcoholism
Acting Out
Backbiting

Cognitive

Memory Loss
Lack of Concentration
Inability to Make Decisions
Decreased Self-Esteem

HOW TO START CONVERSATIONS

It can be difficult to start conversations on the topic of stress. Here are some tips to get you started:

- Acknowledge their feelings. "What you're going through must be difficult, how are you managing?"
- Show interest. "You mentioned that meeting was really stressful, can you tell me more about it?"
- Don't be afraid to ask. "You seem to be thinking about a lot, is there anything I can do to help you?"
- Stay present and connected. "You mentioned maybe seeking help, I can help connect you to a resource."



DROUGHT RESPONSE STRATEGIES

Drought Management Strategies to Consider

- Pasture Management
- Forage Saving / Destocking Options
- Alternative Feeds
- Water Quality and Heat Stress
- Financial Options

Things to ask yourself when working through strategies

- Does it move towards my vision or goals?
- Is it feasible?
- Will it make an impact?
- Do the benefits outweigh the cost?

National Drought Mitigation Center - <https://drought.unl.edu/>



Scan the QR code to access additional mental health resources with the Focus on Well-being Resource Guide.



6-2026