

Taylor Hudson  
WATAUGA COUNTY DROUGHT  
10-08-19

Your trips to the parkway might get a little smokier. Watauga County has been issued into a severe drought said the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Lack of rain in the county could hurt the leaf color changing process, as leaves can turn brown and fall off. According to the North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council, this cycle is increasing the risk of wildfires due to the dryness. No water restrictions have not been put into place yet. If rain levels fail to increase, the severe drought will upgrade to extreme drought and water restrictions will be put into effect.

Popular tourist towns such as Seven Devils, Blowing Rock, and Beech Mountain haven't been affected by the drought yet. Decreasing population is common during this time said Beech Mountain Town Manager Tim Holloway. No voluntary restrictions have been put into place either.

###