



Duck River Watershed Planning Partnership

*Chairman's Report
Spring Hill Police Department
October 6, 2026*

Agenda

10a Call to Order

10:05 Chairman's Report

Commissioner Salyers

10:15 SCTDD GIS Decision Support Hub

Charley Mix, PhD, GIS Director, UTC Center for Applied Geospatial Data Science

10:45 Work Group Recommendations

- **Drought Management**
- **Studies Work Group**
- **Information & Decision Support Tools**

April Grippo
April Grippo
David Money

12n Lunch

12:45 Work Group Recommendations

- **Conservation & Recreation**
- **Outreach & Education**
- **Water Loss Reduction**

Prof. Justin Murdock
Grace Stranch
David Money

1:50p Next Steps

Commissioner Salyers

2p Public Input Period

Chuck Yoest, TDEC

2:30p Adjourn

Commissioner Salyers

Governor's Conservation Summit



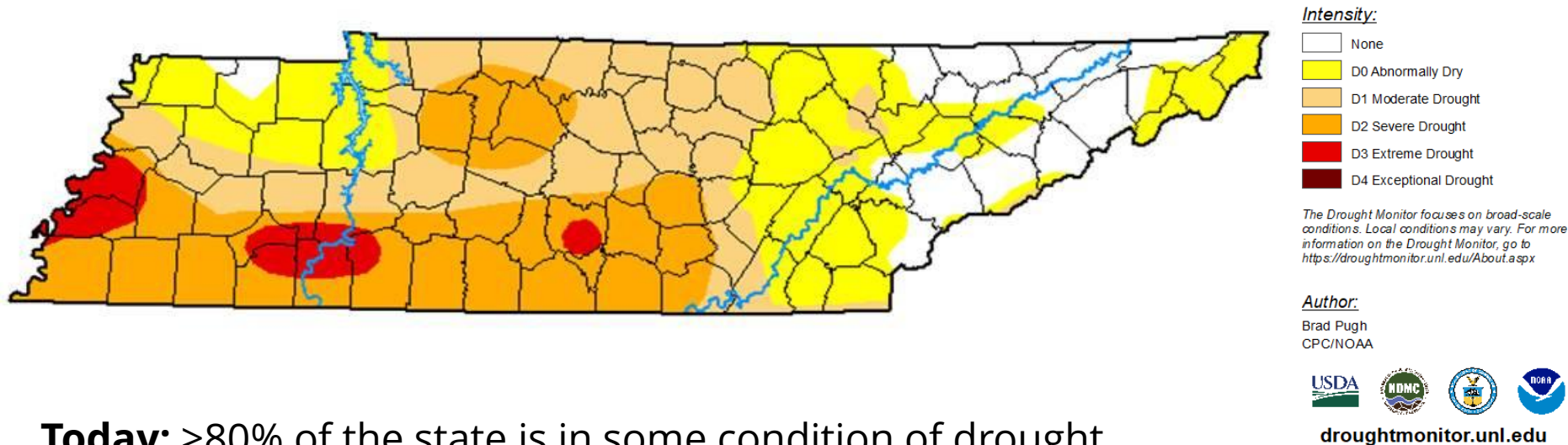
Great panel on the DRWPP process with **April, Amanda, David, Grace, & Chris** plus **Commissioner Salyers** sharing the closing remarks during the Governor's Conservation Summit on 8/11 at Henry Horton.

TWRA Mussel Capture at Lillard's Mill



Successful Capture-Mark-Recapture event at Lillard's Mill on Sept. 30. TWRA and partners processed 978 mussels representing 31 species from a 10m X 10m quadrant of the river. Kudos to Josh and his crew for this demonstration of the Duck's Biodiversity

TN Drought Monitor – 10/01/26



Today: >80% of the state is in some condition of drought

4.1 million: Estimated Tennessee population currently in drought conditions

3 Months Ago: 80% of the state was in some condition of drought

1 Year Ago: 48% of the state was in drought conditions

www.tn.gov/tnwildlandfire/resources/predictive-services/intelligence/drought-monitor.html

DRA shares water conservation guidance

Duck River 'experiencing abnormally dry conditions' amid ongoing drought in Middle TN

Due to the conditions, the DRA has released a list of ways to conserve water as it, along with state and federal agencies, continues to monitor the drought.

SHELBYVILLE, Tenn (October 2, 2026) - The ongoing drought is causing the Duck River to experience “abnormally dry conditions,” according to the Duck River Agency. “The Duck River is one of Tennessee’s most significant natural resources, providing drinking water for communities, supporting agricultural and industrial uses, and sustaining one of the most biologically diverse freshwater ecosystems in North America,” the DRA said.

The DRA said the areas of the Duck River Watershed are being designated as moderate to severe drought, which the agency says could reduce stream flows, as well as put stress on water supplies and aquatic habitats, affect groundwater levels, agriculture and recreational activities.

<https://www.wsmv.com/2026/10/02/duck-river-experiencing-abnormally-dry-conditions-amid-ongoing-drought-middle-tn/>

Recommendations Already in Action

- **Duck River Water Loss Control Initiative**
- **Utility Infrastructure Investments**
 - *Duck River Utility Commission Lower Intake at Normandy Dam*
 - *Pure Water Spring Hill*
 - *CPWS Long-term Water Supply Plan*
 - *Maury County Water System Interconnection to HB&TS*

Advancing the Partnership's purpose/goals under EO 108 (today's agenda):

- Developing comprehensive watershed management recommendations that balance the needs of water users and economic growth against the need to protect the environmental integrity of the Duck River;
- Advancing policies and actions to promote the sustainable use and conservation of water resources in the Duck River Watershed;
- Identifying opportunities for water system regionalization, drought resilience, habitat conservation, and water loss reduction; and
- Engaging with local communities, utilities, industries, and conservation organizations to ensure broad participation in watershed planning efforts.

Work Groups

Work Groups

- **Drought Management** – *Amanda Turk, Chair*
- **Studies Work Group** – *Chris White, Chair; Pat Marsh, Vice Chair*
- **Information Resources & Decision Support Tools** – *David Money, Chair*
- **Community Outreach, Education** – *Grace Stranch, Chair*
- **Resource Conservation & Recreation** – *Prof. Justin Murdock, Chair*
- **Water Loss (utility) + Education** – *David Money/Peter Murrey*

Duck River

Watershed Planning Partnership



**Where water,
community, and
conservation meet.**

Upcoming

Imagine a Day Without Water

October 15

The Value of Water Campaign hosts an annual Imagine a Day Without Water to remind citizens of how crucial our need for water really is by visualizing life without it, just for one day.

2nd Annual TN Biodiversity Summit

Reveal the Tennessee State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP)

Middle TN State University

October 21, 2026

2026 Duck River Symposium

Partnership Joint Meeting with Duck River Agency

Monday, December 8-9, 2026

Henry Horton State Park

Looking Ahead: Final Report & Recommendations

DRWPP Final Report & Recommendations will be delivered to Gov. Lee, Speaker Sexton and Lt. Gov. McNally.

Executive Order 108 directed the *DRWPP Final Report & Recommendations* to be delivered by **Nov. 20, 2026**.

Aim to share *Final Report & Recommendation* highlights at Duck River Symposium at HHSP on **Dec. 8-9, 2026**.

The Planning Partnership will continue to exist until its sunset date of **Dec. 31, 2026**.

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