



*Georgia Department of Public Health*

# Georgia Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response

Presented by: Betsy T. Kagey, PhD

Date: July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2014

Georgia Tech Climate Change Workshop

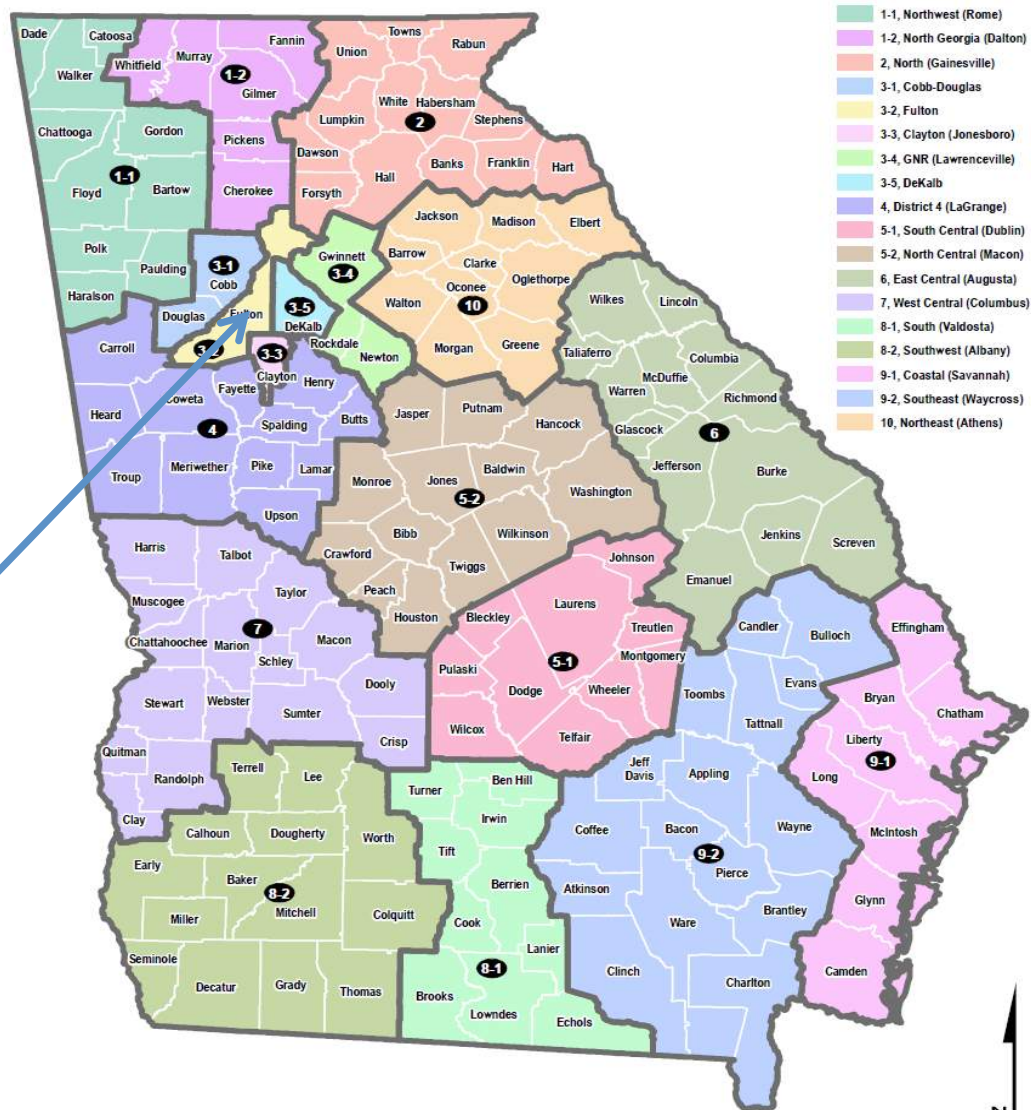


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# Outline..

- Georgia Public Health and Emergency Preparedness
- Public Health's Role in responding to events of public health significance
- Public Health's response role during the 2007 Drought

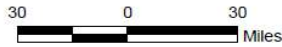
# Georgia Public Health Districts



You are here



Office of Health Indicators for Planning (OHIP)  
Georgia Department of Public Health



Created: May, 2014  
Source: Department of Public Health  
Projection: Georgia Statewide Lambert Conformal Conic

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# Georgia Public Health

- Health Promotion and Disease Prevention
- Maternal and Child Health
- Infectious Disease and Immunization
- Environmental Health
- Epidemiology
- Emergency Preparedness and Response
- Emergency Medical Services
- Pharmacy
- Nursing
- Volunteer Health Care
- Office of Health Equity
- Vital Records
- State Public Health Laboratory.

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# Georgia Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response

- Public Health Emergency Preparedness - preparing for, responding to and recovering from events of public health significance.
- Hospital/Healthcare Preparedness - provides support and training that will ready hospitals and supporting health care systems to deliver coordinated and effective care to victims of terrorism and other public health emergencies.
- Emergency Medical Service (EMS) – regulatory agency for licensing EMS personnel and ambulances. Develops standards for pre-hospital triage and transport of patients and emergency preparedness planning of medical responses to disasters.
- Trauma – oversees the designation and monitoring of 16 trauma centers within the state, Trauma Registry data feeds into the National Trauma Databank.

# Public Health's Role in Response Emergency Support Functions (ESF)

- ESF #1 - Transportation
- ESF #2 - Communications
- ESF #3 - Public Works and Engineering
- ESF #4 - Firefighting
- ESF #5 - Emergency Management
- ESF #6 - Mass Care, Emergency Assistance, Housing and Human Services
- ESF #7 - Logistics Management and Resource Support
- **ESF #8 - Public Health and Medical Services**
- ESF #9 - Search and Rescue
- ESF #10 - Oil and Hazardous Materials Response
- ESF #11 - Agriculture and Natural Resources
- ESF #12 - Energy
- ESF #13 - Public Safety and Security
- ESF #14 - Long-Term Community Recovery
- ESF #15 - External Affairs

ESF 8 - coordinates and/or delivers medical, environmental health and mental health services; accesses or seeks health-related private resources, supplements overburdened health service delivery personnel and resources.

# Role of Public Health Emergency Support Function (ESF) 8

- Disease Surveillance and Monitoring
- Health Information and Communication
  - General Health Impacts
  - Vulnerable Populations
- Support to Healthcare Facilities
- Guidance



# ...Four Seasons of Climate Change...



Drought



Floods



Wildfires



Ice storms

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# Georgia Drought: 2007

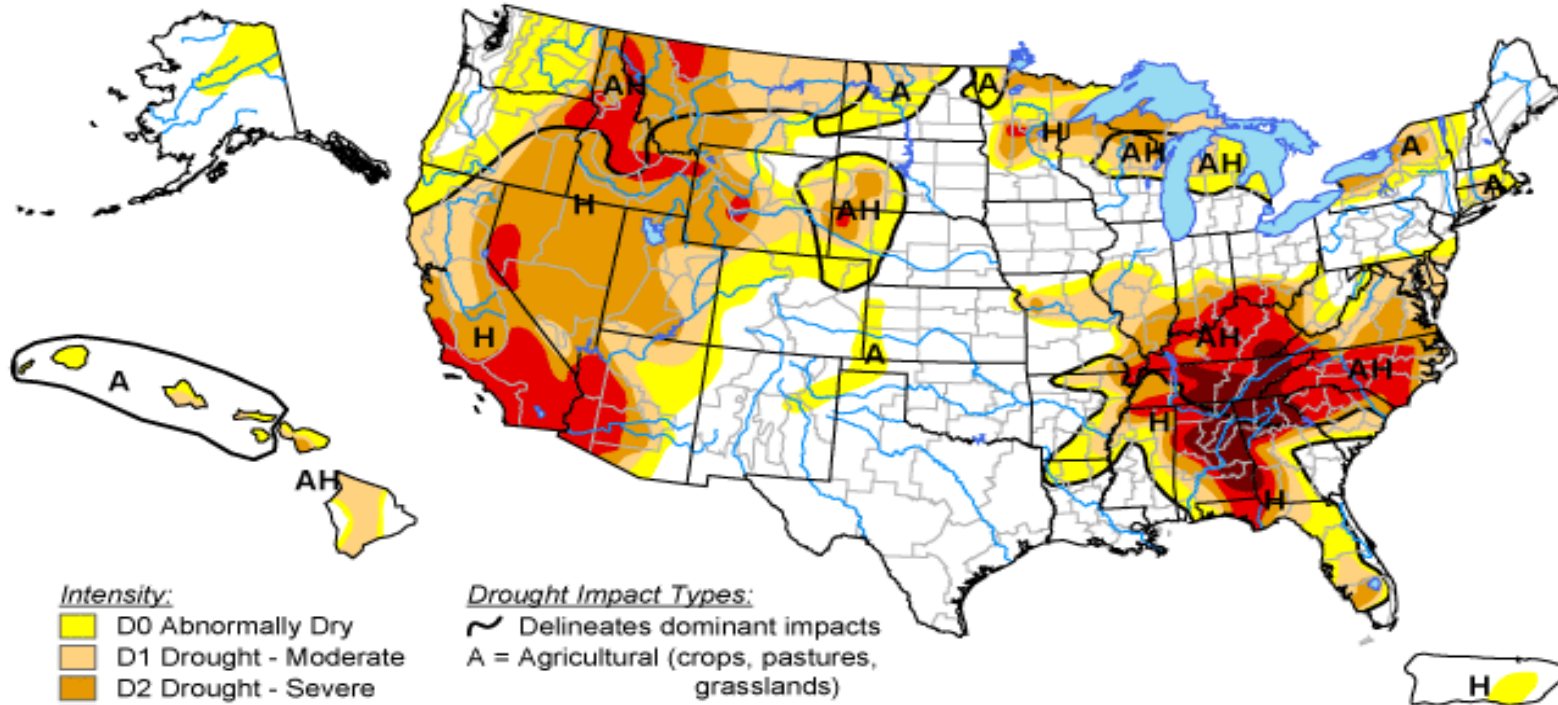


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# U.S. Drought Monitor

September 25, 2007


Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Intensity:

-  D0 Abnormally Dry
-  D1 Drought - Moderate
-  D2 Drought - Severe
-  D3 Drought - Extreme
-  D4 Drought - Exceptional

Drought Impact Types:

-  Delineates dominant impacts
- A = Agricultural (crops, pastures, grasslands)
- H = Hydrological (water)

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

<http://drought.unl.edu/dm>



Released Thursday, September 27, 2007

Author: David Miskus, JAWF/CPC/NOAA

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# GEORGIA'S WATER CRISIS

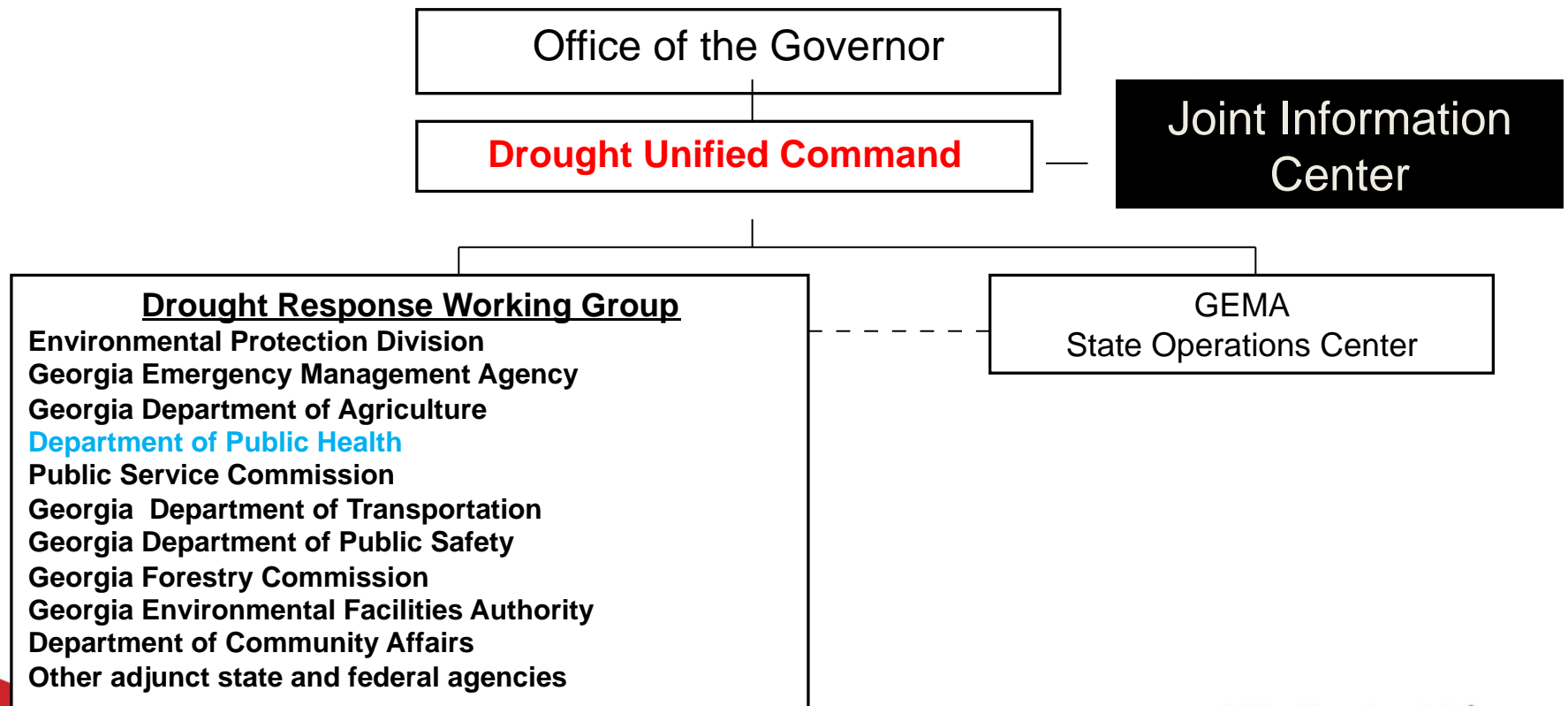
## **State Of Emergency In Drought-Stricken Ga. Governor Asks For Federal Assistance, Water Use Restrictions Ramped Up**

*GAINESVILLE, Ga., Oct. 20, 2007*

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# Drought Response Unified Command (DRUC)

The Governor's October 20, 2007, Executive Order declared a drought emergency and activated the Georgia Emergency Operating Plan (GEOP) establishing a command structure for responding to the drought emergency.



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## Role of Public Health during Drought

- Disease Surveillance and Monitoring
- Health Information and Communication
  - General Health Impacts
  - Vulnerable Populations
- Support to Healthcare Facilities
- Guidance/Testing for Private Well Owners

# Georgia Public Health Drought Guidance

## **Public Health Considerations**

- Water Quantity and Water Quality
- Water Borne Disease
- Potential changes in chemical constituents
- Susceptible Populations
- Healthcare Facilities
- Food Safety
- Other Potential Health Risks: recreational water use, West Nile Virus



# Drinking Water and Health

<b>Contaminant</b>	<b>Susceptible Population</b>
<b>Microbes</b>	<b>Elderly, children, immune suppressed</b>
<b>Disinfection Byproducts</b>	<b>Elderly men, pregnant women, Dialysis patients</b>
<b>Aluminum</b>	<b>Dialysis</b>
<b>Lead</b>	<b>Fetus, children</b>
<b>Nitrate</b>	<b>Pregnant women, infants</b>
<b>Sulfate</b>	<b>Infants</b>
<b>Sodium</b>	<b>Hypertensives</b>

# Dialysis and Drought

- Water intake/week

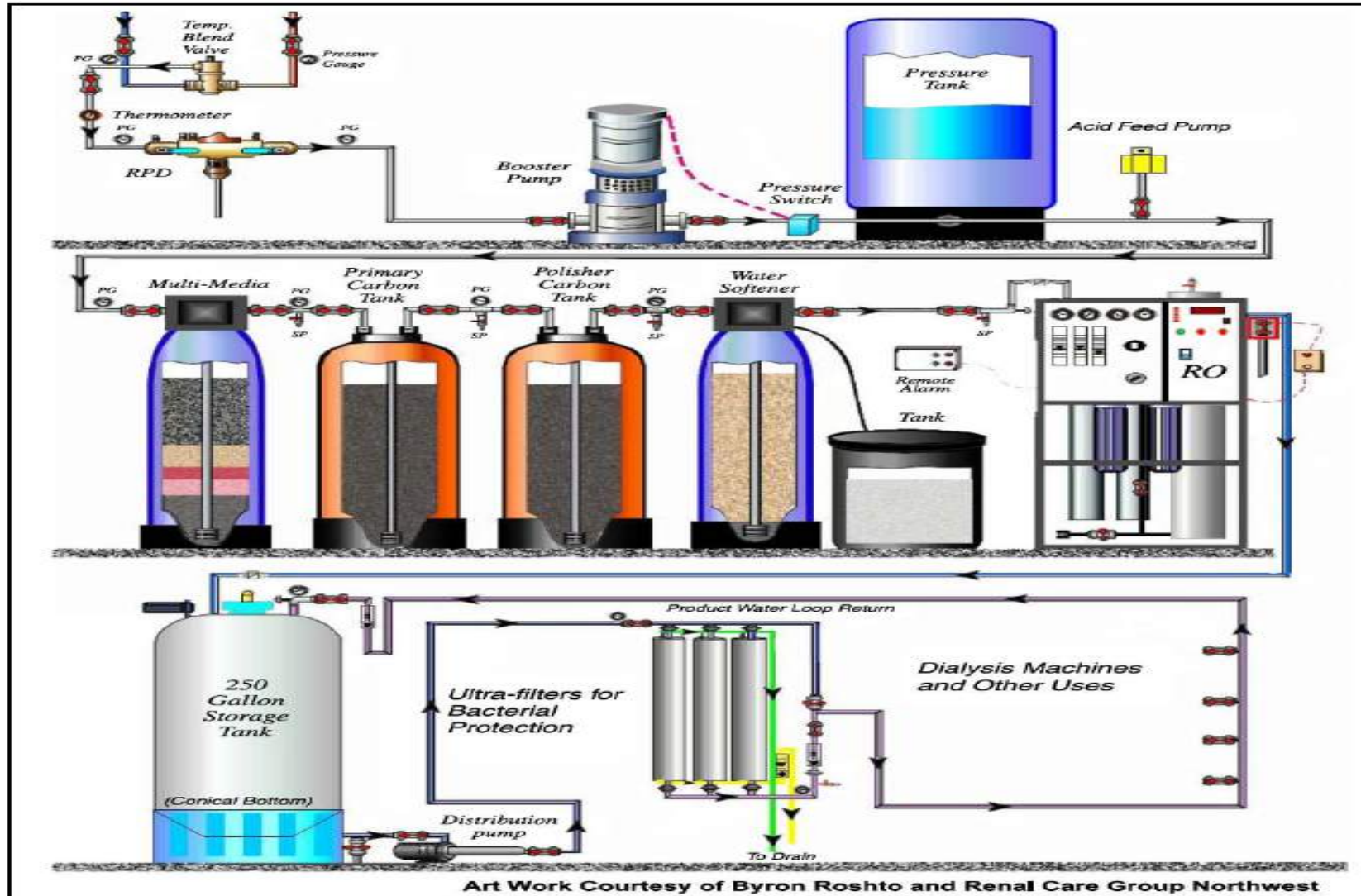
- Healthy Person                      14 liters/week
- Dialysis patient                      350-500 liters/week

- Contaminants of Concern

- Aluminum, calcium, magnesium, copper
- disinfection byproducts; Chloramines
- Nitrates

# Dialysis Unit Water Treatment System

## Monitoring Your Water Treatment System



**SAVE WATER.  
SHOWER IN ANOTHER CITY.**

**AirTran**

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# Dialysis ...on ice



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# Questions?

## Contact Info:

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