

Drought Information Center

November 29, 1999

For the period November 22 to 28 there was considerable precipitation over the entire state of Pennsylvania; total amounts ranged from one to three inches with a statewide average of perhaps close to two inches. Over the past 24 hours there was only extremely light precipitation in very small pockets in south central and northeast areas.

The Delaware River Basin shows flow enhancement on all major streams since November 22. The mainstem Delaware River is up from 4,450 to 22,900 cfs. at Trenton. The Lackawaxen River is up from 121 to 954 cfs. at Hawley. The Lehigh River is up from 1,260 to 5,570 cfs. at Bethlehem. The Schuylkill River is up from 1,190 to 4,230 cfs. at Philadelphia and the Brandywine Creek is up from 204 to 427 cfs. at Chadds Ford. About 65% of the stream gauges in the Delaware River Basin are at above normal flow for November 29.

The flow enhancement trend is repeated for the Susquehanna River Basin since last Monday. The mainstem Susquehanna River is up from 2,630 to 17,600 cfs. at Towanda, up from 3,750 to 24,100 cfs. at Wilkes-Barre, and up from 8,790 to 58,600 cfs. at Harrisburg. The West Branch Susquehanna River is up from 761 to 14,800 cfs. at Lock Haven, up from 1,560 to 24,100 cfs. at Williamsport, and up from 2,030 to 29,700 cfs. at Lewisburg. The Juniata River is up from 1,300 to 6,610 cfs. at Newport and the Conestoga River is up from 272 to 598 cfs. at Conestoga. About 85% of the stream gauges in the Susquehanna River Basin are at above normal flow for this date.

Over the past week, the Ohio River Basin is showing flow enhancements for all streams except Little Pine Creek, which is holding about even. The Allegheny River is up from 3,980 to 22,200 cfs. at Natrona. The mainstem Ohio River is up from 8,220 to 36,200 cfs. at Sewickley. The Kiskiminetas River is up from 255 to 3,160 cfs. at Vandergrift. The Monongahela River is up from 2,570 to 12,000 cfs. at Braddock and the Beaver River is up from 1,080 to 2,120 cfs. at Beaver Falls. About 55% of the stream gauges in the Ohio River Basin are at above normal flow for today's date.

Since November 22, 27 counties with monitoring wells show water level rises for 23 counties and drops for four. Increases range from 0.08 to 32.47 ft. (Berks County) with an average rise of 3.63 ft. Potter County shows a rise of 16.58 ft. and Carbon County shows a rise of 9.75 ft. Decreases range from 0.06 to 0.36 ft. with an average drop of 0.16 ft.

Over the next four days, precipitation totaling less than a quarter-inch is expected for all but the southeast. For the period December 3 to 8, somewhat over a half-inch of precipitation is forecast for Pennsylvania, with lighter amounts likely in north central areas. Temperatures for the next ten days are