

Millions in UK face water restrictions amid hot, dry weather

July 17 2018



In this Monday, July 9, 2018 file photo, a worker uses a hose pipe to water flowers in Downing Street, London. Millions in northern England are facing a ban on using garden hoses or sprinklers amid one of the longest spells of hot and dry weather in years. Water company United Utilities said Tuesday, July 17 that despite recent rainfall reservoir levels are still lower than average. (AP Photo/Matt Dunham, file)

Millions of people in northern England are facing a ban on using garden

hoses or sprinklers amid one of the longest spells of hot, dry weather in years.

The United Utilities water company said the temporary ban, which affects seven million domestic customers in northwestern England, will help "safeguard essential water supplies for longer." It said Tuesday that despite recent rains, reservoir levels are still lower than average and hot, [dry weather](#) is expected to continue for the rest of the month.

The ban, which takes effect on Aug. 5, restricts the private use of hoses or sprinklers for watering gardens and washing cars.

Earlier this month Irish authorities imposed a similar [garden](#) hose ban in the Dublin area amid a rare drought.

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Citation: Millions in UK face water restrictions amid hot, dry weather (2018, July 17) retrieved 6 May 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2018-07-millions-uk-restrictions-hot-weather.html>

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