

Haralson County Water Authority Summary  
October 16, 2016

The Haralson County Water Authority implemented Drought Level III and has moved even further eliminating all outdoor water use. Car Washes in the County have been closed and watering of athletic fields has been cancelled. The Authority in conjunction with the County EMA is systematically going up various creeks and rivers to remove beaver dams that are impeding the flow of water; the EMA and Authority think this may take a number of days to complete. There were approximately 30 volunteers working with the EMA and Water Authority to clear these obstructions. Members of the Authority have also been working with local land owners to release water from lakes to supplement flow in the river.

The Authority continues to purchase water from Anniston Alabama via Cleburne County Water Authority and Polk County Georgia Water Authority. The Authority will be meeting Monday October 17, 2016 with the City of Temple and Carroll County Water Authority to see if additional connections can be made. While water levels in the Tallapoosa River are extremely low the Authority and EMA are actively trying to return some degree of flow to the river by the removal of beaver dams.

County and city residents are cautioned to conserve water due to the extreme low levels of water in the river. The Water Authority was averaging around 2.7 million gallons a day being pumped to their distribution system and are hoping citizens will conserve water and get that figure down to around 1.8 or 1.9 million gallons a day.

The Haralson County Commission Chairman, Allen Poole issued a State of Emergency Declaration yesterday due to the low levels in the Tallapoosa River. This declaration will permit the EMA and Authority access to outside resources to assist in their efforts. I think it is accepted by everyone in the County, the severity of the drought has never been to this level in anyone's lifetime. It is hard for anyone to believe the Tallapoosa River has succumbed to the prolonged and persistent dry conditions.